Calendar of Events

December
4    Fairboard Meeting
24   Office closed at Noon
25-26 Holiday—Office Closed
27   Beef Weigh-in
30   Submerse into STEM Daycamp

January
1    New Years Holiday—Office Closed
5    Club Officer Training
8    Fairboard Meeting
11   Poultry Workshop

February
1    4-H Project Awards & Scholarships Due
5    Fairboard Meeting
13   K-2 Winter Daycamp
16   K-2 Winter Daycamp
28   New Volunteer Training

WHAT’S INSIDE:

2    Re-enroll
    General Livestock Update
    Beef Weigh-in

3    Submerse into STEM
    Club Officer Training
    Poultry Project Workshop
    Grow Your 4-H Experience
    Iowa 4-H Scholarships

4    State Recognition Awards
    New Volunteer Training
    Happy Holidays
Don’t Forget to Re-enroll!
We still have approximately 90 inactive youth in 4-H Online. Please take care of this now. We cannot enter your animals after weigh-ins, gather accurate information for insurance coverage, share project related information with you, and many other things without current enrollment figures.

You can find complete instructions on how to re-enroll online at: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hfiles/EnrollmentDocs/MemberReEnrollment.pdf](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hfiles/EnrollmentDocs/MemberReEnrollment.pdf). If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please give us a call and we will be happy to help. Please complete this as soon as possible; we cannot assure you that will get all the communication you need if you are not re-enrolled.

General Livestock Update
Our livestock project areas are some of our most traditional projects that teach a great deal of personal life management skills, as well as project mastery and knowledge. While they are a vital part of our program, they often require more rules and regulations for safety and organizational purposes. The best way to participate in a livestock project area is to become educated on those rules and regulations. Here are resources you can familiarize yourself with.

4-H 202—the official document on identification, ownership and eligibility for livestock shows. You are responsible for following these guidelines when exhibiting 4-H livestock. You can get this from the Extension Office or online at: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hfiles/agriculture/4H202_2013.pdf](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hfiles/agriculture/4H202_2013.pdf)

The State 4-H Website—this is located at [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock). This website is designed by State 4-H staff and has many resources for exhibitors and their families.

Beef Weigh-in—December 27 @ 8 AM-1 PM
Market beef weigh-in is scheduled for Saturday, December 27 from 8 AM-1 PM at the Cass County Fairgrounds. If you planning to show a market calf at the 2015 Cass County Fair and/or the Iowa State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben please plan to attend weigh-in on December 27.

If you are nominating market animals for the Iowa State Fair we will be using retinal imaging to record their required data. Animals being nominated for Ak-Sar-Ben will still require DNA samples.

Cost per head will be: $1/county, $5/State Fair, $5/Ak-Sar-Ben.

Animal information collected at the weigh-in will be entered into the 4-H Online database by Extension staff. In order for staff to enter this information, the 4-H member must be enrolled for the 2014-2015 4-H year. For directions to re-enroll in 4-H Online, please visit [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honline-information-families-and-leaders](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honline-information-families-and-leaders) for enrollment help sheets.

For County Fair, State Fair, and AK-SAR-BEN animal information will be entered into the 4-H Online and members/families have until February 1 to verify the entered information is correct. If information is not verified by February 1, then the data entered will be accepted as is and cannot be changed.
Submerse Into STEM—December 30
Save the date for Winter STEM Day at the Nishna Valley YMCA, Submerse Into STEM. Youth in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math through activities related to sinking and floating of objects. Registration information will be available on the Cass County Extension website in early December.

Club Officer Training—January 5 @ 6:30 PM
Attention Club Officers: The 2014-2015 Club Officer Training is scheduled for January 5 at 6:30 PM in the Cass County Community Center. This will be a great opportunity for all club officers and leaders in Cass County to gather, share ideas, develop leadership skills and learn about being an officer. Develop your skills to work as an officer team, learn about your duties as an officer, and how to effectively run a meeting. If you are a club leader or officer, plan to attend this training. Please RSVP to the Extension Office by 4:30 PM on January 3 to attend this training.

Poultry Project Workshop—January 11 @ 1 PM
Attention Poultry Project Members! We will be hosting a Poultry Workshop on January 11 at 1 PM at the Cass County Community Center. Anyone who is interested in learning about the poultry project is encouraged to attend this informational workshop. Topics that will be covered are project selection, care & handling, county fair information, as well as answering any questions that families have about the project. If you are interested in the poultry project or are already involved in the 4-H or FFA poultry project, please plan to attend this informational meeting. Please RSVP to the Extension Office by January 9 to attend this workshop.

Grow Your 4-H Experience
Even in the busy rush of daily life, you are still looking for something that just fits what you want to do/ try/ taste/ make. In 4-H this is more possible than you realize. We are always looking for ways to enhance and better your personal 4-H journey. If you have an idea in mind, please email me and I will try to find a perfect instructor to allow you to have the experience. Have you ever wanted to try making a quilt? Wanted to know how to bake a REAL homemade pie? Have you ever actually made your own canvas painting? Let’s work together and make this the best 4-H year yet! So, if you or know of someone who could do a great workshop-let’s get it scheduled! 4-H is what you put into it! Schedules are filling so email me at irlbeth@iastate.edu if you have an interest in a 4-H project area. Check out ALL the 4-H project areas at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4-h-project-hot-sheets

Iowa 4-H Scholarships
Are you a senior planning to attend college or know someone who is currently in college? The Iowa 4-H Foundation has an opportunity for you to earn scholarships to offset some of the costs of attending college. Visit http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships to learn more about the scholarship opportunities available through the Iowa 4-H Foundation.

All 2015 scholarship application materials must be submitted online no later than 11:59 PM, February 1, 2015 for consideration.

**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.
State Recognition Awards and Opportunities!
Your project work and involvement in 4-H deserves to receive recognition! If you are in grades nine through twelve, there are many opportunities available to you for recognition awards or to represent Cass County on the state and national levels. These include National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Congress, State 4-H Council and State 4-H Project Awards.
The process isn’t difficult and it is a great learning experience for senior level 4-H members. All it takes is filling out a quick online application about yourself and your project and participating in an interview on March 28, 2015 in Ames. Learn more about applying for these opportunities by contacting the Extension Office or visiting http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/recognition-opportunities. Applications need to be submitted online by midnight on February 1, 2015. This is a great opportunity for senior level 4-H members to grow their 4-H experience!

New Volunteer Training—February 28
New Volunteer Training is designed for new 4-H volunteers committing to a long term experience working with 4-H youth as club, project, Clover Kids leader—Both as leaders and assistants. Volunteers committing to these roles are required to attend the New Volunteer Training within the first 12 months of being screened and approved as a 4-H volunteer. This is also a great opportunity for experienced leaders to get a “refresher” on what leaders are supposed to do and share/gather new ideas. We will be hosting the New Volunteer Training in Cass County on February 28 from 9 AM-3 PM at the Cass County Community Center. Please sign up for the training at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/volunteertraining.

Happy Holidays!
The Extension Staff would like to wish you happy holidays and thank you for another great 4-H year. We are thankful we have wonderful volunteers, supporters and 4-H members in Cass County. Thank you for all you do and we hope you are looking forward to another great year in Cass County 4-H. Have a safe and happy holidays from all of us at Cass County Extension!