NOTES FROM JENNIFER

• The Hiatt Family is reducing their poultry flock and are willing to donate some poultry projects to any 4-Hers who might be interested. They have an assortment to choose from and the ages range from less than a year old to 3+ years. They also lay both brown and Easter eggs. If you are interested in showing poultry at the Clarke County Fair, this would be a great opportunity! For more details please contact the Hiatt Family at 515-971-5103.

• 2014 Clarke County Fair theme—“Ticket to Success”

• FSQA is scheduled for this Wednesday, April 2 from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, April 5 from 1-4 p.m. If you signed up, please be sure to attend as this is a requirement to show animals at the fair (excluding Clover Kids).

• Are you thinking about or have already started restoring any farm machinery for the county fair? If so, be sure to stop by the Extension Office and pick up a $500 grant application from Clarke County Old Iron. This is a great local opportunity!

• Reminder, fairbooks will not be printed this year. By the end of this week, the fairbook will be posted on the Extensions website, http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clarke

• April 6-12 is National Volunteer Week. Help celebrate this week by thanking your 4-H leader or another special volunteer in your life. This could be something as simple as a thank you or telephone call. Let them know how they have positively impacted your life.
Sheep Workshops

Darwin Downing is ramping up his sheep project workshops by bringing technology and hands on opportunities to the table. This is open to any 4-H who is interested in learning more or plans to show sheep.

* Detailed flyer to come

**Dates include:**
- April 14, 7 p.m. Extension Office
- May 12, 7 p.m. Extension Office — bring a laptop or ipad (if one is available to you)
- June 7, 9 a.m. Darwin’s home
- July 7, 6 p.m. Extension Office

The June 7 activity will be at Darwin’s home. This is a hands on workshop so please bring your sheep. His home address is 2379 Doyle St. Osceola, located right off Hwy. 69. If you would like more information please contact Darwin at 641-414-1062.

Project Scholarships - Deadline April 15

Last year Clarke County 4-H won $2,500. The 4-H and Youth Committee has decided to give this money to 4-Hers who wish to participate in the Clarke County Fair. 4-Hers can apply for this scholarship to purchase supplies to complete any project. We will select a total of 6 recipients, two from each age division.

This money could be used to purchase lumber, a blender, show sick, new camera, a feed bill for your livestock, the animal itself or any other 4-H project. Those interested can pick up an application from the Extension Office. They must be completed and returned on or before Tuesday, April 15.

This is a simple application, with only a few questions. Please take the time to look at the application, it’s like FREE MONEY!! I have attached the updated application with this newsletter. There are fewer requirements and questions then the previous application.

Iowa 4-H Youth Conference

This years conference theme is Ticket To Success and it will be held June 24-26 in Ames. This is for 4-Hers who have completed grades 8th-12th. Youth participate in a variety of activities, make friends, attend hands on workshops, all while having fun and making a difference in the community. Clarke County sent 4-Hers two years ago, would you like to be next?

Youth Council members will be promoting this event. I also have brochures available at the Extension Office or you make visit their website for details at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference.

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS
**Important Swine Information**

Each family should have received a letter from me regarding very important swine information. With the challenges PED has brought to the state of Iowa, Clarke County Extension and the fairboard are doing their very best to make sure everyone’s livestock stays safe and health.

Reminders:

Weigh-in is optional this year. However, if you choose not to weigh-in, you are not eligible for rate of gain or the carcass contest. This also makes you responsible for entering your swine information into 4-H online before May 15. Many other details are also explained in this letter, which I have attached.

May 15- Animal Deadline for 4-Hers and Clover Kids

Do you plan to show any beef, sheep, goats, swine, horses, pets, rabbits, chickens, or dogs at the Clarke County Fair? If so, these animals MUST be identified in 4-H online before May 15 at 11:59 p.m. This is a state deadline, and under no circumstances will late entries be accepted.

If you are showing market beef, swine (weighed in), sheep, or goats I will enter this information in 4-H online at their specific weigh-in. All other animals must be completely identified in 4-H online on your own time. PLEASE do not wait until the last minute to complete this process.

I have attached a help sheet that will be useful in entering your animals information online. If you do not have internet access or do not feel comfortable entering your information online, I would be more than happy to help. Please keep in mind, I am not always in the office so calling in advance is recommended.

Please keep these items in mind:

*If you decide not to bring an animal you identified, you will not get penalized. This just gives us a better idea of what might be coming to the fair.

*This is required for all 4-Hers and Clover Kids.

*If you plan to bring a dog, but show it as a pet, please put under the pet category, not dog. Only dogs being shown in the dog obedience class should be placed under dog.

*Rabbit and Poultry participants, you have an extended deadline of July 1 (in 4-H online) to enter rabbit and poultry information as some of your projects may not be born yet.

*If you have any questions please contact the Extension Office, we are here to help!!

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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.
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>FSQA Training</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 2</td>
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<td>from 6-9 p.m.</td>
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<td>at the SWCC Ag Site</td>
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<td>FSQA Training</td>
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<td>at the SWCC Ag Site</td>
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<td>in Creston</td>
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<td>Swine Weigh-In (optional)</td>
<td>Saturday, April 12</td>
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<td>from 9 a.m.-noon</td>
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<td>at the fairgrounds</td>
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<td>Horse and Rider</td>
<td>April 27 at 1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sheep/Goat Weigh-In &amp; Swine</td>
<td>Saturday, May 10</td>
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<td>Identification</td>
<td>from 9 a.m.-noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>PT Testing</td>
<td>June 21, 9-11 a.m.</td>
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<td>at the fairgrounds</td>
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<td>2014 Clarke County Fair</td>
<td>July 16th– 21st</td>
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**Poultry Information**

Pullorum– Typhoid testing is required for all birds coming to the Clarke County Fair. This means, anything with feathers must be tested. All birds being shown at the 2014 Clarke County Fair MUST be tested on Saturday, June 21 from 9-11 a.m. at the fairgrounds show barn. There will not be another date available, so please plan accordingly.

Testing is required regardless of the birds age or where it came from.

There is a $.50 fee per bird which will be collected day of testing. Cash or check will be accepted.

Swine, Sheep and Goat weigh-in’s are quickly approaching which means it’s time to start getting organized. Below you will find a check list to help you prepare for weigh-in.

- Tags already purchased from the Extension Office ($1 each)
- Tags placed in animals ear (either ear is fine)
- Don’t forget, you must be an “active” 4-H member to participate in weigh-in
- $5 per head if you plan to retinal image sheep or goats for the Iowa State Fair
- Reminder, if you plan to participate in swine weigh-in, tags must already be placed in the animals ear
- A big smile and patience!

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

FIND US AT: EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/CLARKE