October 2014
EXTENSION TO YOUTH AND 4-H

October brings us National 4-H Week! This is a time to celebrate and to let the whole community know what 4-H is all about. We will be going into all of the 4th grade classrooms in Cedar County to recruit new members, share a little bit about 4-H and hand out “goodie bags”. They’ll also get information on how to enroll as new members and a listing of all the clubs in the county. How will you join in the fun of National 4-H Week? You could start with 4-H Spirit Week—check inside the newsletter for details—this is an easy way to join in the fun and show everyone that you are a part of 4-H. Maybe you have a friend or know somebody who has been thinking about joining 4-H, give them a little encouragement. Share in your classroom or with your friends about your favorite 4-H project, activity or experience. Hang a poster or paint a window in a business downtown. These are just a few ideas to get you started thinking—what can you come up with? Let’s show everyone just how amazing Cedar County 4-H is!
Enrollment for the 2014-2015 4-H year is officially underway! As of September 1 all records from the 2013—2014 4-H year have been deactivated. The website is http://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 they will 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.
⇒ 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.

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

4-H RECORDS ARE DUE
Record book season is now upon us! The completion of your 4-H record keeping for the projects you are enrolled in 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 Wednesday, Oct. 1st. All record keeping forms are available online at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/cedar/. Be sure that you use the most current forms and use the ones from the Cedar County website. Please let the office know if you have any questions or problems with the website and forms.

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? Maybe you or your club could paint a window or hang a poster in a business downtown or your school, complete a community service project, or recruit new 4-H members.

Express your 4-H pride with this year’s theme, “#iam4H”. Take a selfie with your #iam4H sign (download it from our website) and share it with social media. We encourage all youth, volunteers, professionals, and alumni to share their pride photo on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram—be sure to use #4HWeek and #iam4H hash tags.

Help us celebrate National 4-H Week by joining in with Cedar County 4-H’ers, volunteers and supporters for Spirit Week!

Monday, Oct. 6th—County 4-H Shirt Day
Tuesday, Oct. 7th—Farm-boy / Farm-girl Day
Wednesday, Oct. 8th—Project Day—share your story or experience on a past 4-H project
Thursday, Oct. 9th—Mis-Match Day
Friday, Oct. 10th—Green Out Day

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.
CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS

Citizenship Washington Focus 2015 is a nine-day trip for 4-H youth in grades 9-12 which provides a setting to experience both leadership and citizenship in an up-close, unique way at the National 4-H Center. Youth who have participated in previous trips reported CWF as the single most educational highlight of their 4-H career. The 2015 trip will take place June 5-13. Members of 4-H and adult chaperones will travel by chartered bus to Washington D.C. To learn more about the trip and to get registration information visit: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/cwf.

CLOVER KIDS

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 full Clover Kid group in Tipton that meets once a month and a volunteer interested in starting a group in Mechanicsville. We are always looking for more 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.

DUPONT PIONEER SEED GRANTS

This grant is designed to help local 4-H clubs in Iowa to plan and carry out community improvement activities by providing “seed money” needed to make the projects successful. Applications are due to the Extension Office by 4:00 pm November 14th.

You can find information, tips for applicants, and applications for these grants on the Iowa 4-H website at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/pioneergrants. Grants will be awarded anywhere from $50 to $500 but typically will not exceed half of the cost of the total project as groups are encouraged to work at obtaining local support as a match. Successful projects are those that enlist partnerships with other community entities, demonstrate engagement by the full 4-H club, and make a positive impact on the community.

CEDAR COUNTY 4-H ENDOWMENT

The Cedar County Extension Council is now accepting requests by 4-H members, clubs, and county groups for grants from the Cedar County 4-H Endowment fund. The funding request form can be found on our website and they are due by the 3rd Wednesday of February, May, August and November to the Extension Office. Examples of requests could be (but are not limited to): funding for a club project for the community or funds to assist attending National Convention. There is a maximum of $200 per request. A committee will review all requests and council will select and approve which requests to grant.

Also, if you or someone you know would like to donate to the Cedar County 4-H Endowment Fund please contact the office.

THE 4-H MOTTO
TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER
The purpose of the CCYC is to develop and implement a balanced 4-H youth program for Cedar County that supports the mission of the Iowa 4-H Youth Development Program. The CCYC works to meet the developmental and educational needs of youth and is responsible for program integrity. Program quality includes assurance that the 4 Basic Needs of youth are met through 4-H programming incorporating the Essential Elements.

CCYC Members
Kari Barker  Brad Chapman
Jurgen Ehler  Mike Fitzgerald
Amy Glick  Scot Harold
Linda Jacobsen  Ann Mente
Lisa Rock  Deb Wenndt

A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE