

Cass County *4-H Clover Connection *April 2025

Upcoming Dates – Mark your Calendar *April*

- 3 – Fairboard meeting 7pm
- 5 – Swine Weigh-in @ 8-11am
- 6 – Fairgrounds Clean up 2pm – pick up sticks
- 6-12 – Extension Week Celebrations
- 7 – Cass County 4-H Endowment Scholarships Due 4:30pm**
- 9 – Griswold Library Afterschool Program
- 16 – Anita Library Afterschool Program
- 18 – Office Closed - Holiday**
- 20-26 – National Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 22 – Youth Action Committee meeting 6:00pm
- 27 – SOFA Planning Committee Meeting 2pm in Greenfield

May

- 1 – Fairboard meeting 7:00pm
- 1- 4-Her's for 4-H club donation request forms due to Office**
- 3 – Sheep Weigh-in 8:00-10:00am Cass County Fairgrounds
- 3 – Goat Weigh-in 10:30am-12:00pm Cass County Fairgrounds
- 10 – Youth Council meeting 11:00am-1:00pm Location TBD
- 14 – Griswold Library Afterschool Program
- 15 – Animal Identification Due Online on or before 11:59pm**
- 15 – Deadline to enroll in 4-H to be eligible to exhibit at County Fair 2025**
- 20 – Fair Entries OPEN (**Deadline July 1st**) online or paper
- 21 – Anita Library Afterschool Program
- 25 – SOFA Planning Committee 1pm in Atlantic
- 26 – Office Closed - Holiday**

June

- 2 – Summer Kick-off Event at the Atlantic Library 4:00-6:30pm
 - 5 – Animal Science Day Camp YQCA 1:00-4:00pm
 - 5 – Fairboard meeting 7:00pm
 - 6 – K-1 Camp 9:00am-12:00pm Lake Anita – Rockin' Reptiles
 - 9 – Atlantic Library Program – Pinball 10:00am & 2:00pm
 - 10 – K-1 Camp 9:00am-12:00pm Cold Springs – Rockin' Reptiles
 - 10 – Griswold Library Program – Pinball 2:00pm
 - 10-11 – 2025 Speak Out For Agriculture Bus Trip to Wisconsin
 - 11 – 2nd- 3rd Grade Camp Cold Springs 9:00am-4:00pm - Pollination
 - 12 – 4th- 5th Grade Camp Cold Springs 9:00am-4:00pm – Our Earth
 - 13 – K-1 Camp 9:00am-12:00pm Sunnyside Park – Rockin' Reptiles
 - TBD – SOFA Bus Trip to Platteville Wisconsin!
 - 15 – Youth Council Meeting
 - 16 – Pre-Fair Activities DUE by end of the day!**
- ...AND MORE!



Katie Bateman

County Youth Coordinator
kbateman@iastate.edu



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APRIL 2025

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Poultry Meeting 6pm | Katie visits Kindergarten - Atlantic | Katie Visits Pleasant Noble United! | Fairboard 7pm | | Swine Weigh-in 8:00am-11:00am  |
| 6 | DEADLINE 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Katie Visits Cumberland Clover Kids! Katie Visits Union Leaders! | Cass County 4-H Endowment Scholarships DUE 4:30pm | Katie 4-H Professional Development out of the office | Griswold Library Program afterschool | | Katie Visits 2nd Grade - Atlantic | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | | Katie visits 1st Grade - Atlantic | Anita Library Program afterschool Extension Council 7pm | | Office Closed - Holiday | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| | Katie 4-H Professional Development out of the office | YAC Committee Meeting 6:00pm | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| SOFA Planning Committee Meeting at Adair County Extension 2pm | | | | | | |

MAY 2025

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | | DEADLINE Club requests to donate to 4-Her's for 4-H campaign DUE Fairboard 7pm | |  Sheep Weigh-in 8:00am-10:00am Goat Weigh-in 10:30-12:00pm  |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | | Katie visits Kindergarten - Atlantic | | | Katie Visits 2nd Grade - Atlantic | Youth Council Meeting 11am-1pm |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | DEADLINE 15 | 16 | 17 |
| | Katie 4-H Professional Development out of the office | | Griswold Library Program afterschool | Animal Identification Due Online Member Enrollment Due to exhibit at fair | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | | Fair Entry Online OPEN | Anita Library Program Extension Council 7pm | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| SOFA Planning Committee Meeting at Cass County Extension 1pm | Office Closed - Holiday | | | | | |



Thank you for supporting the Pancake Supper!

We are proud to announce that the total net proceeds from the event, including pancake sales, direct donations, and the silent auction, exceeded \$7,400.00! This is a record-setting amount, the highest raised at the Pancake Supper since 2016. The Pancake Man flipped out 563 plates (565 in 2024)! Thank you for rounding up silent auction items, we had 30 this year which is the most we have had since 2019!



If you have photos from the event, please send them to kbateman@iastate.edu to use for future newsletters, program promotions, and end of year recap.

Katie will also take any feedback or suggestions on how we can continue to make the best better with the pancake supper anytime. The Endowment Committee will be meeting mid-April to wrap up the event and look over Senior Scholarships!

Table Setting Workshop was a Success!

Twelve 4-H'ers and parents from Union and Cass Counties gathered for a fun and educational morning at the Table Setting & Thrifty Meal Challenge Workshop on March 15 at the Salem Lutheran Church in Creston. Participants worked with SW Iowa 4-H table setting experts Gina and Linda, along with Iowa 4-H staff, to develop skills in table setting, meal planning My Plate, and goal writing.

Evaluation results showed that attendees feel confident in participating in both Table Setting and the Thrifty Meal Challenge, demonstrating growth in their communication and decision-making skills. In addition to hands-on activities, youth also practiced goal writing using the ART method (Action, Result, Timetable). Feedback indicated that all participants left feeling confident or mostly confident in writing their own goals, a key skill for future success in 4-H and beyond. Additional offerings of Table Setting Workshops will be shared later this spring in surrounding counties.

4-Her's for 4-H

You can help support 4-H'ers through the 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign! Help raise \$20,000 in 2025! Funds raised provide opportunities for 4-H'ers across the state. Plus, new this year, you can help your county be eligible for a special mini grant! Help reach the campaign goal by committing \$4 per member. Contact Katie at kbateman@iastate.edu or 712-243-1132 for more information.

Count Your Clovers and help support 4-H'ers across Iowa! The State 4-H Council challenges you to help raise \$20,000! Your donations support 4-H'ers like you—through financial assistance, event scholarships and program support. Visit www.iowa4hfoundation.org/4hersfor4h

Extension is on Social Media

Stay connected with upcoming events and activities by liking Cass County Extension on Facebook (@CassCoIAExt) and Cass County 4-H on Instagram (CassCountyIowa4h)!



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Extension and Outreach

YQCA Training Options

4-H and FFA Members, did you know you can complete YQCA training online any time before July 1st?! There are a few options on how to complete this training.

1. In person training for **4th through 6th graders Animal Science Day Camp will be held from 1:00-4:00pm on Thursday, June 5th** at the Cass County Community Building in Atlantic. Register online and complete pre-test ahead of the day camp at yqcaprogram.org!
2. **Youth can complete YQCA training anytime throughout the year online at their own pace by registering for a web-based training on YQCA.** Go to yqcaprogram.org to log-in to your profile. The online training can be paused throughout so you can start and stop as it works for your schedule. There is a pre and post-test to complete along with the training material.
3. **Other In Person Trainings in surrounding Counties.** Log in and sign up for instructor lead trainings, you will be able to see a full listing of training happening across the state. You are welcome to attend any of these trainings as long as certificate is sent to Cass County Extension. Atlantic's FFA Advisor Eric Miller will also be hosting YQCA trainings during OA.

For additional help regarding your YQCA profile, or registration, see the help videos, or FAQs on yqcaprogram.org or reach out to help@yqcaprogram.org. County Extension staff do not have access to families YQCA accounts.

Members are responsible for signing up, paying for, completing pre-test and post-test, and downloading certificate. If you are not comfortable putting a credit card online, you may come to the office to pay with cash or check and we will provide you with a code. All members will have to pay for their certification this year, contact us if cost is a concern.

Please send certificates to the Extension Office on or before July 1 to xcass@iastate.edu or kbateman@iastate.edu, you can also drop the form off.

Iowa 4-H Youth Conference in Ames

The Iowa 4-H Youth Conference is an annual, 3-day event for youth in grades 8-12, which will take place in Ames on the Iowa State University campus on June 24-26. The State 4-H Council plans, organizes, and runs this event. It is open to both 4-H members and non-4-H members from across Iowa. Participants will experience keynote speakers, a formal banquet, educational workshops, service-learning, stay overnight in the residence halls and dine at the campus dining centers, all while meeting other teens from across the state. The theme for this year's conference is "Lasso Your Legacy." The registration fee for each event is \$250/youth and financial assistance is available through the 4-H foundation, which can be found linked on our public page. Learn more about the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference **online at:** extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference.

Youth will register for these events through 4HOnline under one event listing labelled "State 4-H Youth Conference (All Tracks) 2025" Youth can only register for one of the three tracks (Youth Conference, Animal Science Workshops, or Mission Moon).

Kate Olson - Director
Katie Bateman - Youth Coordinator
Lori Anderson - Office Manager
Hallie Robinette - YPS

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SOFA Bus Trip

Come speak out for agriculture with us on our 2025 bus tour of Iowa and southern Wisconsin! We will be making a college visit to the University of Wisconsin in Platteville, Wisconsin. The bus will depart on Tuesday, June 10th and return Wednesday, June 11th. Join us for two days of fun filled activities! Additional details regarding registration, and cost will be shared as it becomes available via email and newsletters. This trip is open to youth in Adair, Cass, Pottawattamie County Youth who will have completed 8-12th grade spring 2025. Cost is \$75 a person checks payable to Adair County Extension or Cass County Extension. Complete the Registration Form can be found at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/4h>. Register online or return paper forms to Adair or Cass County Extension Office. There are limited number of seats are available per county. Once spots are filled, youth will be placed on a waitlist.

2025 Fairbook Rules

The 2025 Fairbook is being updated by superintendents and fairboard in the "off season". Department Rules are being posted on Cass County Extension's website; under the 4-H and Youth drop down find the County Fair section, www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/county-fair. Changes are listed in RED for each department on the left hand side of the webpage.

Updated sections of the fairbook will be posted as they become available. If you have questions, reach out to a superintendent, fairboard member, or Extension Staff.

Swine Weigh-in

All swine that you wish to exhibit at the 2025 Cass County Fair must attend weigh-in on **April 5th between 8:00am-11:00am**. Please stop by the Extension Office before weigh-in to purchase 4-H tags and bring already tagged and ear notched. 4-H tags are \$3.00 each. FFA tags are free. 4-H State Fair DNA punch tags are an additional \$8.00. Talk to FFA advisor for FFA State Fair procedure.

After weigh-in members have until May 15th to identify animals online. 4-H members need to identify animals through 4-HOnline. FFA members will identify animals through Fair Entry. Check out all the 2025 fair book rules online, <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/county-fair>. If you have questions, contact the superintendent, fairboard member, or the Extension Office at 712-243-1132 or kbateman@iastate.edu.

Sheep & Goat Weigh-in

All Sheep and Meat Goats planning to exhibit at the 2025 Cass County Fair or State Fair must attend weigh-in on **May 3rd**, see times below. Please stop by the Extension Office before weigh-in to purchase 4-H tags and bring already tagged. 4-H tags are \$3/head for county fair. Retinal scans are \$5/head for State Fair nomination. FFA County Fair tags can be picked up at the Extension Office at no cost. Talk to FFA advisor for FFA State Fair procedure.

Sheep Weigh-In: 8:00am-10:00am. County and State fair must be in line no later than 10:00am.

Goats Weigh-In: 10:30am-12:00pm. State Fair animals between 11:30am-12:00pm.

After weigh-in members have until May 15th to identify animals online. 4-H members need to identify animals through 4-HOnline. FFA members will identify animals through Fair Entry. Check out all the 2025 fair book rules online, <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/county-fair>. If you have questions, contact the superintendent, fairboard member, or the Extension Office at 712-243-1132 or kbateman@iastate.edu.



Goat Clinic Interest

Youth who are interested in learning more about goats or have specific questions should reach out to Cass County Fair Superintendent, Chris Scholl at 712-249-9707 on or before Goat Weigh-in on Saturday May 3rd. Chris will compile a list of interested youth and topics to review with the goat committee at weigh-in to discuss the possibility of a larger clinic, or small group sessions.

Upcoming Fair Dates

Mark your calendars for **July 23-July 29** for the 2025 Cass County Fair! Fairbook pages are updated on our county fair website, updates rules are in red print, extension.iastate.edu/cass/county-fair.

Swine Weigh-in: April 5th from 8:00am-11:00am

Sheep Weigh-in: May 3rd County and State Fair 8:00am-10:00am

Goat Weigh-in: May 3rd County 10:30am-12:00pm; State Fair 11:30-12:00pm

Breeding Beef, Dog, Goats, Horse, Sheep and Swine Identified Online: May 15th

***NEW 2025* Feeder Calves & Cow/Calf Pairs Identified Online or paper:** *May 15th*

Pre-Fair Activities Entries due: June 16th

Club Participation Charts due: June 16th

Fair Entries Due: July 1st

YQCA Certificate on file at the Cass County Extension Office: July 1st

Table Setting Judging: Pre-Fair contest TBD

Clothing Selection Fashion Revue Judging: July 10th

King and Queen Pre-liminary Judging: July 17th

Fair Set-up: Sunday, July 20th

For questions, reach out to Katie at kbateman@iastate.edu or call 712-243-1132.

Animal Identification Requirements

Exhibiting your animals at county fair is a multi-step process. We use two main programs throughout the year, 4-HOnline and FairEntry. 4-HOnline is for 4-H members to enroll themselves and add projects so they can get emails and updates related to their interests. This is also where 4-H animals are identified to be eligible to show at county fair. FairEntry is where final entries are made and what staff use during fair week to check in animals and make show programs. Cass County 4-H and FFA members will be responsible for making their own entries for the 2024 Cass County Fair in FairEntry this year. FFA animals will be identified in FairEntry this year! You can also stop by the extension office (805 West 10th Street in Atlantic) for help with identification. If you have questions about this, please contact the Extension Office.



***New in 2025:** Cow/Calf Pairs and Feeder Calves must be identified online by May 15th to make the Fair Entry process easier in June. Pets, Poultry and Rabbits do not need to be identified ahead of making Fair Entries which are due July 1st. Additional details will be available as deadlines get closer, please reach out to the Extension Office if you have any questions, 712-243-1132 or kbateman@iastate.edu.



Monthly Enrollment Drawings

This year we will draw an enrolled 4-H and Clover Kid member each month to receive a 4-H swag item. Seasonal prizes or YQCA codes may also be options.

✳️ April Clover Kid winner: **Lauren Euken**

✳️ April 4-H Member winner: **Bryson Lee**

You must contact Katie in March to designate your prize choice. Winners who do not reach out the month they won will not be able to redeem their prize.

2024-2025 Program Year Enrollment

All youth K-12 must re-enroll in 4-H Online **each year** to keep active 4-H or Clover Kid member status. Do this early in the year to stay in the loop for upcoming events! Select project areas you may be interested in to get broadcast emails from the state/county regarding opportunities to further your learning and add to your record book in that project area!

We would like to have all returning members re-enrolled early to participate in activities. Please be sure and check your **correspondence preference for 4-H Newsletters**. You will need to select mail or email.

Go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> and log in with your email and password. A quick link is also available on the Extension webpage. It is okay to select “reset password” option and the program will walk you through the steps of getting a new password. There are also good help sheets at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/4honline-information-families-and-leaders>. If you have any questions or need assistance, call the Extension office, 712-243-1132.

Project vs Exhibit

What is the difference between a 4-H project and a 4-H exhibit? We get asked this question quite a bit as fair gets closer every year. Each year, 4-H members enroll in project areas that interest them. They set goals to plan what they will learn in each project area. When they bring things to fair to show what they learned, these are called exhibits.

As a 4-H member, it's important to know the difference between the project areas you enroll in at the beginning of the 4-H year, and the exhibits you are working on as you begin to plan what you will bring to fair. It might include exhibits from fair, but doesn't have to!

Project Definition: Broad topic you can learn and explore within. Practice goal setting, managing, and responsibilities related to project area. Learn about materials/equipment and try variety of techniques.

| Project Alias |
|--------------------|
| Clothing & Fashion |
| Food & Nutrition |
| Home Improvement |
| Photography |

Project Examples: Food & Nutrition, Visual Arts, Animal Science, Photography, Clothing & Fashion, Beef

Exhibit Definition: Things you make or do to share what you learned. You may choose to bring the exhibit to the county fair. The exhibit should be the best example of the project area growth this program year with knowledge and skills gained.

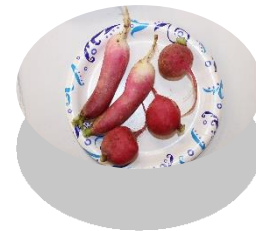


Exhibit Examples: Plate of Muffins, Clay pot, Animal Grooming Poster, Clothing Contest, Showing animal at fair



Cass County 4-H Endowment Program Grants

Thanks to our annual 4-H Pancake supper, the Cass County 4-H Endowment fund annually supports 4-H members attending out of county activities as well as college scholarships. Members planning to attend workshops, trips, or conferences outside of Cass County this upcoming year can apply for up to \$100 grants to attend! Complete the short application on our website, <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/4h>, and turn it into the Extension Office at least one month before the event. Once its approved, we will send a check to the opportunity. Reach out to Katie for additional details, kbateman@iastate.edu or 712-243-1132.

What can you apply for? Here are some examples!

- Beef Blast
- Equine Blast
- State 4-H Youth Conference
- Animal Science Round-up
- Mission Mars
- SOFA
- Surrounding County project workshops
- Crop Scouting Competition
- Livestock Triathlon (judging, quiz bowl, and skill-a-thon)
- Career Pathways Academy
- Design Dimensions Camp
- National Trips – Congress/Conference
- Judging Teams (Horse, Dairy Meat)
- Hippology/Horse Quiz bowl
- Dairy/Livestock Quiz Bowl

I-CASH Ag Injury Prevention Youth Grant

Farming is a dangerous occupation, and Iowa has lots of farms. This grant program was developed to encourage youth to take an active role in preventing injuries and deaths on farms by raising awareness about safety and health issues with farmers and other youth in their community. The projects should be **planned and conducted by youth**, with adults serving as mentors and advisors.

The message of farm safety and health can be delivered in a variety of ways. Examples:

- Distribute SMV (slow moving vehicle) signs at the local implement dealership, using the opportunity to talk with farmers about roadway safety
- Make a poster about hearing protection for the county fair & hand out ear plugs & brochures
- Speak with farmers while they wait in line to drop off grain at the local co-op – pass out a fact sheet about respiratory health and give them dust masks
- Produce a YouTube video about safely sorting cattle, using the funds to purchase props for demonstrations, special makeup, or editing software
- Hold a local essay or poster contest about ATV safety and give away ATV helmets

Applications are due **April 4th, 2025**; funding announcements will be made by **April 18th, 2025**. A final report is due **October 3rd, 2025**. Contact Tabitha Kuehn, at tabitha-kuehn@uiowa.edu with questions or for more information. Learn more and see examples and past projects on our website: <https://icash.public-health.uiowa.edu/programs/agricultural-youth-grants/>

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