



## Ringgold County 4-H News

May 2009

### Important Dates to Remember:

May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension office

May 6<sup>th</sup>: Food Safety & Quality Assurance (FSQA) training @ 7:00 @ Extension office (more details in newsletter)

May 15<sup>th</sup>: Livestock ID forms due to Extension office (forms in “4H'er Fair Book”—breeding beef, dog, horse, breeding/dairy goats, breeding sheep)—include any animal you MIGHT bring to fair

May 15<sup>th</sup>: 4H Enrollment/Re-enrollment Forms are due—absolute last day

May 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>: Beef Grooming Clinic @ Fairgrounds (specific details will be sent to those signed up to attend at a later date)

May 25<sup>th</sup>: Extension office CLOSED for Memorial Day

May 29<sup>th</sup>: Southwest Iowa Area Junior 4H Camp registrations due  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/harrison/news/2009jrcamp.htm>

June 6<sup>th</sup>: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension Office (PLEASE NOTE: last one for this 4H year—no meeting in July or August)

June 10<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup>: Southwest Iowa Area Intermediate Trip to Omaha (more details in newsletter)

June 14<sup>th</sup>–17<sup>th</sup>: Southwest Iowa Area Junior 4H Camp at Madrid

June 15<sup>th</sup>: Feeder Calf ID forms and Bucket Calf ID forms due to Extension office (forms in “4H'er Fair Book)

June 26<sup>th</sup>: County Fair Entry Forms due to Extension office (animals that ARE coming to fair)

June 30<sup>th</sup>–July 2<sup>nd</sup>: State 4H Conference/Animal Science Roundup at Ames

July 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: Ringgold County Fair

August 13<sup>th</sup>–23<sup>rd</sup>: Iowa State Fair

## Info From Extension

### 4H Families:

Change is occurring within Extension due to budget cuts. The position that I have held as County Extension Education Director has been eliminated. 97 county education directors plus 5 area directors will no longer be serving the needs of local citizens and youth. We, the Extension Council and myself, are unsure of when the final date will be. Dawn, who is a county paid employee, will continue giving leadership to 4H and strives to have a top notch program.

Thank you for your support.

*Judy Hensley*

Visit the Ringgold County website at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold)

# County Tidbits

## **County Council Hosted 4H Club Basketball Tournament—**

Thank you to everyone that participated and helped with the basketball tournament. Four teams participated, representing 3 4H clubs: Junior Farmers (2 teams), Maloy Shamrocks and Ringgold Rockets. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to the Junior Farmers Team 2 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Ringgold Rockets. County Council will look at making this an annual event.

## **Food Safety & Quality Assurance Training (FSQA)—**

For the 2008-2009 4H year the following youth **MUST** be certified in the 4H FSQA program before allowed to show:

For the County Fair: all SWINE exhibitors

For the Iowa State Fair: 4H exhibitors planning to show ANY animal project (market or breeding)

Training has been set for: Wednesday, May 6th from 7:00–8:30 pm at the Extension Office  
Testing can be done at anytime, but has to be completed by June 26th. Contact Dawn to set up a date & time.

4-H'ers ages 9-11: **MUST** attend the training every year

4-H'ers ages 12-14: attend the training every year OR test out (testing out will mean you are FSQA certified until you turn 15)

4-H'ers ages 15-18: attend the training every year OR test out (testing out will mean you are FSQA certified until you turn 19)

Please Note: We strongly encourage those that are of testing age to test out. Training is geared towards those at the junior level.

## **County Fair Reminders—**

**Fair Theme:** Find Me At The Fair!

**T-Shirts:** Each exhibitor must wear a 4-H, FFA or white shirt while exhibiting their project(s) in front of the judge. 4-H shirts that are considered exhibition shirts are:

- Livestock/Small Animals—the white shirt that has the “Iowa 4-H” across the front in a streak of green OR a plain white shirt
- Exhibit Building Projects—the white shirt that has the “Iowa 4-H” across the front in a streak of green OR your 4-H club shirt

If you want to purchase a white shirt with the “Iowa 4-H” streak, please contact the Extension office by Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Some shirts are on hand, but an order may need to be placed.

**Lost Ear Tags:** If any animal that had a 4-H ear tag loses it, please contact the Extension office as soon after it happens as possible. If possible the old tag needs to be returned to the Extension office before a new one is issued.

**Horse Helmet Rule:** All 4-H related horse events across the state require the use of STM/SEI approved headgear WITH chin strap and properly fitted harness when mounted and riding or driving—every time, every ride. This includes 4-H horse project workshops. Contact the Extension office if you need help getting a helmet.

**Livestock Bedding:** Horse and Beef exhibitors are required to pay a \$5/head stall fee due the same time you turn in county fair entry forms (deadline: June 26<sup>th</sup>). This fee will help cover the costs of superintendents getting/hauling a common bedding in for the horse and beef barns.

All other exhibitors (swine, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits) are required to furnish their own bedding.

Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap.

Visit the Ringgold County website at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold)

## County Fair Reminders continued:

**Poultry and Rabbit Exhibitors:** In the past we have had problems having enough pens for all of the exhibits that come to fair. We ask that each exhibitor please try to bring at least one pen of their own to be used for the duration of the fair.

**Flower Pots:** Clubs are encouraged once again to create a flower pot arrangement as a club fundraiser at the fair. Flower pots need to be brought to the 4-H Exhibit Building on Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. They will be set outside the 4-H Exhibit Building for the duration of the fair, BUT will be auctioned off during the livestock auction on Sunday night of fair.

### **New 4H Info Page–**

A “one stop shop” has been created to help you find all the 4H paperwork you might need electronically. It includes: listing of important dates and events, past and current newsletters, county fair forms, record book forms and other 4H related resources. You will find this page at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold/info/4H.htm> (bookmark it to find it in a jiffy).

## Area Tidbits

### **“O” What a Big Adventure Intermediate Trip–**

7<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> graders from across southwest Iowa are invited to participate in a 2-day trip to Omaha on June 10<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup>. Participants will meet other 4H members, tour the Qwest Center, tour Kountze Planetarium, night hike Henry Doorly Zoo, sleep with the fish at the Scott Aquarium, watch a movie at the IMAX theatre, and other activities.

Applications are now being accepted and need to be received at the Ringgold County Extension office NO LATER than Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications for chaperones are also available. Stop by the office for applications or go to the website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold>

### **Southwest Iowa's 4-H Junior Camp–**

Take a ride on the "WILD" side and mark on your calendars to attend Southwest Iowa's 4-H 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Junior Camp, June 14-17, at the Iowa 4-H Camping Center near Madrid, Iowa. Experience the adventure and excitement of four days filled with 4-H camp traditions and favorite activities, including nature hikes, creek stumping, wall climbing, canoeing, camp songs, swimming, outdoor camping basics, and campfires! Learn to create cool crafts that work great as 4-H working exhibits. Bring a friend with you or make new ones! Camp will run from Sunday, June 14 at 3 p.m. until our closing ceremony at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17.

4-H camps are open to ALL YOUTH - membership in a 4-H club is not a requirement - so bring a friend to share the experience! Area 4-H Junior camp is open to all Southwest Iowa youth who have completed grades 5 and 6 and will be held in Birch Village. The camp will be filled at 100 youth, so you will want to register early before it fills up. Registration, Parental Permission and Request for providing Medication at a 4-H Event form (if your camper will be bringing any medications with them) are available from the county extension office or downloaded from <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/harrison/news/2009jrcamp.htm> in Microsoft Word and Adobe PDF format. We will be using your Medical form filled out at the beginning of the 4-H Year provided to us by your county extension office. Please make sure you have it updated if needed. If you are not a current 4-H'er, you will need to fill out a Medical Info form found also at the Jr Camp Website above or from your ISU County Extension Office. Registration Deadline is May 29. Camp Registration is \$130 for the fun packed four days and three nights. Check with your County Extension office for camp scholarships or financial help if needed. Please contact David Seilstad, phone: 712/644-2105 or email: [seilstad@iastate.edu](mailto:seilstad@iastate.edu) if you have any questions on this camp or others offered at the Iowa 4-H Camping center: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hcenter/summercamp/index.php>

Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap.

Visit the Ringgold County website at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold)

# State Tidbits

## 2009 Iowa State Fair–

Iowa State Fair premium books will be available online only this year. The website is:

<http://www.iowastatefair.org/competition/howtoenter.php#4h>

Remember that all 4H entries must come through the county Extension office. State Fair entry forms usually come available at the Extension office mid-June and are due back to the Extension office by June 26<sup>th</sup>.

## 2009 Iowa State Fair Vet Camp–

One of the most popular programs during the 2008 Iowa State Fair, Vet Camp is an educational, exciting, hands-on learning program aimed at encouraging children ages 10-18 to learn about animal health, welfare and what it is like to be an animal doctor. Vet Camp is a two-hour program focusing on both large and small animal veterinary medicine. Vet Camp is FREE with paid Iowa State Fair admission. Only 30 spots are available per session and sessions will be assigned according to date received.

Registration forms can be found online at: [www.iowastatefair.org](http://www.iowastatefair.org) or at the Extension office. Forms are due June 1<sup>st</sup>. Sessions are: Thursday August 13<sup>th</sup>, Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday August 19<sup>th</sup>, Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup>, Sunday August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## 4H Discount Event Tickets–

- Iowa State Center and Wells Fargo continually offer 4H discounted ticket prices. Find out about upcoming events at: <http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/>
- **4H Night with the Iowa Barnstormers:** Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7:05 pm  
Join fellow 4H members from clubs across the state for a great night with the Iowa Barnstormers. As a member, you and your club can purchase tickets for your friends and family to the Peoria game for as low as \$10 a seat. Ticket order forms are available at the Extension office or call 515-564-8454 to reserve your seats today. For more information, contact Grant Young at [gyoung@theiowabarnstormers.com](mailto:gyoung@theiowabarnstormers.com)

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