The Important Stuff!
It is National 4-H Week! We are happy to have a long and robust 4-H history here in Black Hawk County! Did you know that 4-H club work in Black Hawk County started in 1912? In the early club years, there were corn and garden projects, sewing clubs, and homemaking demonstration and livestock judging contests. By 1934, about a third of all of the youth that were old enough to be in a club in the county were in 4-H! Times have changed and along with it, 4-H has been there for all youth of Black Hawk County. This county has youth who come from a long family line of 4-H members, youth that are just discovering 4-H for the first time, youth with rural addresses, and youth that live right in the middle of our metropolitan area. They all strive and work together to make the best better. Let’s celebrate that this week, this month, and throughout the year!

The Good Stuff!
Speaking of celebrations, what a great way to kick off National 4-H Week! Many Black Hawk County 4-H’ers and their families got together on Sunday, October 3rd for the 4-H Family Fun Night at Palmer’s Family Fun in Waterloo. From the jumping pillow to the go-karts to the walking tacos, it was a perfect night!
Let’s Talk About October!
It is hard to believe, but we already have over a month of school and the new 4-H season behind us! Along with the Family Fun Night, Virtual Bingo and Fun with 4-H this month, we have a great opportunity for all 4-H’ers to learn more about dogs and their care in our Dog Project workshop on October 11th! No dogs required! For the scoop on other events, activities, and deadlines, check out the Black Hawk County 4-H Calendar! We will also keep you updated by email, on the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage and Facebook page. Just a reminder, it is still 4-H enrollment time. Whether you are re-enrolling or enrolling for the first time, we can help! Just call us at 319.234.6811 anytime Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30pm! Happy Fall!

Enroll Now! Enrollment for new members or re-enrollment for existing members in 4HOnline is required for all 4-H youth to be covered by insurance as they attend 4-H meetings and activities. Leaders and mentors must also enroll in 4HOnline! The $15 youth enrollment fee may be paid online during enrollment or by cash or check (only) through the Extension office after enrollment. The enrollment deadline is December 1st! Contact Judy at 319.234.6811 or jmuniz@iastate.edu if you need troubleshooting assistance, or have questions about accessing or using 4HOnline.

Looking for Tips? There are 4HOnline resources available to families on the Iowa 4-H website. For the Family Enrollment Guide, which assists families with the enrollment steps, please navigate here and scroll down to the link. This also covers adult enrollment procedures. (Leaders, please see this page and click on the arrow by ‘4HOnline Help Documents for Leaders’ to find the Club Leader Helpsheet.)

Help Wanted! If you enjoy teaching, planning and executing fun and different programs for youth ages K-12, then this is for you! Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Black Hawk County is hiring 2 Americorps members. One full time position (1700 hours) and one half time position (900 hours) are available. To apply, send a cover letter, resume and three references to Sarah Tanis (stanis@iastate.edu). Apply by October 8th!

Calling All Dog Fans! Join Black Hawk County 4-H to learn all about dogs and their care, find ways to help dogs in our community, explore jobs with dogs, and much more! No dogs required! All Dog Project workshops are open to all 4-H’ers. (These are for people, not pups!) The first workshop is Dog Grooming 101 on Monday, October 11th! Upcoming Dog Project workshops include:
November 8th: Let’s Talk Safety!
January 10th: Visit A Vet!
February 14th: Service Project Planning
For more information on all of the workshops and to register, navigate here!

We have answers to your questions!
Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
4-H Gives Back! Black Hawk County 4-H members once again did an amazing job of raising and donating fresh chicken meat to our community through the 2021 Broiler Project! This year, over 1,000 pounds (1,068 to be exact) of chicken was donated to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. Since 2013, Black Hawk County 4-H’ers have donated 7,110 pounds of fresh chicken to the food bank through this project! It is a wonderful way to support those in our community who may otherwise not have access to healthy, locally produced meat.

Congratulations 4-H’ers! The Bennington Boosters and Lester Livewires clubs won the contest for the most broilers donated to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank! They each get a pizza party!

Interested in Shooting Sports? Black Hawk County 4-H Shooting Sports meets from 9:00-10:45am and Archery takes place from 10:45-11:30am in Chickasaw Hall at Hawkeye Community College the first Saturday of each month. Open to 4th graders and older. Would you like to learn more? Take a look here!

Virtual Fun With 4-H Happens Monthly! Join Black Hawk County 4-H the first Tuesday of each month for some virtual fun! These events help promote 4-H and provide educational activities for members (and non-members) in grades K-12 to participate in. Hosts for the virtual events may include community partners, Extension staff, and 4-H County Council members. If any 4-H youth would like to teach a skill, craft, or share a presentation, they are welcome to do so! For more information and to register for the Zoom events, click here.

4-H Judges Training Announcement. Iowa 4-H will be hosting a free statewide virtual judges training, “Evaluate, Educate, and Encourage – Your Role as an Iowa 4-H Static Judge,” on November 4, 7pm-8:30pm. All new judges are encouraged to attend this training! Returning judges will also benefit from this training as a refresher. The training content applies to all static judges and all categories. Judges can find the registration form on the Information for Judges webpage.

Save the Date! The Black Hawk County 4-H Awards Banquet will be Sunday, November 21st from 2:00-4:00pm at The Pavilion on the National Cattle Congress grounds in Waterloo.

Better Together 2021 Awards Banquet

Searching for Something? Visit the Black Hawk County 4-H webpage, find us on Facebook, or call 319.234.6811!
It is National 4-H Week! If you get a chance, take a minute to watch the video above from National 4-H.org. 4-H programs are grounded in the belief that kids learn best by doing. We believe in all young people’s potential; developing young people who are empowered, confident, hard-working, determined, responsible and compassionate—seeing a world beyond themselves so that they have the life-long skills to succeed in college and career.

We encourage them to find their spark!

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.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext.