Dear Friends,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season! I look forward to beginning the new year with lots of exciting things happening in 4-H! Goal setting is a big part of 4-H. We are to set SMART goals. (Specific, Measureable, Action, Realistic, Timely) What are your goals for 2019?

During 2019 we want to continue to improve our county 4-H program. As we begin this new year, think of ways we can continue to make the 4-H program even better. What new things do you want to learn? Is there a place that you would like to visit? Is there a new project you want to learn about? or a fair activity that you want to get involved in? Is there something we should be doing on the county level to help improve your 4-H experience? Let me know your ideas. We have staff, committees and volunteers ready to “Make the Best Better”!

Have a happy, safe new year!

Tammy Muller
CYC

Upcoming Events 2019

- New Member Orientation - January 27
- Fair Board Purple Ribbon Fundraiser—February 16
- Clover Kid Day—February 23, Elkader
- Omelet Brunch & Silent Action—March 10, Elkader
- 4-H Foundation Wine & Dine— March 16, Promiseland
- Beef Workshop –March 30
- Swine Weigh In - April 6, Elkader School
- Sheep & Goat Weigh-In—May 4, Fairgrounds
- Showmanship Clinic—May 4, Fairgrounds
- Region 4 Pinebluff Junior Camp #1—June 6-7
- Advanced Feeder Class - June 10, Edgewood
- Region 4 Intermediate Adventure Trip—June 12-13
- Region 4 Pinebluff Junior Camp #2—June 18-19
- Clayton County Fair 2019- July 31-August 5
Calendar of Events

January
1   Holiday, Extension Office Closed
4   4-H Foundation Board Meeting,
5   New Volunteer Training, Calmar
7   Youth Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm
20  Citizenship Meeting, 2 pm
20  County Council Meeting, 7 pm
27  New Member Night, 6:30 pm, Elkader

4-H GROWS HERE

The Month of January is:
Eye Care Month
National Hobby Month
National Soup Month
National Staying Health Month
National Thank You Month
National Oatmeal Month

4-H Brunch is March 10
The Clayton County 4-H Omelet Brunch will be Sunday, March 10 at Johnson’s Reception Hall in Elkader. We are also having a silent auction. Clubs, families, and individuals are asked to donate items for the auction. Be creative! Proceeds from the auction help with the county’s share of the 4-H Development Fee and offset some of the county 4-H program costs

Youth Loans Available
Farm Service Agency has youth loans for livestock projects available. Check out the website or visit your local FSA office. http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=fmlp&topic=ryl

Winter Sports Waivers and Insurance
‘Tis the season for winter recreation. Remember that four activities are not covered by the standard $1/member/year accident injury policy through American Income Life: downhill skiing, tobogganing, sledding and tubing. Those can be covered by a Special Activities policy through AIL. See their webpage for additional information https://www.ailife.com/SpecialRiskDivision. Go to Submit Activity Report - Special Risk Division

Those four activities plus ice skating also require a special participation waiver. Use the special winter activities waiver located at www.extension.iastate.edu/clayton/page/member-info under Risk Management.

WANTED: 4-H Club’s Programs
Club programs for the 2019 year are REQUIRED and due at the Extension Office by January 1. Please include the time, location and general description for each meeting. The Risk Management Policy and insurance covers those events that are listed on the club program or called in to the Extension Office prior to the event. The Extension Office is available to type your programs or you can email or drop them off copy ready.
If you need a template, go to http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clayton/page/member-info 2019 Yearly Program Booklet Template A or Template B There are 2 templates you can use or you can design your own program, be sure meeting dates, locations & times are included.

Swine Carcass Class Survey
The swine carcass class at the Clayton County fair was dropped last year due to concerns of educational value to the youth. A few families have requested to continue the class. The Extension 4-H Youth Development Committee wants swine project member input to see if we should have an optional carcass class, meaning only those who wanted to participate would. We do need to know approximately how many families are interested for scanning costs. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey at tinyurl.com/carcasssurvey
Now Is the Time! - -

To Write Your Goals...

What Is a goal? A GOAL is... deciding what you want to do and learn in a 4-H project.

A GOAL is... having a road map. It helps you decide how to get to where you want to go.

Set goals that:

• Are specific (not too general or broad)
• Meet your needs and interests
• Provide you an opportunity for achievement
• Can be accomplished
• Show progress over last year

How do I write a GOAL?

A goal has 3 parts. It should tell you:

1. The action: How you are going to do it.
2. The result: What you will do.
3. The timetable: When you plan to have it done.

Control Test

Do your goals pass the control test? That is, do you have control over all parts of what happens? If you can answer “yes” you are ready for the next step.

1. Record your goals in your record keeping system.
2. Write at least 2 goals for each of your projects.
3. Use a calendar to help you develop a plan to work on your goals during the entire year. Do you have time to accomplish all your goals?
4. It is okay to make changes and to add or delete goals during the year.
5. Use the same process to write goals for exhibits you plan to take to fair.

Scholarships Available

Designed to encourage Iowa 4-H members to continue their education beyond high school, the Iowa 4-H Foundation current scholarship program offers over 90 Scholarships worth more than $100,000. Scholarships range in value from $500 to $10,000. Iowa 4-H members are eligible to apply for 4-H scholarships if they meet individual scholarship requirements (i.e. designated college and/or major program of study, county of residence, 4-H event participation, etc.) Applicants must enroll as a full-time student (minimum of 12 credit hours) to receive scholarship awards. Only ONE application form is needed for all Iowa 4-H scholarships. Eligible Iowa 4-H youth may apply for more than one scholarship, however, only one scholarship per individual will be awarded per academic year.

To be eligible for any of the Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarships 2 letters of recommendation are required - one from an Extension staff member or 4-H volunteer and one from a school/college academic advisor or teacher. College undergraduates may submit both letters from academic advisors.

All 4-H scholarship applications are due February 1, 2019, 11:59 p.m.

Visit the 4-H Foundation webpage for application information. www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/funding_for_4hers/scholarship

Buck-a-Roo Bash

A countywide Clover Kids Day for K-3rd grade students will be held Saturday, February 23 at Johnson’s Reception Hall in Elkader from 9:30 am –3:30 pm. Activities will include games, music, crafts, story time, food and FUN! Watch for registration information!
New Member Night
All new Clayton County 4-H members and their parents are encouraged to attend the new member orientation on Sunday, January 27. Topics to be covered include an overview of the 4-H program, communication, parliamentary procedure, goal setting, projects & exhibits, and livestock identification. Join us to have all your questions and concerns answered about Clayton County 4-H. Reservations requested ensuring materials and snacks. Please RSVP by January 21 by emailing tamuller@iastate.edu or calling 563-245-1451.

Prom Dress Consignment Sale
Highland Helping Hands 4-H club will be hosting their annual Prom Dress Consignment Sale on Saturday, January 26 from 8 am to 12 pm at Johnson’s Reception Hall in Elkader. You may drop off dresses on Thursday, January 24 or on Friday, January 25 from 4-7 pm. $5.00 to consign a dress. You set price and they sell!! You get 90% and the club gets 10%. For more information visit their Facebook page at Second Hand Style Prom Dress Consignment

Hockey Game Opportunity
Dates for the Waterloo Black Hawks’ annual 4-H Family Nights are March 23, March 26, April 2 and April 5. $8 tickets

Beef Weigh In
Thank you to everyone who helped with the annual market beef weigh-in on December 15! 225 head were weighed and tagged for the Clayton County Fair. 19 animals were retinal imaged for state fair. The animals are all entered into the 4-H online system. 4-H families should confirm the data entered into the system. This verification must be completed by February 1. Instructions for verifying livestock in the 4-H online system may be found on our webpage at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honline-information-families-and-leaders FFA advisors will be getting a list of animals for FFA members to verify the data.

Verify if the following information is correct on each animal:
- Ear tag Number
- Steer, Heifer or Dairy Steer
- Weight
- Home Raised status

If any information is incorrect, do not verify it. Contact the Extension Office to have a staff member correct it.

4-H Foundation Memorials
Do you remember all those 4-H memories – times together with your family and friends, the county fair, club meetings and the many personal relationships that have lasted a lifetime? Gifts to the Clayton County 4-H Foundation are a great way to honor or memorialize an individual or an entire family. Please consider giving a gift to the 4-H endowment fund through the Clayton County 4-H Foundation. Checks should be written to the Clayton County 4-H Foundation and please write who the gift is in memory of in the memo line. Drop at the Extension office or mail to Clayton County Extension and Outreach, PO Box 357, Elkader.
Leader’s Corner

Required Leader Training
If you missed the face-to-face required leader training for 2018-2019—“4-H Fosters Independence,” the training is now available in an online format. Volunteers may access and complete the annual training online via 4H Online, and must do so no later than July 1, 2019. Resources and supporting documents for this training may be found under Volunteer Resources at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/volunteerresources.

New Volunteer Training
New volunteer training is designed for 4-H club and Clover Kid leaders in their first year. This training will provide leaders with a foundation for the program as well as guidance, experiential learning concepts, ideas, tips, and tools that will aid you as you begin working with the youth.

The Iowa 4-H New Volunteer training program is designed to be flexible for volunteers, with an online learning component as well as a face to face component, both are required within your first year as a 4-H volunteer. The online learning consists of 4 training sessions that should be completed prior to the face to face New Volunteer Training (NVT). The 4 online trainings can be taken at any time prior to the face to face training and are designed to be short, 15 minutes or less per session via 4H Online.

Check out face-to-face trainings sites at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/volunteertraining

January 5, 2019 9:30 am -12:30 pm, NICC Dairy Center, Calmar

Weber to Join State 4-H Staff
Congratulations to Nate Weber. He has been hired as the state 4-H STEM Program Coordinator. Nate will be starting his new job at the state 4-H office in Ames on January 3. Best wishes. We will miss him!

Iowa Concern Hotline
800-447-1985
Finances • Legal Concerns • Stress
Disaster Recovery • Resources • Referral
24/7 phone support • confidential • free

ISU Extension and Outreach—Clayton County
Tammy Muller –County Youth Coordinator
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Business Meeting Agenda
1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call & Introduction of Visitors
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting
5. Treasurer’s Report
6. Committee Reports
7. Unfinished & New Business
   Club Program Due
   New Member Night—January 27
   Clover Kid Day—February 23
   Omelet Brunch—March 10
8. Adjourn/4-H Pledge