WELCOME TO BUCHANAN COUNTY 4-H!

We’re so glad you joined! The next few pages are designed to serve as a guide for you as you begin your journey in 4-H. If you have questions, your club leader is always available to help, as is Melanie, our Buchanan County Youth Coordinator.

Ready to get started? Well then let’s go!

First off, the important stuff—contact information.
In the sticky note to the left, fill out your 4-H club’s name and leader contact information so you always have it handy for when questions arise.

Need an answer now and can’t get in touch with your leader(s)?
Stop into or contact the Buchanan County Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach office anytime Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and talk with Melanie.

Our office is located at:
2600 Swan Lake Blvd. Ste A
Independence, IA

Or you can call or email us at:
319-334-7161
xbuchanan@iastate.edu

You can also visit our website:
www.extension.iastate.edu/buchanan/4h

Like us on Facebook:
@BuchananCountyISUExtension
4-H Facts — Information to Help You

As a new 4-H member, there is lots to do and learn! Here are a few fun facts that will help you be successful throughout your 4-H journey.

What is 4-H?
4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

What are the 4-H Colors?
- **GREEN** — symbolizes life, springtime and youth.
- **WHITE** — symbolizes purity.

4-H Pledge
I pledge my **HEAD** to CLEARER THINKING,
my **HEART** to GREATER LOYALTY,
my **HANDS** to LARGER SERVICE,
and my **HEALTH** to BETTER LIVING,
for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

DID YOU KNOW? THERE ARE 4 LEVELS IN 4-H!
- **Grades K through 3** are considered **Clover Kids** 4-H Members
- **Grades 4 through 6** are considered **Junior** Level 4-H Members
- **Grades 7 through 8** are considered **Intermediate** Level 4-H Members
- **Grades 9 through 12** are considered **Senior** Level 4-H Members

A Little Iowa 4-H History:

Early school teachers O.H. Benson in Wright County, and Jesse Field Shambaugh in Page County, taught farm topics in schools. Both became superintendents in their counties in 1906 and vigorously promoted “club” work.

County superintendent Cap E. Miller in Keokuk County also pioneered, and in 1904 he urged his teachers to promote clubs and teach farm subjects. He sponsored a county organization of boys and girls with officers and educational programs. Miller’s plans fostered many of the teaching tools in today’s 4-H program, including life skills and learning-by-doing through projects, group meetings and exhibits.

The programs for boys were called ‘Boys Agricultural Clubs’. They had exhibits of corn and garden products, and held livestock judging contests.

The programs for girls were called ‘Girls Home Culture Clubs’. The girls had exhibits of sewing and cooking, and held contests in which they judged articles of sewing, handwork and cooking.

The emblem of the four-leaf clover started in 1906 at a one-room country school near Clarion. O.H. Benson observed 11 pupils looking for four-leaf clovers. He used the four leaves to stand for the schools four-square development of: Education, Physical, Moral, Fellowship. The three-leaf clover was used in 1906-1911 to stand for head, heart and hand. The fourth ‘H’ for health was added in 1981.

4-H Motto
To make the BEST BETTER!
**4-H Vocabulary—Talk the Talk!**

*As a new 4-H member, you will hear lots of new words and phrases.* Let us help you decipher what some of the key 4-H terms mean.

**4-H Online.** This online record provides the Extension and Outreach Office with your membership information. It includes your name, address, phone number and project areas you have selected for the year. This site also serves as a place where members can sign a code of ethics form which asks members to be responsible for doing their project work in an ethical manner.

**Medical History Forms.** Much like the information provided to schools and other youth organizations, 4-H needs medical information in case of an emergency with a member. All information is kept confidential.

**FairEntry.** This website is for you to make your animal and static entries for the Buchanan County & Iowa State Fair. Livestock entries and static entries for county fair are due June 15th.

**Project.** A 4-H project is an area of emphasis in which a 4-H member enrolls, studies, learns and keeps records. A “Pick-A-Project” paper lists all of the project areas in 4-H from A to Z. Examples of project areas include: photography, consumer management or horticulture.

**Conference Judging.** This method of judging is used for static exhibits at the county fair. A 4-H member discusses their work with the judge. The judge determines the ribbon placing and the item is put on display during the fair.

**Static Exhibits.** This term is used to refer to non-animal exhibits, such as photography, food and nutrition, child development, woodworking, sewing, consumer management, clothing and fashion, and more!

**Exhibits.** A 4-H exhibit is an item resulting from project work that the 4-H member has chosen to bring to fair and have evaluated by a judge. For example, a 4-H member may enroll in the woodworking project area, and choose to bring a birdhouse (that he/she constructed) to the fair.

**YQCA.** YQCA stands for Youth for the Quality Care of Animals. It is a required training for any and all 4-H members showing livestock at the fair. YQCA focuses on proper care of animals. YQCA training dates and locations will be posted in monthly 4-H newsletters.

**Identification Forms.** All animals that are part of a 4-H project must be identified. Market animals will have identification forms completed at their respective weigh-ins. Other animals have separate identification sheets. Check with the Extension and Outreach office for specific deadlines.

**Clover Kids.** A Clover Kid is a 4-H youth in K-3rd grade. Clover Kids participate in hands on activities designed to build life skills. They can attend regular meetings and workshops during the year, and are eligible to exhibit at county fair in non-competitive activities.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

*A 4-H Club generally elects seven officers!*

Let’s take a look at each office and its respective responsibilities.

- **President** — conducts meetings and appoints committees.
- **Vice President** — in charge of the program plans.
- **Secretary** — keeps minutes and attendance records.
- **Treasurer** — pays club bills and deposits funds received.
- **Recreation Leader** — helps plan parties and leads games.
- **Reporter** — writes newspaper stories about club events.
- **Historian** — keeps a lasting record of the club’s yearly story.
As a new 4-H member, you have the opportunity to participate in activities all year!
The following is a year-long list of activities that take place in a typical 4-H year. Counties do not always do the same activities at the same time every year, and some activities are dropped while others are added. Be sure to read your monthly 4-H newsletter to stay up-to-date on details, deadlines and more!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>4-H Enrollment Begins&lt;br&gt;Record Books Must be Completed (from prior year)&lt;br&gt;Project Award Applications Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>Celebrate National 4-H Week!</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>4-H Enrollment Continues. <em>Enroll by December 31st to get the discount.</em>&lt;br&gt;Awards Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>Beef Weigh-In</td>
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<tr>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>Brainstorm and work on Static Exhibits!&lt;br&gt;Watch for upcoming workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>Weighed in Beef must be verified by Feb. 1st.&lt;br&gt;Brainstorm and work on Static Exhibits!&lt;br&gt;Watch for upcoming workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>Work on Static Exhibits!&lt;br&gt;Swine Weigh-In</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>Swine Identification&lt;br&gt;Sheep &amp; Meat Goat Weigh In</td>
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<td>MAY</td>
<td>Identify All Animals in 4-H Online (May 15th)!</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>Livestock Entries due on FairEntry June 15th!&lt;br&gt;Static Entries due on FairEntry June 15th!&lt;br&gt;Iowa Youth Conference!</td>
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<tr>
<td>JULY</td>
<td>Participate in and/or attend the Buchanan County Fair!&lt;br&gt;Participate in Summer Camps!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Participate in and/or attend the Iowa State Fair!&lt;br&gt;Work on Record Books!</td>
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**4-H Member, Club and Family Information**

*As a new 4-H member, you and your family have lots of new opportunities!* Let’s look at what it means to be a 4-H member, what 4-H clubs actually do, and how your family can also participate!

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### 4-H Members

As a 4-H MEMBER, you are expected to:

1. Attend and participate in monthly club meetings.
2. Do an educational presentation at your club meeting.
3. Participate in club community service projects.
4. Explore project areas that interest you.
5. Take part in activities, camps, project workshops and more!
6. HAVE FUN!

*** Exhibiting at the county and/or state fair is a highlight each year for many 4-H members. Youth are encouraged, but not required, to showcase project work at the county and/or state fair.

*** Additionally, keeping records of project work throughout the year is strongly encouraged. Specific forms are available from the county office.

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### 4-H Clubs

What does a 4-H Club do?

Most clubs meet monthly with a year-long plan for their program. A 4-H Club elects its own officers and conducts its own business. Each meeting usually includes one or more presentation by club members. Meetings may also include presentations by leaders, parents and/or experts; recreation and/or games; family nights; and/or field trips. Most 4-H clubs also do a variety of community service projects which are decided upon and completed by club members.

*Generally, a club meeting consists of calling the meeting to order, the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H pledge, roll call and minutes of the last meeting, the treasurer’s report, reports from committees, old business (things talked about before), new business (new ideas, activities and plans), and then adjourning (ending) of the business meeting. Educational presentations, fun activities, and/or refreshments generally occur before or after the meeting.*

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### 4-H Families

The 4-H program encourages parents, guardians, grandparents and other family members to help the 4-H member with his/her projects. Here are some suggestions:

- Help youth select projects that relate to their interests and hobbies.
- Attend club meetings with the 4-H member and volunteer to help as the need arises (i.e., chaperone, hostess, an extra set of hands)
- Give encouragement and supervision, but allow the 4-H member to do his/her own work. Be positive! Praise their successes and be there to help when they struggle.
- Help youth develop a record keeping system for their project work.
- Read the 4-H Newsletter and help youth stay up-to-date on deadlines, rules, dates, upcoming events, etc.
- Seek help from club leaders, ISU Extension and Outreach staff, other 4-H members and parents, industry experts, etc.
What Website Should You Use?

**4HOnline**
iowa.4honline.com
- To enroll in 4-H (enrollment fee goes up after December 31st)
- To verify information from livestock weigh-ins
- To identify all animals as eligible projects (deadline May 15th)
- To review/update family information

**FairEntry**
fairentry.com
- To make livestock entries for the Buchanan County Fair (deadline June 15th)
- To make non-livestock entries for the Buchanan County Fair (deadline June 15th)

**Iowastatefair4hlivestock.fairentry.com**
- To make livestock entries for the Iowa State Fair (deadline July 1st)

**Buchanan County 4-H Website**
www.extension.iastate.edu/buchanan/4h
- To view 4-H monthly newsletters
- To find 4hOnline & FairEntry help sheets
- To view the monthly calendar
- To see opportunities
- Scholarships and County Council Applications
- For the fair book and other fair information
- To find recordkeeping forms:
  - [https://www.extension.iastate.edu/buchanan/page/member-info](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/buchanan/page/member-info)

**Iowa 4-H Website**
https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/
- To find drug affidavits
- To find livestock information for State Fair
- Record Keeping forms for project records
- And more!
Club Leaders and Meeting Places
Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change, be sure to contact a club leader before visiting.

**Atom Bombers & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Brenda Kleitsch – 319-635-9042, rickandb@iowatelecom.net, Cheyney Hershey, Angie Auel
**Meeting Place:** Immaculate Conception Parish Center in Fairbank, second Sunday of each month at 6:00 pm.

**Byron Vikings & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Scott Frye - 319-440-4533, fryes24@yahoo.com, Sara Wilson
**Meeting Place:** Location is to be determined yet. Held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm or 7:00 pm

**Heartland Kids & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Audrey Hanaway – 319-361-3267, Kelly Clayberg – 319-415-9117
**Meeting Place:** 3rd Sunday of each month at 4:30 pm

**Liberty Lassos & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Megan Slife - 319–361–1802, Beth Hilliard -319-360-7794
**Meeting Place:** First Methodist Church in Independence. 2nd Sunday each month at 5:00 pm.

**Shady Grove Superstars & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Jean Weber – 319-474-2273
**Meeting Place:** St. A’s school in Jesup. 1st Thursday of month at 3:30 pm.

**Middlefield Hustlers & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Troy & Lisa Tempus – 319-981-4886, Matt & Julie Cook – 319-361-3469
**Meeting Place:** Will be decided after initial meeting of the year.

**Town & Kountry Kids & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Amanda Johnson – Kelly Kress - 319–521–7170
**Meeting Place:** Rowley Community Center & Brandon Community Center. 1st Sunday of each month at 5:00 pm.

**Wapsi Warriors**
**Leaders:** Betty Giddings – 319-361-8391
**Meeting Place:** Heartland Acres, Independence basement. 1st Sunday at 7:00 pm

**Buffalo Bells & Buckles**
**Leaders:** Jayme Beyer – 563-920-2580, Ella Sherman - 319–361–3064
**Meeting Place:** Fellowship Hall in Winthrop. 3rd Sunday every month at 6:00 pm.

**Boots-n-Bales**
**Leaders:** Jessica Michels – 319-239-8859
**Meeting Place:** TBD after initial meeting of the year.

**Madison Mixers & Clover Kids**
**Leaders:** Leon & Brittany Goedken – 563-608-1122
**Meeting Place:** TBD after initial meeting of the year.

*Updated 12/2/2019*
Be sure to watch for our monthly 4-H newsletter!

These will provide you with upcoming opportunities and deadlines, as well as let you know of any new changes.