Burlap Wreath Workshop

16 4-Hers spend a Sunday afternoon marking burlap wreaths and decorating them with their personal touch. This workshop was made possible by a local partner, Jessi West. For all participants this was their first time making one. Many plan to showcase their work at the County Fair.

Notes from Jennifer

- The Extension Office will be closed Thursday, January 1 in recognition of the New Year. We wish all our 4-H families a happy and healthy 2015.
- Osceola and Murray Clover Kid clubs kick back off in January. If your child or another child is interested in the program they must be re enrolled before they attend their January activity. If you have any questions or need help getting enrolled please stop by the Extension Office or give us a call at 342-3316.
### Loans available for livestock projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are you interested in showing livestock but need financial assistance? With high–priced feeder animals, this may be a great opportunity for your family.</th>
<th>Our local FSA office provides an opportunity for all 4-Hers to show livestock. Here is a link to Youth Loans through the Farm Service Agency for livestock projects.</th>
<th>You can also stop by our local FSA office at 709 Furnas Dr. in Osceola or give them a call at 342-2162.</th>
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### Fairboard Soup Supper– Feb. 21

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<tr>
<th>The Clarke County Fairboard is having their annual Soup Supper on Saturday, February 21. The doors open at 4:30 p.m., serving begins at 5 p.m. This event is put on to help cover the fair costs such as ribbons, trophies, judges fees, food, evening events and much more.</th>
<th>The fairboard has asked for the clubs help. They would like each club to provide 4 dozen dessert servings. This could include cookies, brownies, bars, etc. Please work within your club to get the desserts assigned.</th>
<th>They would like all dessert items dropped off to the exhibit building by 4:30 p.m. Thank you in advance for your assistance in making this event a success.</th>
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### Senior Scholarships available

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<tr>
<th>Are you a 4-Her planning to attend college? We know it’s not easy to finance a college education and we know that many 4-Hers can use help achieving their educational goals.</th>
<th>Consider applying for an Iowa 4-H Scholarship funded through the Iowa 4-H Foundation We encourage all our members to continue their education beyond high school. This is a great opportunity to get additional help.</th>
<th>Visit the Iowa 4-H Foundation website for the application and instructions– <a href="http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships">www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships</a>.</th>
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4-H Ear Tags are FREE!

Thanks to a gracious donation from Medora Feed & Livestock; they are covering the cost of all 4-H ear tags required for the county fair. They will also be at all species weigh-ins offering goodies to the 4-Hers.

If you show animals that require an ear tag, please take the opportunity to send them a thank you for their contribution to the Clarke County 4-H program. Thank You’s may be sent to:

1076 315th Ave.
New Virginia, IA  50210

Swine participants, please note this does exempt swine DNA tags required for the Iowa State Fair.

Livestock Weigh-In’s– Are you prepared?

Beef weigh-in is fast approaching, are you prepared? Keep in mind, our office is closed January 1 so don’t wait until the last minute to pick up your ear tags and confirm you are an “active” 4-H member.

As you previously read, Medora Feed & Livestock have covered the cost of all 4-H ear tags. However it is preferred that you pick up the tags in advance and already have them placed in your animals ear.

We will enter your animals information in 4-H online at weigh-in so please be sure you are active in 4-H online.

Item’s to be completed before weigh-in:

- You must be active in 4-H online meaning you have enrolled in 4-H online and paid your enrollment fee. I will not enroll any members during weigh-in or collect enrollment fee money.
- Ear tags must be picked up and placed in your animals ear before arriving to weigh-in.

Cost:

- Ear tags– FREE
- Retinal Imaging- $5/head
- DNA Hair Samples- $5/head

Payment for retinal imaging and DNA samples are due at weigh-in.

Specific beef details:

At weigh-in, we will be retinal imaging for the Iowa State Fair and pulling DNA for Ak-Sar-Ben from 11 a.m. to noon. This cut’s down the wait time for families who are not participating in out of county activities. We have had success with this in the past and hope to again this year.

When picking up your beef tags you will notice the beef ear tags look a little different. The tags are a bit smaller and have many numbers and letters but will be used the same. This is just a different tag now approved by the USDA.
### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Office Closed:</td>
<td>Thursday, January 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beef Weigh-In:</td>
<td>January 3 from 9 a.m. to noon</td>
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<td>4-H Leader Training:</td>
<td>January, 15. Snow date–January, 22</td>
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<td>Fairboard Soup Supper:</td>
<td>Saturday, February 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swine Weigh-In:</td>
<td>April 11 from 9 a.m. to noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheep/Goat Weigh-In:</td>
<td>May 9 from 9 a.m. to noon</td>
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<td>PT Testing:</td>
<td>June 20 from 9-11 a.m.</td>
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<td>2015 Clarke County Fair:</td>
<td>July 15-20</td>
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<td>Iowa State Fair:</td>
<td>August 13-23</td>
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### Youth Council Representatives

I would like to introduce your 2014-2015 4-H Youth Council Reps.

- **Osceola Go-Getter:**
  - Gabe Crawford
  - Sadie Schneiders
- **Fremont Feenix:**
  - Anna Sereg
  - Trinity Miler
- **Triple Troopers:**
  - Rileigh Hiatt
  - Frank Thacker
- **K.W. Hustlers:**
  - Daylee Hembry
  - Noah Heckman
- **Koolios:**
  - Mackenzie Keller
  - Leia Decker
- **Osceola Chargers:**
  - Sydney Garrett
  - Keara Wheeler
- **Horse & Rider:**
  - Alexis Benda
- **Robotics:**
  - Noah Heckman

### CLARKE ROBOTICS

The Clarke Robotics team did an outstanding job during their competition on December 6! If you are interested in joining the team or would like to know more you may contact the club leader– Lori Ehrhardt at 342-3649.

There next meeting will be held Thursday, January 8 at 7 p.m. at the fairgrounds.