



Black Hawk County 4-H NEWS

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

March—11th: Shooting Sports 9am-12pm

March—26th: 4-H Omelet Breakfast 8am-12:30pm

April—1st: All Swine Weighed/Tagged

April—17th: Jam Workshop 5-9am

May—6th: Sheep and Goat Weigh—In

May—13th: FairEntry Opens

May—15th: Animals on 4hOnline Deadline

May—31st: Dog Obedience Meeting

March 2023

The Important Stuff!

Spring is around the corner...and so is [Read Across Iowa](#)! Read Across Iowa is celebrated throughout the month of March to help motivate kids to read. The 27th Annual Black Hawk County 4-H Omelet Breakfast is just three weekends away! Make sure it is on your family's calendar! Wondering what else is coming up? Take a look at the Events and Workshops under the 4-H [Member Resources](#) on our website. We are also here to help! Feel free to give us a call at 319.234.6811.



The Good Stuff!

The Black Hawk County 4-H FTC group competed Saturday, March 4th in Iowa City at the State Robotics Competition. The group placed 7th out of 24 teams! Congratulations to both the participants and the coaches on a great season! If you would like more information about the FTC Robotics team contact Diane at wolfejd@iastate.edu. Or read more on [page 4](#).



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

2023 Fair Updates!

Fair Dates: July 16th—July 20th, 2023

Fair Theme: From The Farms, To The Cities

Fair Schedule DRAFT: A very tentative fair schedule draft can be found on the website, please know this is subject to change. A lot of planning goes into making the schedule, if you have specific questions feel free to reach out.

Weigh—In

Swine: Weighed and Tagged **April 1st**. Please send photo of tag in animals ear and Verification form to Shelby at shelb@iastate.edu.

Sheep & Goat: Weigh in **May 6th** at Hawkeye Community College Farm 8-10am.

YQCA Training

If you are planning to show Beef, Dairy Cattle, Meat Goats, Dairy Goats, Rabbits, Swine, Poultry, or Sheep at the County or State Fair you will need to complete YQCA Training—it is **Required!** You need to take the **YQCA training!** This training is for all 4-H and FFA members planning to exhibit those species listed above. This is not needed for clover kids. A reminder that you must be completed 4th grade to show in 4-H classes at the fair. Training is done [online](#).

YQCA is designed as an annual education and certification program focused on food safety, animal well-being and character awareness for youth ages 8 to 21 producing and/or showing pigs, beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, rabbits, and poultry. This program is required of all 4-H and FFA members to show these species at the county and state fair:

[YQCA Website](#)

[YQCA Help Sheet](#)

YQCA Due—July 1st

YQCA certificates need to be emailed to Shelby at shelb@iastate.edu once completed.



Non—livestock Updates!

\$10 Meal Challenge—Now called Thrifty Meal Challenge: This experience will simulate a realistic life situation for many families where time, access to nutritious foods, and spending budget is limited. The Thrifty Meal Challenge also includes specific parameters that must be met including:

- Proper serving sizes for four people
- Inclusion of the five food groups
- Total cost of meal ingredients being \$11 or less.

\$15 Clothing Challenge—Now called \$20 Clothing Challenge: The \$20

Challenge is for 4-H members to model an outfit purchased for \$20 or less from resale venues such as garage sales, consignment, or thrift stores, etc., that represents an intended use for the selected outfit.



Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs: The recently released [Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs –Quick Reference Guide \(2023\)](#) lists “traditional vanilla buttercream made with butter, powdered sugar, extract, and milk” as an acceptable homemade frosting for baked goods exhibited or displayed at Iowa 4-H fairs. Identifying a safe “traditional buttercream frosting” recipe for exhibit has been a source of confusion for 4-H members and their families as well as County Extension Educators and fair judges.



Planning a Foods exhibit for county Fair? Be sure to check out “Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs” for approved recipes & Methods!

Still unsure? Email answer@iastate.edu, include the full recipe & source, and ask if it is ok for fair. If Answer Line responds with “Yes”, print the whole email and bring with you to judging.

Let's Talk March!

It is time to wrap up winter and get ready for spring! There is a lot happening in Black Hawk County 4-H, so be sure to stay up to date on events and important dates by checking out the updated Black Hawk County 4-H Calendar. You can pop over to the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, follow us on our Facebook page, or check your email for brief reminders about what is coming up next. Happy Spring!

2023 Omelet Breakfast

The 27th Annual Omelet

Breakfast will take place on **March 26th** at the UAW Hall in Waterloo!

Club leaders: Please visit the [Club Resources](#) page to find the Omelet Breakfast club sign up and Silent Auction Basket information.

Note: Adult prices go up to \$10.00 at the door!



Volunteer Lunch & Learn Series

The Volunteer Lunch & Learn Series is back for year two!

Volunteers are encouraged to tune into these brief sessions from 4-H Youth Development that dive into topics they can apply in their role as an Iowa 4-H volunteer. The lunch & learn series consists of four brief 15–20 minute Zoom sessions at 12pm the first Friday of each month. The next session will be held on **April, 7th**. Click here for the [link!](#) Contact Diane or Abby at 319.234.6811 with any questions.



VOLUNTEER LUNCH AND LEARN WEBINAR SERIES

We Are Hiring!

The Black Hawk County Extension office has two open summer positions! We are looking for a **Fair**

Intern to help us prepare for and assist with the Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair. This is a fun position for **anyone that has completed their first year of college and** would love a behind-the-scenes Fair experience! The other open position is a **Summer STEM Program Assistant**. The right person will lead STEM day camps and planned activities at local libraries, deliver programming for school-aged youth in the community, and carry out other random acts of positive youth development in Black Hawk County! These are great resume' builders! An application can be found on the [Black Hawk County Extension website](#). Know an excellent candidate for either position? Please contact Diane Wolfe at wolfejd@iastate.edu or 319.234.6811.



Shooting Sports Saturday!

Black Hawk County

4-H Shooting Sports will meet on Saturday, March 11th from 9am–12pm.

Note that Shooting Sports and Archery will now meet every second Saturday. Please check our website or Facebook for any cancelations.

If you are interested in becoming an instructor for either air rifle or archery please contact Diane at wolfejd@iastate.edu



We have answers to your questions!

Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H [webpage](#), find us on [Facebook](#), or call 319.234.6811!

First Tech Challenge (FTC) 4-H Specialty Club

Are you interested in robotics? First Tech Challenge is a robotics team for youth 8th grade and older who are interested in designing machines, processors necessary to assemble robots, and the construction of machines.

First Tech Challenge teams design and build a robot using a reusable kit of parts and compete within a common set of game rules to play an exciting field game and complete the specific season challenge. The robot game changes every season and is always a blast!

The team focuses on team building, programming, organizing our tools and parts to establish a system, brainstorm techniques and get input from everyone, work on implementing the selected solution and plan to meet the challenge.

They also work on their communication skills when presenting their project design and process before a judging panel.

Contact Diane Wolfe for more information.



As part of its mission to serve all Iowans, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will provide reasonable accommodations to its "policies, practices, or procedures" when the accommodations are necessary to provide equal access to programming to participants with a qualifying disability. It will also provide auxiliary aids and services when they are necessary to provide equal access to participation.

CONTACT US!

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