



# GROWS HERE



## Black Hawk County 4-H Family News for July 2020

### The Important Stuff!

The Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair will be here before we know it! Yes, this year is going to be different than all other years. The good news is that our 4-H program and Fair Board have committed to giving our youth a great fair experience! From the beginning of this pandemic, Extension has made careful decisions to keep Black Hawk County youth, families, volunteers, staff and those we serve safe and healthy. The Black Hawk County Extension office opened to the public on Monday, July 6th. If you visit, please be aware that the office is following the Center for Disease Control guidelines of social distancing, respiratory etiquette, handwashing, contact tracking, and other prevention efforts posted with signs throughout the office. Face coverings are appreciated! Let's all take care and stay well!

### The Good Stuff!

The Black Hawk County 4-H Dog Obedience meetings have been taking place since May 12th!



The meetings began virtually and transitioned to face-to-face starting on June 23rd. The participating youth and their 4-legged best friends have been working hard to develop their skills together!

The Black Hawk County 4-H Broiler Chick Project kicked off in June with 8 families picking up a total of 450 chicks! Hear all about it from the 4-H'ers! Click here for their [video](#).



### Important Dates

**July 10th:** State Fair Livestock entries due in *State Fair Entry*

**July 10th:** Danforth & Lions Club award applications due

**July 12th:** All project/exhibits (livestock and static) must be entered in classes in *Black Hawk Fair Entry*

**July 12th:** Application deadline for the 2020 Sheep and 2020 Pork Scholarships

**July 13th-July 25th:** Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair activities (See [schedule](#))

**Ongoing through July:** [Virtual Summer STEM Library Programs](#) (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays)



## Let's Talk About July!

The Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair is a go! Although it seems strange to say, this was not a given. There was uncertainty about whether it would or could take place this year as each week brought new information and guidance from all levels of government, health authorities, and our own organization. Much time and energy went into making sure that Black Hawk County 4-H'ers will have the opportunity to showcase the hard work they have put into their exhibits and/or caring for their livestock, while having a safe fair experience. As families and as a community, we can support our 4-H'ers with positivity, compassion and friendly faces (even behind a mask) as they navigate yet another change to their "normal." We will all be experiencing this version of the fair for the first time, so let's enjoy this adventure together!



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

**It is Time to Listen.** Access, equity, diversity, and inclusion are essential elements in 4-H. Jennifer Sirangelo, President & CEO - National 4-H Council, shares her reflections on the tragedy in Minnesota and the role of 4-H in empowering youth in, "The Voices We Need to Hear Right Now."



She offers a video highlighting the diverse voices of 4-H youth and Cooperative Extension 4-H leaders speaking about what equity means to them. Please read her statement and watch the [video](#).

## 2020 Summer Programming is Underway!

The 2020 Virtual Summer STEM Library Program is in full swing! Each week throughout July and August, there are free lessons being held virtually through partnerships with the Waterloo Public Library, Hudson Public Library, Hawkins Memorial Library (La Porte City), and Dunkerton Public Library. There are

**FREE and OPEN to ALL!**

**2020 VIRTUAL SUMMER STEM Library Program**

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- Seed Starting
- Complete any ONE of challenges 1-4 of the STEAM Academy
- Crops Feed the World
- Cow Superpowers & Your Carbon Footprint
- Conduct your own experiment at home that you find interesting
- Soil Erosion Experiment
- Rube Goldberg Challenge
- Predicting the Weather
- Seeing Sound Challenge

Summer STEM scavenger hunts through the Waterloo and Hawkins Memorial libraries, and take-home kits to go with Tech Tuesday lessons from Hawkins as well! For the library schedules and details about participating, please click [here](#)!

**Still Wondering about Fair Projects?** There are two more weeks left in the Black Hawk County [Probing Into 4-H Projects](#) series, which helps 4-H'ers take a deeper dive into 5 different project areas: Poultry, Dog, Food & Nutrition, Visual Arts, and Ag & Natural Resources. Youth can register for free take-home kits and will receive emails with activity ideas, video links, journaling prompts and more! Check it out [here](#)!

**PROBING INTO 4-H PROJECTS**

Virtual Series  
Schedule:

- June 14-20: Dog
- June 21-27: Food & Nutrition
- June 28-July 4: Poultry
- July 5-11: Visual Arts
- July 12-July 18: Ag & Natural Resources

Check out our website for more information on how to get involved!

Register for FREE Kit

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### We have answers to your questions!

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



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**The Face Mask Challenge Continues!** Black Hawk County 4-H continues to help make 10,000 masks for the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown, Iowa. If you would like to donate freshly WASHED fabric or masks that you have made, please drop these items off at the Extension office. If you are unable to travel to the office to donate fabric or masks, or have any questions, please contact Diane Wolfe at 234.6811. Our Extension staff can arrange for a contact-free pick up of the items from your home.



**Who Is Ready to Hit the Bricks?** (By bricks, we mean LEGOs!) Learn all about the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) program, and coaching and mentoring teams/clubs through an online workshop! No engineering experience required. You will gain an overview of FLL and FLL Jr. (now known as FIRST LEGO League Challenge and FIRST LEGO League Explore). Open to anyone interested in mentoring youth. We are happy to welcome new coaches and mentors! More information and videos [here!](#)



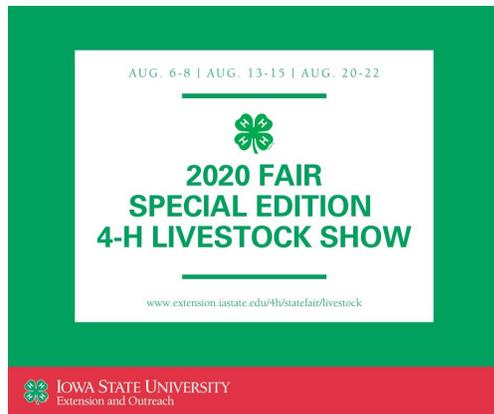
**Babysitting 101!** Story County Extension and Outreach is hosting a virtual Babysitting Basics Program for students 5th-12th grade. To receive a program certificate, participants view the self-



learning materials and videos, participate in one group learning session through Webex, and complete a babysitting quiz. Summer is a great time to practice your skills! Learn more [here!](#)

**Great News!** The Iowa State Fairgrounds will host a [Fair Special Edition: Iowa 4-H and FFA Livestock Show](#) this

summer due to the postponement of the 2020 Iowa State Fair. The revised schedule for 4-H livestock shows will be spread out



over three weeks and held Thursday through Saturday, starting August 6th, 13th, and 20th. For details on exhibiting, attendance restrictions, and more, see the [Iowa State Fair 4-H Livestock webpage](#).

**More Great News!** [4-H Show Iowa](#), a virtual celebration of 4-H Exhibits, Communication Events, and Awardrobe Clothing Selection, will provide state level recognition to partially replace the loss of these opportunities due to the postponement of the 2020 Iowa State Fair. The virtual exhibition starts August 13, 2020. See the [4-H Show Iowa webpage](#) for more information.



**Looking for more information?**  
Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H [webpage](#), find us on [Facebook](#), or call 234.6811!



### Fair on the Radar!

We are in the homestretch! Please note the following important deadlines for the Black Hawk County 4-H and FFA Fair!

#### July 10th

- Deadline for State Fair Livestock entries in *State Fair Entry*
- Application deadline for the Danforth "I Dare You" Award and Lions Club Scholarship

#### July 12th

- Deadline for all livestock and static (non-livestock) projects to be entered in classes in *Black Hawk Fair Entry*
- Application deadline for the 2020 Sheep and 2020 Pork Scholarships

Click [here](#) for details and application links for the Danforth Award and the scholarships.

For questions or issues with *Fair Entry*, please contact Judy at 234.6811 or at [jmuniz@iastate.edu](mailto:jmuniz@iastate.edu).

Looking for a 2020 Fair Book? They are available online [here](#)! Please note that schedule changes due to COVID-19 are not reflected in the Fair Book.



**You've Got (Snail) Mail!** All Black Hawk County 4-H families were sent a 2020 Black Hawk County 4-H and FFA Fair Information Guide in the mail early in July. This very useful document provides detailed information on the when and how of non-conference static judging, drop off and pick up procedures for exhibits, fair preparation tips and help sheet links, livestock show guidelines and more. An updated version of the overall Fair schedule, including livestock check in and show times is [here](#). Please call Kayla at 234.6811 if you have questions or have not received the mailing.

**Did You Know?** The Fair is not open to the public and only family members may attend the livestock shows. For the safety of all youth, families, volunteers and staff, respiratory etiquette, clean hands and social distancing are expected, as is the use of face coverings if social distancing cannot be maintained. High touch areas will be cleaned frequently.



### Financial Assistance for 4-H'ers.

Through the 4-H'ers for 4-H Program, funds are available to provide financial support for 4-H'ers and families in times of need. These funds should be used to help 4-H'ers complete 4-H projects or exhibits. More information is available [here](#).

**Beef Up Iowa Initiative.** Students and staff at Iowa State University are processing cattle from Iowa beef producers who have limited processing options due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meat will be distributed to food bank and food pantry feeding programs across the state. The initial cattle for [Beef Up Iowa](#) will be sourced from Iowa 4-H and FFA members. Please contact Diane Wolfe at 234.6811 if you have questions about the program.

### Searching for Something?

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



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## Looking for Summer Activities?

The [Black Hawk County Extension and Outreach Facebook page](#) continues to have many hands-on activity ideas and resources from 4-H, Iowa State University, county Extension offices, and community partners. Interested in helping your club find service projects? Check out some [Simple Safe Service](#) projects from [Learning to Give!](#)

## Leader Spotlight

*Name: Janice Heth*

*Club/Location: Bright Eagles/La Porte City*

*Years of Service: 15*

### How long have you been involved with 4-H?

I have been involved with 4-H since I was in 4th grade. I was a member of the Westburg Happy Helpers 4-H club in Buchanan County. I took many projects to the fair growing up. I also showed beef cattle and sheep. I showed sheep at the Iowa State Fair for a few years. I was also on the County Council in Buchanan County. I became a 4-H leader in 2006.

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

Both of my parents, Jack and Gloria Pullin, were active in 4-H as kids growing up. My dad showed sheep at the Black Hawk County Fair, and my mom entered many projects at the Buchanan County Fair. My father was also a 4-H leader and part of the Youth Action Committee in Buchanan County. My brothers were also in 4-H. My sons and daughter have all been members.

### What motivates you to be a leader?

My motivation for being a leader is to see how the members grow in leadership, community service activities, and learning in the area of their interests. I also want my members to be able to have access to the many opportunities that 4-H provides.

### Name some of your favorite club activities.

#### Why are these favorites?

An activity that we unfortunately were unable to do this spring is making corsages for the women at the nursing home in La Porte City for Mother's Day. Each year we bring flowers to the nursing home and make the corsages. Many times we are

able to talk with residents as we are doing this. It is fun to watch their faces when they are talking with the kids. This activity also helps to expose the members to other older people in the community. I also like this activity because it is fun to watch the older members teach the younger and new members how to make the corsages. It is kind of like "passing the torch" so to speak. Another activity that I enjoy with the members is taking a day trip in the summer to visit different places in our great state. We have been to Decorah, Dubuque, and Iowa State University to name a few. This gives us a chance to have a social event and get to know each other better. It also is nice to see other parts of the state that some may not know exist. Also, I enjoy working with the kids on doing the Pie Baking Contest and Auction at the fair.

This is a great opportunity for the kids to learn to talk, even briefly, with other adults, the art of writing thank you notes, organizing, and learning that what they are doing is impacting other members in our county.

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

I have several memories about being a leader, but the most satisfying is seeing all of the projects the kids create for the fair and having them share their project with others and myself. I like to see the satisfaction on their faces when the result of their hard work is recognized.



### **Get In Touch!**

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

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