COVID-19 has shaken the way counties across Iowa deliver 4-H programming and provide meaningful experiences for youth. Even in adversity, 4-H staff and volunteers are still working to 'Make the Best Better' across Iowa. This newsletter is exciting. It holds promise that parts of the Benton County 4-H program may return to an adapted version of 'normal' and it shares information about the innovative ways Benton County 4-H is responding to public health guidelines to provide 4-H/FFA exhibit events this summer. At this time, these exhibit events should be considered as 'not open to the public'. We must continue to follow all public health and ISUEO guidelines to ensure that events can happen. Please keep an open mind as 4-H/FFA exhibit events approach. I understand that this is not 'fair' in any sense of the word. No one can change the situation we are in, but we can all do our best to tackle the summer by acting responsibly, respectfully, and patiently.

Horse/Pony Safety Classes:
Horse/Pony safety classes will only be mandatory for first year exhibitors this year. The June 3 and June 6 classes have been cancelled. RSVP is required to attend the ONLY class on June 20 at 10 AM. Exhibitors that are not first-year exhibitors are welcome to attend, not required, and should also RSVP. RSVP by emailing the CYC or calling the Extension Office.
Welcome, Summer Staff!

Hello 4-H members, parents and guardians! I’m Shelby McDonald the 2020 Benton County Extension and Outreach Fair Aide. I graduated from Vinton – Shellsburg High school in May of 2019 where I was very involved in FFA. Growing up I was also involved in 4-H and was a part of the Canton Upstreamers 4-H club in Shellsburg. In my time of 4-H and FFA I did numerous project areas and showed horses. In the fall I will be a sophomore at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo where I am studying agriculture business with the hope of selling agriculture insurance. My favorite 4-H memory is spending a week at Iowa State University for state 4-H camp. Being able to meet other 4-Hers from all over Iowa and listening to guest speakers over the week as well as doing community service projects. My favorite FFA memory is being able to travel to Washington D.C. for Washington Leadership Conference, where we got to learn about how we want to serve others. A fair memory that will always be with me is winning junior and intermediate showmanship with my pony J.R. and becoming 2019 Benton County Fair Queen. I’m very excited for this summer and looking forward to seeing what a new normal may look like for us! -Shelby, Summer Fair Aide

Welcome, Jen Bruns! Jen is part of the team that plans and supports summer 4-H programs in Benton County. Jen is a returning summer staff member, and we are glad to have her back! Jen’s favorite part of working with 4-H and Benton County Extension and Outreach is getting to meet new people and exploring the county. This year, she is most excited about trying something new! (See the Summer Science Kits Flier below).

Welcome Hallie Spore! Hallie is also part of the team that plans and supports summer 4-H programs in Benton County. Hallie Spore is a Dysart resident and is looking forward to starting her Senior Year at Iowa State University where she is majoring in Elementary Education. Hallie is also excited to meet new people and get involved in Benton County! Hallie is a past Benton County 4-H Member and is excited to be back on the 4-H scene.
Club Spotlights

This month we use our Club Spotlight section to feature MORE of our awesome graduating 4-H Seniors. We are so proud of these members for their personal successes and know their futures are bright.

CONGRATS, Matthew Hearn!
Matthew Hearn is a member of the Polk 101 4-H Club. His favorite 4-H project area is beef cattle and his favorite 4-H event is the cattle show at fair because he gets to see all of his hard work from the year pay off. His favorite 4-H memory is sitting around on the show boxes and coolers at fair hanging out with his friends. Matthew’s future plan is to attend Kirkwood Community College to study Agriculture Business and Agricultural Geospatial Technology.

CONGRATS, Bryston Raue
Bryston Raue is a member of the Polk 101 4-H Club and his favorite 4-H project area is livestock. Bryston’s favorite 4-H event is showing at the Iowa State Fair because it is a great experience to meet new people and participate in an event that big. His favorite 4-H memory is waking up early on show day to dress cows and get ready to show. Bryston’s future plan is to work full time with Edwards Plumbing Heating and Cooling out of Vinton, Iowa, and to start an HVAC apprenticeship.

CONGRATS, Jacob Ludeking
Jacob Ludeking is a member of the Florence Go-Getters 4-H Club. His favorite 4-H project area is beef and his favorite 4-H event is the Iowa State Fair because of the people, the fun, and most importantly the fried food. Jacob’s favorite 4-H memory is traveling to Washington, D.C., for the WLC (Washington Leadership Conference) trip. Jacob’s future plan is to attend Iowa State University to earn a bachelor’s degree.

CONGRATS, Abbie Kaestner
Abbie Kaestner is a member of the Eldorado Young Master Farmer’s 4-H Club. Her favorite 4-H project area is beef and her favorite 4-H memory was winning rate of gain for market beef at the 2019 Benton County Fair, she was proud of that steer! Her favorite 4-H event is when the Eldorado Young Master Farmers 4-H Club annually distributes poppies for the Newhall America Legion Auxiliary and collects pop cans. All donations from the poppies support local veterans and the money raised from the pop-cans goes to the Ronald McDonald House. She enjoys these events because she likes to see the smile of individual’s faces when they know their supporting a good cause. After the project, everyone enjoys a cup of ice cream from the local gas station. Abbie’s future plans are to attend Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny, Iowa, to complete general education requirements. After that, Abbie will study food science at another university. After college, Abbie would like to be working in Benton County and continuing to help her Dad on the farm.

CONGRATS, Tori Hlas
Tori Hlas is a member of the Iowa Ever Readies 4-H Club. Her favorite 4-H project area is sheep and her favorite 4-H event is showing sheep with her sister because it is an event her family looks forward to every summer. While she may not have a favorite 4-H memory chosen, she certainly won’t forget the first year her family camped at fair and road out a tornado in a very tiny camper. Tori’s future plans are to attend Iowa State University to major in Agricultural Education.
ITEMS IN RED HAVE BEEN CANCELLED OR POSTPONED DUE TO COVID-19.

6/1: ALL Livestock and Animals Verified or ID Completed in 4-H Online
6/1: Iowa State Fair 4-H Market Broiler Entries Due
6/1: YQCA Certification Deadline
6/2-6/30: Fair Entry Open for All Exhibit Classes
6/3: Mandatory Horse Safety Class, Option 1 of 2, 6:00 PM
6/6: Mandatory Horse Safety Class, Option 2 of 2, 10:00 AM
6/10: ISU Virtual Livestock Judging Camp Registration Due
6/11: Market Beef Performance Registration Form Due to Denise Schwab (see pg. 6)
6/15: ISU Virtual Livestock Judging Camp
6/17-6/19: Intermediate Trip to Minneapolis
6/20: RSVP Mandatory Horse Safety Class for 1st Year Exhibitors, 10:00 AM
6/23-6/28: Benton County Fair
6/25: Market Beef Performance, Live Show NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
6/28: Animal Cy-ience Academy Registration Due
6/30-7/2: Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and Animal Science Roundup
6:30: Exhibit Report Forms Due: Working Exhibit, Share the Fun
7/1: Animal Cy-ience Academy, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
7/6: B/B Report Due
7/9: B/B Calf & Lamb Phone Interviews
7/15-7/21: 4-H/FFA Exhibit Events NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
7/31-8/1: Linn-Benton Junior Camp
8/5: Serve and Slide at the NEIA Food Bank and Lost Island Water Park
8/7: 2020 Benton County Classic Youth Livestock Judging Contest
8/30: Save the Date! Cloverbud Gallery Walk
K-5 Summer Science STEM Kit Opportunity

Benton County 4-H Summer Science STEM Kits

Benton County 4-H is excited to offer Summer Science STEM Kits as a summer learning opportunity in replacement of our traditional Summer Science Discovery Camps! These kits will provide four STEM that explore roller coasters, keeping a healthy heart, mirrors, and bubbles. Lessons adaptations of Iowa 4-H’s STEM-Lit to Go! Kits and are appropriate for kindergarten-fifth grade youth as of September 2019. Youth DO NOT have to be 4-H members to participate in this awesome experience!

Communities with Kit Drop Off

Kit drop off locations are being coordinated, kits will be available for pick up by families at specific locations during a set time frame. Partner locations will be located in:

- Atkins
- Blairstown
- Keystone
- Garrison
- Belle Plaine
- Dysart
- Newhall
- Urbana
- Shellsburg
- Vinton
- Van Horne

Locations in GREEN will have kit delivery the week of June 8, locations in RED will have kit delivery the week of June 15, and locations in BLACK will have kit delivery the week of June 22. Each location will have one afternoon time slot for families to pick up kits. Additional information about kit pick up will be shared once reservations are made. Kits per location are limited, so don’t wait to reserve your kit!

How to Reserve Your Family’s Kit

Call the Benton County Extension Office to reserve your family’s kit! Information that will be collected to reserve your family’s kit includes:

- Parent Name, Parent Phone & Email, Family Zip Code, Number of Youth Learners in the Family (and grade as of September 2019), Number of 4-H Youth Learners

Kit cost is $5, payment should be made at the time of kit pick up.

Benton County Extension and Outreach
501 1st Avenue
Vinton, Iowa 52349
Phone: (319) 472-4739 << RESERVE YOUR KIT BY CALLING!
Visit us: www.extension.iastate.edu/benton/
Like Us on Facebook: Iowa 4-H, Benton County

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Fair Updates

Iowa State Fair: 2020 Premium Books and Exhibitor Info is available at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/statefair/livestock

Information Release: The information release for this summer’s 4-H and FFA Exhibit Events was updated on May 29. View the document by visiting the Benton County Extension website under Benton County 4-H and Youth.

4-H/FFA Exhibit Event Planning Feedback: Please continue to share questions and feedback pertaining to this summer’s 4-H and FFA Exhibit Events by utilizing the Qualtrics survey link that is included in the 4-H Committee information release on the website.

Post Print Fair Book Updates: It is the responsibility of the exhibitor and exhibitor's family to stay up to date with fair book changes. The post-print fair book changes document can be found on the Benton County Extension website under Benton County 4-H and Youth.

Market Beef Performance: Market Beef Performance paperwork is due to the office on June 11. There is no Fair Entry registration this year for Market Beef Performance. The form can be found on the Benton County Extension website under Member Info.

2020 Exhibit Event Schedule

THESE EVENTS ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

June 11: Market Beef Performance Registration Due
June 25: Market Beef Performance
June 30: Fair Entry Closes, Report Forms Due
July 9: B/B Phone Interviews
July 11: Awardrobe & Communications Project Judging, Location TBD
July 15: Static Project Drop Off, Static Project Non-Conference Judging
July 16: Static Project Pick Up, Dog Show, Pet Show, Sheep & B/B Lamb Show, Meat Goat Show
July 17: Swine Show, Rabbit Show
July 18: Horse Performance Show
July 19: Horse Fun Show
July 20: Beef Show, B/B Beef Show, Beef Auction
July 21: Dairy Cattle Show, Dairy Goat Show, Poultry Show
Fair Entry is open for all Livestock, Animal, Static, Communication, and Awardrobe projects June 2-June 30.

How to get started:

- **Visit**: fairentry.com
- **Search**: 2020 Benton County Fair (in Iowa)
- **Click the Green "Log In with 4-H Online" Button**: Use 4-H Online email & password to access members' fair entry accounts
  - 4-H Members exhibiting specific projects as FFA members should still use their 4-H Online credentials to log in. The chapter should be selected for the specific FFA exhibit instead of the club.
  - FFA members that are not 4-H members should create a separate profile.
- **Create one entry for every exhibit**: Complete all information for each exhibit.
- **Livestock Entries**: Select animals for each class. 4-H Online animal nominations (due June 1) populate over to the Fair Entry system to be selected by the exhibitor for specific classes.

Do not make excess entries past the projects you know you will be exhibiting this year. There is a limit to how many entries our system can allow. Exhibitors can log in and make additional entries (all departments) can be made until the June 30 deadline.

For example: *I should not make 5 photo entries if I don't know for sure that I am exhibiting 5 photos. Instead, I should update my entries as I know I will have them. If on June 2 I know I will have 2 photos I should make 2 entries on Fair Entry. If on June 29 I decide I will bring 2 more photos I should make 2 additional entries on Fair Entry.*
Fair Entry is open for all Livestock, Animal, Static, Communication, and Awardrobe projects June 2-June 30.

Publicity Photos: Publicity photos are required for every entry this year. These are the photos that will be used to showcase members' successful learning and awesome exhibits. A document will be added to the Benton County Extension and Outreach website offering more guidance on taking publicity photos. Youth do not need to be present in publicity photos if they do not wish to be.

Supporting Documentation (report forms): All report forms should be linked in Fair Entry and are available (or will be soon!) on the Benton County Extension and Outreach website under Member Info.

- $15 Challenge, Clothing Selection and Fashion Revue: Report forms and supporting materials should be brought to judging day.
- Educational Presentation: The report form is incorporated into Fair Entry.
- Communication Poster report form should be attached to the back of the project for judging.
- Extemporaneous Speaking: No report form.
- Working Exhibit & Share the Fun: Report form due to the Extension Office by mail or email by June 30.
- B/B Calves or Lambs: Record keeping form due to the Extension Office by mail or email by July 6.
- NEW! Food and Nutrition Self-Evaluation: Due to COVID-19, Food and Nutrition projects will not be consumed (taste-tested) by judges. This form should be completed and added to the project write up/goals for projects in class 10440 and 10442.