APRIL 2021
The Important Stuff!
April is here! The countdown to school getting out and the Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair has begun! While both are exciting, there is going to be a lot to do between now and those important events. Black Hawk County 4-H will be offering some great in person workshops later this month and 4-H Take Home Kits will still be available in April and May through library partners in Dunkerton and Hudson. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Week is April 12th-17th! The Black Hawk County Extension office will take opportunities throughout the week to thank Iowans for their support of extension efforts in our state. A quick programming note: Iowa State University Extension and Outreach has extended its face covering mandate until at least May 8th. **Face coverings are required when people are indoors and outdoors if 6-foot social distancing is not possible. This applies to in-person club meetings, programs, and events.** Thank you for supporting this [Iowa 4-H guidance](https:// Extension). Please contact Diane Wolfe at 319.234.6811 with any questions. Stay well!

The Good Stuff!
Sarah Tanis, our Black Hawk County 4-H Outreach Coordinator, did Facebook Live bedtime readings of children's books about agriculture every Wednesday evening in March as part of *Read Across Iowa*. Families were able to listen live or choose to watch the recorded reading, and participating youth had a chance to win books and goodie. What a great way to learn about agriculture! Thanks for reading to us, Sarah :)

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**April 1st:** Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and Animal Science Round Up registrations open

**April 3rd:** Deadline to have Swine weighed and tagged (at home)

**April 3rd:** Shooting Sports, 9:00-11:30am (all)

**April 15th:** Discover Dogs Workshop at the Extension office, 6:30-8:00pm

**April 24th:** Car Care 101 Workshop at Bill Colwell Ford in Hudson, 1:00-2:30pm

**April 30th:** Deadline to register for Invest In Our Quest Summer Trip

**May 1st:** Sheep and Goat Weigh In at Hawkeye Community College, 8:00-10:00am

**May 1st:** Shooting Sports, 9:00-11:30am (all)

**Ongoing:** 4-H ers for 4-H Campaign
Let’s Talk About April!
April is the time to take a deep breath and get ready for the busier months coming up! It is also the month that we celebrate Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Week, Earth Day, and Earth Week! Did we hear someone say workshops? There will be two offered to 4-H’ers in April, just in time to help get some ideas for fair projects rolling! Check out the Fair on the Radar feature later in this newsletter to keep track of upcoming deadlines and events. If you have questions about what is going on this month, such as meetings, enrollment or other activities, feel free to reach out to your leaders or 4-H staff. Watch your email, the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage or Facebook page for the latest news and updates!

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

Enrollment Reminder. Enrollment in 4-H is required for youth to be covered by insurance as they attend meetings, events, and activities. There is no cost for Clover Kids (K-3rd grade) and families with 3 or more youth members only pay $45.00! To enroll, go to 4HOnline. If you have questions, feel free to contact the Extension and Outreach office at 319.234.6811.

Time to Explore!
The registration deadline for Project Passport is April 12th. See this page for more information and to register.

All the Paws-ibilities!! 4-H’ers, do you love dogs? Join us at the Black Hawk County Extension and Outreach office for a Discover Dogs Workshop on Thursday, April 15th from 6:30-8:00pm! This workshop is open to all 4-H youth (dog owners or not!) that would like to learn more about Dog Project and/or get some great ideas for dog-themed fair exhibits for different project areas! There will be information on 4-H dog obedience sessions starting in May, activities related to dog breeds and health, hands on demonstrations for making snuffle mats and tug toys, service project ideas, and more. Please note that the workshop is just for people. Pups can sit this one out! The workshop will be in person, so registration is required and participation is limited due to social distancing considerations. To register, navigate here by Wednesday, April 14th. If you have questions or would like to ask about alternative attendance options, we can help! Please contact the office at 319.234.6811.

We have answers to your questions!
Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
Beep Beep! If you are a 4-H’er in grades 8-12, we have a great learning opportunity for you! Black Hawk County 4-H is offering a Car Care 101 Workshop at Bill Colwell Ford in Hudson from 1:00-2:30pm on Saturday, April 24th. Learn about changing a tire, checking oil, and more from automotive experts! Registration and face coverings required. Watch your email and the Black Hawk County 4-H Facebook page for more details!

It’s A Roadtrip! Registration is open for the 2021 4-H Summer Intermediate Adventure Trip, Invest in Our Quest! It takes place on Thursday, June 10th. 4-H’ers in 6th-8th grade can join in the one day adventure to central Iowa, including stops at the 1913 Antique Carousel, the Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad, the James H. Andrew Railroad Museum & History Center, and the Biotech lab at Iowa State University. 4-H’ers from six counties are invited! Space is limited. The $100 registration fee is due to the Black Hawk County Extension office by April 30th. Registration forms can be downloaded here or picked up at the office. Scholarships to defray registration costs are available, please call Diane at 319.234.6811.

Are you a 4-H Foodie? Check this out!

Fair on the Radar! The next date to keep tabs on is May 1st! Sheep & Goat Weigh In will take place at Hawkeye Community College from 8:00 to 10:00am. Please call the Extension office at 319.234.6811 if you have questions!

IMPORTANT FAIR REMINDER! All animals must be entered by families in 4HOnline by May 15th!

Did You Know? Over the last 8 years, Black Hawk County 4-H has donated over 3 tons of fresh chicken to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank as service to their community through the Black Hawk County 4-H Broiler Chick Project. Here is some great news for 2021! We are inviting community members to join 4-H’ers in raising chicks that will be donated! Chicks will be available for $1 each and take 10 weeks to raise. Please call the office at 319.234.6811 to order or download the order form on this page. More information about the project and the Broiler Chick club contest can be found here. The order deadline is Friday, May 14th!

Searching for Something? Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
Save the Date! 4-H Dog Obedience meetings start on Thursday, May 20th and run weekly through Thursday, July 15th. All sessions will be held in person at the Extension office from 6:00-7:00pm. More details to come!

Quest To Be Your Best! Register now for the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and Animal Science Round Up at Iowa State University, June 29th-July 1st. Each area of the state attends just one day this year and registration is limited to 130 delegates each day. Black Hawk County’s day is July 1st! Iowa 4-H Youth in grades 8-12 may participate. The $50 cost includes transportation. Financial assistance available to those who may need it starting on May 1st. See here for more conference details!

Omelet Breakfast Reminder. Please note that any purchased Omelet Breakfast tickets that are still in the possession of clubs or individuals will not be honored for the event in 2022. If a ticket holder would like a refund on a purchased ticket, the ticket must be presented along with the refund request at the Extension office by June 1st. After this date, the tickets will be considered a much appreciated donation to the Black Hawk County 4-H program! Please contact Diane Wolfe at wolfejd@iastate.edu with questions.

FYI: YQCA! 4-H and FFA members must have their YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) certification if they wish to show at the Black Hawk County Fair or Iowa State Fair. Certification is required for beef, bottle calves, dairy cattle, dairy and meat goats, sheep, swine, all rabbits, and poultry. Horses, llamas and pets do not require certification. Online YQCA training is available and due by June 1st each year. The cost is $12, paid online. Log into http://yqca.org/ to get started!

Resources for Fair Exhibits!
4-H’ers, are you working on a home improvement or wood finishing exhibit for fair? Check out these helpful resources: Evaluation in 4-H Home Improvement, Wood Finishing: A Continuous Application Technique, and General Wood Finishing Tips for 4-H Judges. Working on something else? Downloadable guides for all project areas can be found at the Extension Store. Please note if you are planning to use an Iowa State trademark in your 4-H project for the county or state fair, you must receive permission to show your project. Here is how!

Celebrating April Events! During Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Week, get a jump on family garden planning by ordering free seeds to pick up at the office April 12th to April 14th! For Earth Week (April 18th-24th), take the Water Rocks! Earth Week Chalk Challenge. Check out Earth Day volunteer events in Black Hawk County through the Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley or come up with your own service project to help clean up our favorite planet!

Answers at Your Fingertips!
Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
4-H Leader Spotlight

♦ Name: Sandra Bird  ♦ Club/Location: Raymond Rough Riders/Raymond  ♦ Years of Service: 3

How long have you been involved with 4-H?
I have been involved 10+ years.

Have other members of your family participated in 4-H? If so, whom?
My daughter, Kandice, and grandson, Jordan, have participated in 4-H.

What motivates you to be a leader?
I enjoy encouraging young people to participate and learn about animals.

Name some of your favorite club activities. Why are these favorites?
We do team trivia on horses, dogs, tack, and equipment. It teaches and stimulates a little friendly competition and conversation.

Please share a memorable story from your experience as a leader/mentor!
A memorable time for me was helping a young lady overcome her fear of horses. She became a very confident horseman!

SAVE THE DATE!
The 2021 Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair is July 27th - 31st!

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.