



GROWS HERE



Black Hawk County 4-H Family News for April 2020

The Important Stuff!

March was a month of unprecedented changes for all of us. As we move into the next phase of our collective efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Black Hawk County Extension and Outreach will continue to keep the health and safety of our 4-H youth, families, volunteers and staff a priority. At this time, the Extension office is closed to the public and all 4-H events and in-person meetings remain canceled or postponed through the end of May. Meetings and outreach activities will be conducted virtually to the extent possible. As families, please continue to be safe and look for ways to help your 4-H'ers stay connected to their club and friends without compromising social distancing protocols. Your club leaders have tools and options to reach out and meet virtually with their clubs. Please support these efforts if you can. Take care and stay well!

The Good Stuff!

Did you know that 4-H Leaders receive training specifically designed for them every year? On Tuesday, March 3rd, 4-H Leaders from Black Hawk and surrounding counties attended the Blended New Volunteer/Leaders



Training held at the Black Hawk County Extension office. The evening started with a robotics presentation and demonstration from the Black Hawk County 4-H FTC team, represented by Dane Krause and Will Fettkether. Heather Henning, 4-H Program Specialist, delivered the training, *4-H Prepares Youth for the Future*. This was an interactive training to give leaders tools to help youth explore career pathways.



Important Reminder! All 4-H club members must be enrolled in 4-H Online! Not only does this serve to ensure all medical/contact information is up to date, it is critical for insurance purposes as 4-H'ers get back to attending meetings and activities. Contact Judy (jmuniz@iastate.edu) for assistance.

Important Dates

Apr. 27th: Deadline for Youth in Action Award applications

May 11th: [Broiler Chick](#) order deadline

May 12th: Dog Obedience Meeting: Week 1*

May 19th: Dog Obedience Meeting: Week 2*

*virtual



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Let's Talk About April!

Even though group events are canceled throughout April/May in order to maintain social distancing, there are still ways to connect as a club or as a family. Keep an eye on the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Black Hawk County [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for information and educational activities for youth and families. These are also the places that changes to deadlines and scheduling updates for the Black Hawk County 4-H and FFA Fair and other events will be posted. As the Extension office receives new information and guidance, it will be shared!

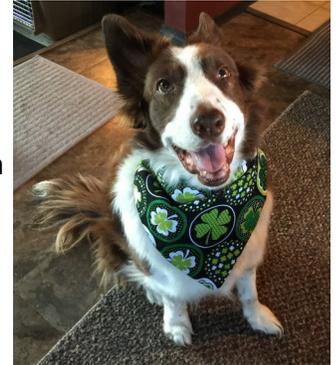
Here are the announcements, events and timely reminders for April and the months to come!

Eggs-cellent News! The 26th Annual Black Hawk County 4-H Omelet Breakfast Fundraiser has been rescheduled! It will now take place on Sunday, October 11th. Encourage anyone who has purchased tickets from your 4-H'ers to hold on to them! They can staple them to the October page of their calendar or stick them in their glove compartment for safe keeping! As long as they have them, they will be honored at the rescheduled event on Sunday, October 11th. Questions? Contact your Club Leaders for more information.



HOLD Your Tickets!
We'll honor them this fall!

We are Doggone Virtual! The [Black Hawk County 4-H Dog Project](#) is in the process of going virtual until meetings can resume in person. 4-H'ers that would like to gain knowledge about connecting with their canines, get ideas for dog-related fair projects, or participate in the dog show with their 4-legged best friend should plan to tune into upcoming videos and tutorials to learn how to make snuffle mats, paracord leashes and homemade dog treats. Check out this [page](#) to find out what is new! Reminder, Dog Obedience meetings begin Tuesday, May 12th (virtually) and will continue on a weekly basis into July.



Speaking of Virtual...Pizza? Black Hawk County 4-H presents *Homemade Pizza with Mike!* Watch for details on the Black Hawk County Extension [Facebook page](#) and [website](#) for information on the Facebook Live events that will help everyone make delicious pizza at home. Coming soon!



We have answers to your questions!

Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H [webpage](#), find us on [Facebook](#), or call 234.6811!



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

It is a Flash Sale...for YQCA! YQCA is offering a "Flash Sale" for web-based training from April 1 – April 30. Families can print off a coupon to allow them to purchase the \$12/person online web-based training for a reduced rate of \$9/person by going to the [4-H YQCA website](#).



April FLASH SALE!
Now \$9, not \$12!

YQCA
YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS

YQCA? Here is What You Need to Know!

YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) certification is required for all market and dairy animal exhibitors wishing to show at the Black Hawk County Fair or the Iowa State Fair. Please click [here](#) for details on Black Hawk County 4-H and FFA Fair YQCA requirements and registration. The deadline for certification is June 1st.

Clubs: Pledge Your Hands to Larger Service!

In true 4-H fashion, Iowa 4-H has challenged 4-H clubs in each county across the state to serve their communities by making 100 face masks to donate to local hospitals, care facilities and other front-line community partners. The goal is to donate 10,000 masks in total. **Let's do this, Black Hawk County 4-H!** Please see this [link](#) for face mask information! Once 4-H'ers finish their masks and are ready to donate them, please take pictures and send those to wolfejd@iastate.edu. These will be posted on social media to share the effort with our community. Families and clubs can drop masks off in the clear tote located at the back door of the Extension office. Our 4-H staff will make sure they get distributed. Thank you for lending your helping hands!



2021 4-H Youth in Action Awards Close Soon!

Until April 27th, youth can share their stories of developing passion, finding purpose, and inspiring others. Youth can [apply online](#) for the 4-H Youth in Action Awards for a chance to earn a \$5,000 scholarship and a trip to Washington, D.C. Take a look at an [inspiring video](#) by Kyra-Lee Harry, a 2018 Youth in Action award winner in Civic Engagement.



It is Broiler Chick Time!

Since 2013, 4-H'ers have been participating in the [4-H Broiler Chick Project](#). This project is an opportunity for a 4-H or FFA member to gain valuable experience in raising chicks to broiler weight, then present their best four birds at the Black Hawk County 4-H and FFA Fair. Many 4-H'ers choose to donate their birds to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank after the fair. Last year, this resulted in a donation of 690 pounds of meat! The 4-H program encourages 4-H'ers to participate in the project and beat the previous year's total! All 4-H families that would like to order broiler chicks for the [4-H Broiler Chick Project](#) must do so by May 11th. The chicks will arrive on June 2nd! Click [here](#) for more information on cost, processing and the benefits of donating.



Horse & Pony Club 2020 Kicks Off!

The meetings for the Horse & Pony Club will be held each Monday in June and July at Iron Horse Stables in Waterloo, starting on June 1st. Click [here](#) for the schedule and details. (Note, the clinic in April will not be held.)



Looking for more information?

Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H [webpage](#), find us on [Facebook](#), or call 234.6811!



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Cancellation Announcements

- **The 2020 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and Animal Science Roundup** scheduled for June 30th-July 2nd at the Iowa State University campus has been canceled due to concerns regarding COVID-19. Stay tuned for possible virtual experiences for high schoolers for the [Animal Science Roundup](#) portion of the Youth Conference.
- **Region 9 4-H Junior Camp** scheduled to take place on June 12th and 13th at Camp Pine Lake in Eldora has been canceled. Registrants will be contacted by the Extension office.
- **SESS Youth Camp 2020**, which was to be held at Sunstream Retreat Center on June 20th and 21st, has been canceled.
- The **4-H Shooting Sports 2020 National Championships** have been canceled as well as the in-person **National 4-H Shooting Sports Teen Ambassador Training**. The Ambassador Training will be offered online and information will be communicated to SESS Coordinators by May 1st.

4-H Pen Pals Wanted! A new 4-H Pen Pal Program is starting in Black Hawk County to connect Iowa 4-H'ers with each other! 4-H'ers will be matched with another 4-H'er via email after filling out a brief survey. Youth will contact each other via email first, but from there are able to decide how they would like to communicate (e.g. email, letters, Facetime, carrier pigeon, texts, etc.)! Black Hawk County 4-H will email out conversation prompts every Tuesday and Thursday to those who signed up to participate help keep the conversation going! To participate, youth can complete the [survey](#) and get ready to connect!

Are We Still Counting?

Yes! The 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign, "Count Your Clovers," is still in progress. Funds raised from this campaign provide financial aid support for 4-H members, helps to keep costs low for the State 4-H Conference and supports the State Council's efforts. Clubs should complete the [Count your Clovers pledge form](#) and return the bottom portion to

the Extension office. The deadline for forms has been extended from May 15th to June 15th.

Fair on the Radar!

Please note the changes to Fair Entry deadlines!



IMPORTANT Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA FAIR Reminders!

STEP ONE! **JUNE 1st** ALL LIVESTOCK (including dog and pets) Must be entered into [ia.4honline.com](#) by **June 1st**, except RABBITS and they need to be entered online by **July 1st**. Please call 319-234-6811 if you need help.

STEP TWO! **JUNE 1st** - All 4-Her's taking Market Animals to Fair must have **YEARLY YQCA CERTIFICATE DONE!**

JULY 1st - STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK entries due.

July 3rd - SPECIAL PROJECTS and PRESENTATIONS entered into [blackhawk.fairentry.com](#). These INCLUDE: Crop & Garden Plot, Fashion Revue, \$15 Challenge, Clothing Selection, Working Exhibit, Ed Presentation, Extemp Speaking, Share the Fun.

JULY 12th ALL LIVESTOCK & NON LIVESTOCK (STATIC) PROJECTS need to be entered into classes with Fair Entry at [blackhawk.fairentry.com](#) (Sign in under Green 4Honline Button) by July 12th.

Black Hawk County Sheep and Goat Exhibitors: Because of the Coronavirus, there will not be a weigh-in at Hawkeye Community College. Each family will need to tag their own sheep and goats at their home. As with swine, families will need to tag their animal project, take a picture of the animal with the tag in its ear, and send it to the Extension office. There will not be a rate of gain class at fair so a weight on the animal is not needed at the time of tagging. All ewes must be tagged with a scrapie tag issued by the Iowa Department of Agriculture Land and Stewardship. Clover Lambs will NOT need a 4-H tag but will need to be identified by a scrapie tag or flock number. If you have questions please call Diane at 319.239.2745. If you have questions or run into issues with Fair Entry, please contact Judy at jmuniz@iastate.edu or 234.6811, ext. 100.

We are here to help!

Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H [webpage](#), find us on [Facebook](#), or call 234.6811!



Stay Connected!

Even though we are all practicing social distancing, we can still connect! Iowa 4-H and Extension professionals across the state and nation have stepped up to the challenge of keeping youth engaged and learning, even if they are not in a classroom or at a club meeting.

On Friday of each week, an *Iowa 4-H Weekly Update* email is being sent to 4-H families to let you know about the educational 4-H resources available to you while youth are out of school. The [4-H At Home Learning Resources](#)

highlight new learning opportunities for youth to engage in each week. Each of the online educational resources follow the [Experiential Learning Model](#), which engages youth in a hands-on learning experience, has them reflect on the activity, and then apply what they have learned to a real-life situation.

The [Black Hawk County Extension and Outreach Facebook page](#) is updated daily with hands-on activity ideas, recipes, and more from 4-H, Iowa State University, Extension offices from across the state, and community partners.

Iowa 4-H has partnered with the NASA Iowa Space Grant Consortium to create a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Academy for youth. Check it out [here!](#)

Looking for service project opportunities that everyone can do from home in addition to the 100 face mask challenge? The [Volunteer Center of the Cedar Valley](#) has virtual volunteer opportunities on their website, including one to write letters to residents at Pillar of Cedar Valley Nursing and Rehab Center. See [here](#) for details! Check with your club leaders on projects that your 4-H'ers are thinking about!

Help Wanted!

The Black Hawk County Extension office is looking for a part-time Americorps 4-H Program Assistant. The full description of the position and application instructions can be found [here](#).

The Time is Now to Work on Fair Projects!

If your 4-H'er has questions about Static Fair projects, have them check out the [Helpful Resources for County Fair Projects 2020](#). Do they need more ideas? Navigate to the [Project Hot Sheets](#) for inspiration on everything from music to STEM to dairy cattle!

*4-H'er's
Put on
Your
Thinking
Caps!*



Don't forget about the [Challenge Contests!](#) This year, the five challenge project categories are: Cupcake Baking, Herb Gardens, Garden Art, Barn or Sign Photography and Dollar Store Crafts. The Challenge contests take place on July 21st and are open to the public (4-H'ers too!) It is a great way to involve the community in the BHC Fair!



Information at your Fingertips!

Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H [webpage](#), find us on [Facebook](#), or call 234.6811!



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Leader Spotlight

Name: *Christie Drake*

Club/Location: *Lester Livewires/Dunkerton*

Years of Service: *2*

How long have you been involved with 4-H?

I have been involved in 4-H since I was in 4th grade at the Grundy County Fair. I have been a 4-H leader in Black Hawk County for the Lester Livewires for 2 years and absolutely love what I am doing for the kids and seeing them grow each year.

Have other members of your family participated in 4-H? If so, whom?

I have a sister, Carrie, and a brother, Michael, that also participated in 4-H. Michael was also in FFA. My mom and dad were very much involved in 4-H as well. In fact, we were huge Horse and Pony people! My mom and dad were Superintendents for quite some time at the Grundy County Fair. Our son, Aaron, did one year of Clover Kids. He is now in 4th grade and in the Lester Livewires club.

What motivates you to be a leader?

The things that motivate me the most to be a leader are to watch the kids grow each year and see what new goals they have set for themselves to achieve. I love seeing the young kids come up with new ideas and the big smiles they have on their faces as they show off what they have learned throughout the year. I also really enjoy watching them grow up to be mature individuals with huge inspirations and watching them help the young kids along the way. I really enjoy watching kids give back to the community in so many different ways.

Name some of your favorite club activities.

Why are these favorites?

I like being able to have speakers come and talk to our club about different things, which allows the kids to see what kinds of 4-H projects they could do. One year, we had Dr. Phil Edler come and speak about veterinarian work. We went on a Mississippi Boat Tour and had someone come and talk to us about Scrap Metal art. It allows the kids to see what they could do even with non-livestock activities.

Another favorite is our 4-H club farm tour before Fair, which allows our kids to bring in their projects and animals to be viewed. It is so fun because you get to see how excited they are to talk about their projects.



Please share a memorable story from your experience as a leader/mentor!

One memorable moment that stuck out this year is that one of our Clover Kids did a presentation on dance. At the end of the meeting, we had some of the Senior girls up there learning how to do the dance that she taught and the moves she learned in dance class. The Clover was not shy and just got up and did what she needed to do to show them. The Clover Kids really look up to the older kids. When our son, Aaron, got up to do his presentation for the very first time this year, he was confident in what he did and explained things very well. He did not seem nervous at all. It is truly a joy to be a leader and I could not do it without Sara McIntosh helping me. We teamed up to do this and I could not ask for a better partner!



Get In Touch!

Diane Wolfe - wolfejd@iastate.edu

Judy Muniz - jmuniz@iastate.edu

Abby Rippe - ajrippe@iastate.edu

Sarah Tanis - stanis@iastate.edu

Shelly Smith - shellys@iastate.edu

Call: 319.234.6811

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/blackhawk>



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach