The Cedar County fair is over and some of you are heading to Des Moines for the Iowa State Fair. Rewards from your experience at the fair come in many forms—they may come from the color of the ribbon received, the comments received during interaction with a judge, how well your animal behaved in the show ring, a simple “well done” from your leader or a friend, or just your own personal “feeling good” about your exhibit results. Rewards for youth also come from the many volunteers who provide support prior to the fair and during the fair. Remember as you venture on the Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben you are a representative of Cedar County. Not only are exhibits on display but also youth, parents and spectators from the county. Please make Cedar County proud with your conduct in the show ring, the barns, exhibit buildings and on the grounds. Most of all—enjoy your experiences and “Make Memories” as they last a long time.
THANK YOU NOTES

If you received a plaque or trophy from your fair experience, please be sure to take the time to send the sponsor of the award a Thank You note. If you didn’t find the address for your award on the bottom of the trophy, please contact the office. The notes to donors and sponsors are very important as this may determine if we have donors for these awards again.

ADDITIONAL THANK YOU’S

Consider writing Thank You notes to River Valley Cooperative in Clarence for your free season pass and to Farm Credit in Dewitt for your food coupon and stall cards and don’t forget the Cedar County Fair Board for your premiums from the fair.

FAIR AWARDS

During the Sunday awards ceremony a couple of people may have picked up the wrong award. If you find that you have one that is not yours please return it to the Extension Office so we can forward it on to the appropriate recipient.

AUCTION THANK YOU

Checks have been written for the ribbon and livestock auctions and are waiting to be picked up. Remember the Auction Committee has asked that your Thank You come to the Extension Office for mailing. Your checks will be available once your Thank You is received.

CLUB BOOKS

Clubs and/or club officers are asked to turn in their treasurer book and secretary book to the Extension Office by September 5th. If your club keeps a historian’s book we would encourage you bring this to the office also.

Any of the club books turned in by September 5th will be considered for club awards.

It is a state requirement that all financial records come to the Extension Office for evaluation.

4-H RECORDS ARE DUE

It is now time for an important part of the 4-H year, the completion of your record keeping for the projects you are enrolled in. The completion of your record keeping will determine your active membership status at the end of the 4-H year and your eligibility to exhibit at the county fair in 2015.

It is important to complete records even if you did not take an exhibit to the county fair. Be sure to complete the required information and have it at the Extension Office by 4:00 pm on Friday, September 5th. This date will make you eligible for project awards and county awards.

All record keeping forms are available online at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/cedar/news/4h-record-keeping. Be sure that you use the most current forms and use the ones from the Cedar County website. Many of these forms can be typed into and then printed off.

Please let the office know if you have any questions or problems with the website and forms.

COUNTY AWARDS

Now is the time to think about applying for a county award. You have worked hard in your project areas during the past year. A listing of all awards is available online at by clicking on the link for county awards on the Cedar County Website home page www.extension.iastate.edu/cedar

All record keeping and award applications need to be submitted to the office by 4:00 pm on Friday—September 5th.

All members are eligible to apply for the Junior Achievement, Intermediate Achievement, Senior Achievement and Presidential Service Challenge.

We also have the UPS (Utilizing Your Potential) award which is available for leaders to complete for youth they feel qualify.
NEW 4H YEAR STARTS

September 1 all records from the 2013—2014 4-H year will be deactivated and you can start the online enrollment process for 2014—2015. The website is iowa.4honline.com

We will also encourage all of our new members to enroll in 4-H through this process. If a new member already has siblings in 4-H do not create a new family record —— just add the new member to his or her family records.

⇒ Make sure that you have a current email address entered in 4honline. What I have on file will be the email address which was given when you enrolled last year. If you have changed that you will need to notify the Extension Office so we can make that change in your records.

⇒ Your email password will not need to be changed. You can use the one you already have established for your 4honline account.

⇒ If you find that the password will not work— you can ask for a new one. Remember the new one will be a series of letters and numbers. It will work best to copy and paste it into the place for your email. Once you do this you will have an opportunity to change the password to something that is easier for you to remember.

⇒ If you have problems with using 4hOnline for this process, please contact the office and we can help walk you through the process.

⇒ We will continue to use 4hOnline for all of our livestock identification—both those that go through the weigh-in process and those that you identify yourself.

⇒ I encourage you to approach this process with a positive attitude and don’t be afraid to contact the office if you have questions.

FACEBOOK PAGE LAUNCHED

A Cedar County 4-H Facebook Page has been launched! Find and like us at: http://www.facebook.com/CedarCounty 4H

Uses for this page include: Cedar County 4-H Updates, 4-H Event Pictures, Leaders sharing Club Events, 4-H members or alumni to share ideas, inspiration etc.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

National 4-H week is set for October 5-11. Have you given thought to different ways you might promote 4-H in your community and school?

Clover kids is a fun program designed for kids in kindergarten through third grade. The main goal is to help children learn and grow. Children participate in hands-on experiments, crafts, field trips, and non-competitive games designed to develop positive attitudes and decision making skills!

We currently have a Clover Kid group in Tipton that meets once a month. We are looking for volunteer leaders around the county who can help the program grow and engage more kids to become involved in 4-H! If you are interested or know someone we may reach out to, please contact our office if you have questions—563-886-6157.
NOTE FROM THE EXCHANGE GROUP

WANTED: Youth to join the Exchange Group

The Exchange Group is a two year commitment. One year we host the group from another state, the next year we travel. The only fund raiser we do is working a food stand at the Iowa Football home games. You need to be thirteen years of age to join the group. You will learn a lot of different things about different areas of the U.S. Along with developing new friendships. We hold meetings once a month and discuss what each member would like to do and see.

If you have questions, please call one of the following leaders:

Rex Idlewine—Cell: 319-329-9974
DeeAnn Koberle—Cell: 319-558-9917
Lynn Ketelsen—Cell: 563-889-2615

NOTES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

September

1  Re-enrollment starts for new year on line
1  Holiday—office closed
5  Record Keeping Due to Office for county awards
5  Award Applications due
5  Club recognition forms due from leaders

October

1  Final day for record keeping to be turned in to Extension office to be eligible to exhibit at 2015 county fair.
5—11  National 4-H Week