May 2015

Dear 4-H Families:

We have a lot of great opportunities coming up so please make sure you take the time to look over the newsletter closely. Many opportunities have limited space so sign up early.

May 15 is our county deadline to get ALL animals identified in the 4HOnline program for not only the Calhoun County Expo, but the Iowa State Fair, Clay County Fair, and Ak-Sar-Ben. I realize some of these shows have later deadlines, but our county has set May 15 as the deadline so please contact the office if you have questions. Any animal that is identified by May 15 will also be eligible to be taken to the Sac County and Pocahontas County Fairs as well. No late identifications will be accepted.

Help sheets to assist with identifying animals in 4HOnline can be found at: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honline-information-families-and-leaders. Scroll down to “Animal ID Online”.

As always, please let me know if you have any 4-H questions. You can call the office at 712-297-8611 or email me at jmims@iastate.edu.

Sincerely,

Jill Mims- County Youth Coordinator

**STEM Camps Correct Form:** In the last month’s newsletter, the registration form was sent out with Pocahontas County information on one side. The correct form with Calhoun County information is being sent this month. If the dates for Calhoun’s camp does not work for you, please call the office and we will check if there are openings in other counties.

**Swine Identification:** All 4-H and FFA members who wished to exhibit swine at the Calhoun County Expo, Sac, Pocahontas, or Clay County Fair should have contacted the Extension office by May 1 and received ear tags and instructions on how to identify your swine. For 4-H members, the deadline to get animals identified in 4HOnline is 11:59 p.m. on May 15. FFA members must submit their paper identification by 4:00 p.m. on May 15. Please make sure you follow instructions and call the Extension office at 712-297-8611 if you have any questions.

Complete swine rules for the Calhoun County Expo can be found in the fairbook at: www.extension.iastate.edu/calhoun/4h. Please note that this year each exhibitor will be required to submit not only a County of Origin Label (COOL) form, but a drug affidavit as well.
4-H Swine Identification for Iowa State Fair, AK-SarBen: All 4-H members who wish to exhibit swine at the Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben need to contact the Extension office at 712-297-8611 as soon as possible and make arrangements to have DNA collected. The deadline to have DNA collected and animals identified in 4HOnline is May 15.

For the Iowa State Fair, DNA will be collected when inserting the special DNA identification tag and the cost will be $8 per animal. For Ak-Sar-Ben DNA will be a hair sample and the cost will be $5 per animal.

Sheep Identification: 4-H and FFA members who brought sheep to weigh-in on Saturday, April 18 should have received a letter with instructions on how to verify that the information is correct. 4-H members, please do not click on the button accepting all information is correct in 4HOnline unless everything is complete and correct. If any information is missing or is incorrect, please contact the office at 712-297-8611 with the information. Once the new information has been entered into the record, you may go back in and accept it. FFA members need to contact the office with correction by 4:00 p.m. on May 15.

4-H Sheep and Goat Identification for Iowa State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben: Only sheep and goats that were at the weigh-in and have had retinal images completed by May 15 may be exhibited at the Iowa State Fair. Only sheep and goats that have had DNA collected by May 15 will be allowed to exhibit at Ak-Sar-Ben. Please contact the Extension office as soon as possible to make arrangements to have DNA collected. If you have questions, please contact Jill Mims at the ISU Extension and Outreach- Calhoun County office at 712-297-8611.

Beef Identification: All 4-H and FFA market beef needed to attend the weigh-in in January and should have already been verified.

May 15 is the deadline to identify all breeding beef, this includes breeding heifers, cow/calf pairs, and bucket/bottle calves. 4-H members will need to identify their animals in 4HOnline. FFA members will need to submit paper identification forms to the Extension office by 4:00 p.m. on May 15. If you have questions, please contact the office at 712-297-8611.

Horse and Small Animal Identification: All 4-H horses, goats, poultry, rabbits, and pets must be entered in 4HOnline by 11:59 p.m. on May 15 to be eligible for exhibit at the Calhoun County Expo. All FFA horses, goats, poultry, rabbits and pets must have paper identification forms submitted to the Extension office by 4:00 p.m. on May 15. Any animal meeting the deadline may be exhibited at the Sac and Pocahontas County Fairs as well. Please call the Extension office at 712-297-8611 if you plan to exhibit through 4-H at the Iowa State Fair or Clay County Fair.
**Project Add/Drop Deadline**: 4-H members wishing to add or drop a project area should do so by May 15. Please remember you do not have to be signed up for a project area to exhibit at the Expo, but if you wish to apply for county awards next fall, you must be signed up for all project areas you are applying for. For example: Johnny did not get signed up for Food and Nutrition by May 15 but in June he learned to make brownies from scratch and would like to take them to fair. He may take brownies even though he is not signed up for Food and Nutrition. In September, Johnny would like to apply for county awards, but since he is not signed up for Food and Nutrition, he cannot apply for an award in that area.

To add/drop projects you will need to log into your 4HOnline profile, click edit to the right of the name of the youth you want to make changes, click on participation, then select projects. Use the drop down menus to select project and don’t forget to click the “add project” button. If you want to remove a project, use the edit button to the right of the project listed and then select “delete”.

Please call the Extension office if you have questions or need help logging into your 4HOnline profile.

**Beef Workshop**: 4-H Alumni Adam Reynolds has agreed to host a beef workshop at his home, 3224 Norridge Ave., Rockwell City, on May 24 starting at 2:00 p.m. Youth and parents are welcome to attend. Adam will discuss how to get your cattle ready for exhibition for the Calhoun County Expo, and demonstrate showmanship.

To help with preparing for the workshop, please call the Extension office at 712-297-8611 and pre-register for this event.

**Iowa 4-H Youth Conference**: For those who are new or unfamiliar with the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference, it is a Conference planned by the Iowa State 4-H Council for Iowa youth and will be held June 30 – July 2 on the ISU campus in Ames. Any Iowa youth who has completed 8th-12th grade is eligible to attend. The conference includes three motivational speakers, three educational workshops of the participants’ choices, a service learning experience, and of course, lots of fun! This is a great opportunity beyond the county for our older 4-H members to connect with others across the state. In addition, it’s a great opportunity to introduce older youth to the 4-H program, as you don’t have to be a 4-H member to attend.

To register for the 2015 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference: Dare to Discover, go to the conference web page at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference). Scroll down and in the column on the right hand side is a link in bold blue letters. Click on that to register. After you register, don’t forget to bring the $175 registration fee to the Extension office. The Calhoun County Extension Council will support 4-H members who have attended the conference with an $80 campership. To receive the campership, attendees must fill out an activity report after the conference is over.
**FSQA Training:** Calhoun will hold Food Safety Quality Assurance training on June 5 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Calhoun County Extension office. Please plan ahead and if you know you cannot attend on June 5, plan on attending in another county. There is a training being held in Pocahontas County on Thursday, June 4 from 8-10 a.m. Test out for those in grades 7-12 is scheduled for June 8 in Calhoun County. Please call and let us know if you plan to attend either training or testing.

**Camping During the Expo:** Please contact the Extension office at 712-297-8611 if you would like to reserve a camping spot in the Fairboard Campgrounds during the Expo. Camping costs $15 per night that the camper is in the campgrounds.

Camping is also available at the City Campgrounds to the West of the City Park. They do not take reservations, it is first come first serve. The cost is $15 per night or $90 per week.

**Junior Trip:** 4-H members in grades 4th – 6th are invited to participate in a Junior Trip to Omaha on Wednesday, June 17. On the trip they will stop at the Henry Doorly Zoo where they will see lots of amazing animals and they will eat lunch. The next stop will be the Union Pacific Railroad Museum where they will explore interactive exhibits while learning about the importance of locomotives in their country’s history. After that they will head to the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Visitors Center for a chance to walk the pedestrian bridge over the mighty Missouri River. Gourmet treats from Cupcake Omaha will be our afternoon snack. Our final stop will include touring the gallery and cemetery of the Mormon Trail Center at Historic Winter Quarters. On the way home, they will stop in Missouri Valley for supper.

Participants may bring extra snacks for the bus, and spending money. They will receive money to purchase lunch and supper but if they are big eaters, they may want more. Make sure you dress for the weather (jackets, comfortable shoes, etc.). The bus ride will be long, and they may bring small electronics as long as they have headphones as well. They will be responsible for their own items so if they do not want something lost, stolen, or broken, they should leave it at home.

To register for this trip, return the enclosed registration form with the $75 fee. Although you have until June 3 to register, space is limited to 10 youth so register early. This trip qualifies for a $25 campership to be reimbursed after the trip from the Calhoun County Extension Council. To receive the campership, youth must behave on the trip, fill out an activity report, and return it to the Extension office.