

## **Extension Notes**

Personal Column for September 23, 2009

By Gary Hall, Iowa State University Regional Extension Education Director for Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Mitchell and Worth County, Iowa

### **HHHH Week October 4-10**

Watching the future is a great way to spend some time. You see the future every time you greet a young person at the checkout counter, compliment a young scholar or athlete on their accomplishment and when you see youth involved with 4-H.

The next time you see a 4-H'er just watch the gleam in their eyes when you ask them to explain the robotic project they are working on or how they can hit that target so well during their shooting sports club practice. You will witness firsthand the future as they develop leadership, responsibility and character.

The fundamental 4-H ideal of practical, "learn by doing" experiences encourage youth to experiment, innovate and think independently. 4-H programs are offered through school-based, after-school and camp settings and within community clubs. Leadership skills abound within the 4-H program.

Throughout National 4-H week and the year, youth are leading efforts to solve problems in their communities, raise awareness about environmental issues, and make a difference for their futures.

4-H is one of the largest youth development organizations in Iowa and the largest in the nation with six million young people. Iowa claims 24,242 youth members and 5413 adult volunteers. We hope more people will join us in the 4-H experience.

You can join the 4-H community today and start developing your own 4-H memories whether you are a youth or an adult. Just contact your local Extension office. Together we can all make the best better through 4-H.

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