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Calendar of Events

September
3   Fairboard Meeting
10  Fair Superintendents Meeting
14  YAC Meeting
24-27 Ak-Sar-Ben

October
1   Record Books/Officer Books/Youth Council Apps Due
1   Fairboard Meeting
4-10 National 4-H Week
4   4-H Fall Fest
9   County Convention Paperwork Due
12  YAC Meeting
20  Record Book Judging Night

November
2   Club Paperwork Due
5   Fairboard Meeting
9   YAC Meeting
15  County Convention
TBD  Club Officer Training
Thank you!
A BIG thank you to all the 4-H members, leaders, volunteers, Fairboard members and 4-H families for making the 2015 Cass County Fair a success! The dedication and hard work that was showcased through the exhibits and activities were amazing! Keep up the great work!

Thank Your Supporters
It takes a lot of people to plan and conduct the Cass County Fair. Before fall becomes very busy, don’t forget to send those people who contributed to your success at the fair a thank you note. Here are some ideas of people that may have assisted in your successes--award donors, livestock buyers, auctioneers, 4-H leaders, superintendents, veterinarians, Fairboard members, and even your parents deserve a quick thanks! If you aren’t sure who or where to send your thank you, call the Extension Office to find out. The Cass County Fair would not be the same without those people who are willing to go above and beyond to make the Cass County Fair the best fair around. Please do your part to recognize these 4-H supporters and show them they are appreciated.

4-H Online Enrollment
September 5 marks the beginning of our new 4-H year, which means it is time to re-enroll and start thinking about which project areas you are interested in for next year. Please don’t start re-enrolling until September 5.

Prior to this date, we are still finalizing data from last 4-H year and your data will not be saved when we roll into the new 4-H year. After the 5th, remember to go to ia.4 honline.com and log in with your e-mail and password. It is okay to select the “I forgot my password” option and the program will walk you through the steps of getting a new password. There are also lots of good help sheets at: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honlineinformation-families-and-leaders.

If you have any questions about the re-enrollment process, please call the Extension office.

Record Books
Record book deadlines will be here before we know it! Check with your 4-H club leader for your club’s deadline. If you are online, you can download a computerized template of some of the record keeping forms. Visit our web page at www.extension.iastate.edu/cass. Leaders need to turn senior record books nominated for project awards and award sheets into the Extension Office by October 1.

Officer’s Books
Attention Club Secretaries, Treasurers & Historians ---- We want to recognize you for your hard work, so make sure your officer books are turned into the Extension Office by October 1 to be evaluated. Top books will be announced at County Convention, November 15. Don’t forget your club collects banner club points for turning in these books.

New for 2015! Club Treasurers Books are required to be turned into the Extension Office, contact your club leader for audit form.

Please turn in your officer books by October 1 to earn recognition for your hard work!
Record Book Judging Night
Mark your calendars on October 20 at 5:30 PM for Record Book Judging Night. The Youth Action Committee asks all clubs to have at least two adult representatives help judge the senior record books for project awards. If you cannot be there at 5:30 PM, that is OK! Please come when you can to help judge the senior record books. Plan to be at the Cass County Community Center on October 20 to evaluate the outstanding work our 4-Hers have done during the 2014-2015 4-H year!

National 4-H Week
This year, National 4-H Week will be celebrated October 4-10. This is a great time to invite friends and classmates to join in the fun of 4-H. Begin planning now for promotional activities in your school and communities. We’d like to see each club do something new and special to celebrate National 4-H Week. Email photos to us and let us promote your activity or event during the week!

Here are some ideas to get you thinking about activities:
· Make clover-shaped cookies and deliver them to 4-H supporters.
· Put up a window display in a local business.
· Present 4-H bookmarks to local schools, libraries, etc.
· Have all the members of your club wear their 4-H t-shirts to school.

Email photos of the great things your club is doing to the Extension Office to use to promote 4-H on social media!

Window Display Contest
A great way to promote 4-H during National 4-H Week is by creating a window display in your community. Contact a local business and ask to use their window to create a promotional message about 4-H. The Youth Action Committee wants to recognize clubs for your hard work of promoting 4-H. All displays must be up and ready to be viewed by 8:00 AM, Monday, October 5. To enter your club in the Window Display Contest, please email a photo of your display to irlbeth@iastate.edu by October 9. Good luck promoting 4-H!

Save The Date: 4-H Fall Fest
Join us on the Cass County Fairgrounds for the 4-H Fall Fest on October 4 at 5:30 PM. Kick off National 4-H Week by participating in games & activities, gather a team for the Ag Obstacle Course and celebrate 4-H at the 4-H Fall Fest. A potluck dinner will start at 6 PM. Bring a side dish or dessert to share and enjoy the main dish provided by the Cass County Fairboard. All 4-H families, volunteers, and prospective 4-Hers are invited to attend this fun event!

County Convention
County Convention is a great time to celebrate the previous year’s accomplishments, recognize award winners and close out the year with an enjoyable time with your clubs and other 4-H members in the county. At this year’s County Convention on November 15, recognition will be given to project award winners and leaders as well as the new Youth Council will be installed. Special club awards will also be presented. This is an event you won’t want to miss! Mark your calendars for November 15 to celebrate 4-H with other 4-Hers in the county at the 2015 County Convention!
2015-2016 Youth Council
Looking for a fun way to get involved, meet other 4-H members from around the county and develop leadership skills? Youth Council is just what you are looking for! Youth Council is an important part of our 4-H program in Cass County that 4-H members in grades 10-12 can get involved in. Youth Council helps plan and conduct events for 4-H members on a county-wide basis, give feedback on the direction of the 4-H program in Cass County, and have fun while developing leadership skills and learning from one another.

Sound like fun? Applications are available at the Extension Office or online at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/. Please return the application to the Extension Office by October 1.

Youth Representatives Needed
Are you a senior level 4-Her that likes to see change and improve the organization you are involved in? Do you enjoy developing and sharing your leadership skills and experiences? Youth Action Committee is just what you need to be involved in! Youth Action Committee (commonly known as YAC) is the program development committee that works on programming and policies related to our county 4-H program. Even more familiar, they plan the volleyball tournament, Mardi Gras and County Convention.

We are looking for Senior Level 4-H members to serve a one year term on YAC. If you have any questions about YAC, what it takes to be a YAC member and are interested in serving on YAC, contact the Extension Office! Don’t pass up this great opportunity to serve on this important 4-H Committee!

SOFA Planning Committee
2015 marked the 21st anniversary of SOFA. In 2016 we will continue our third decade of guiding youth toward agricultural careers and helping them find their voice to advocate for agriculture. Would you like to be a part of the Speak Out For Agriculture (SOFA) planning committee? We are seeking interested high school students to help plan the trip and contact donors. This is an excellent opportunity to build your leadership and communication skills.

Applications are due October 1 to the Adair County Extension office. Applications are available on the Cass County Extension website or at the Extension office.

Congratulations Exhibitors!
Congratulations to all exhibitors who represented Cass County at the Iowa State Fair. Whether you exhibited an animal project, showcased your communication skills during Working Exhibits, Share-The-Fun and Educational Presentations, or showed your talents through the static exhibits, you all did a wonderful job representing Cass County!

West Fair Rabbit Show
Attention Rabbit Exhibitors! Are you ready to get your rabbits out for another show, interested in seeing the types of rabbits that are available for show or are you looking for a place to purchase more rabbits for next year? Plan to attend the Quadruple Rabbit Show Weekend at the West Pottawattamie Fairgrounds, September 19-20. This is an ARBA & Iowa Sanctioned Shows presented by Council Bluffs Rabbit Breeders Assoc. This event is a great way to see the opportunities available in the rabbit project. Contact West Pottawattamie County Extension at (712) 366-7070 for more information.