**County Youth Council**
Bodi Rouse: President
Emily Resch: Vice President
Alison Bueltel: Secretary
Andew Carr: Treasurer
Becky Noah: Historian & Photographer
Aaron Carr
Nathan Davis
Lizzi DeNoble
Britt Hibma
Justin Jones
Blake Mart
Cody Peck
Brett Salzwedel
Kirsten Salzwedel

**Extension Council**
Susan Reiser: President
Steve Brueggeman: Vice President
Connie Purchase: Secretary
Keith Brockmeyer: Treasurer
Sue Boettcher
Ernie Cupp
Curt Smith
Robert VonEhwegen

**Extension Staff**
Karen Byers: County Extension Director
Jessica Sander: County Youth Coordinator
Betsy Harwood: Ricochet Coordinator
Janet Neppl: Office Assistant
Barb Utech: Office Assistant

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- **December 9**: Energy Drawings with BT Workshop, 5—7 p.m.
- **December 13**: Photography Workshop, 2—4 p.m.
- **December 14**: Beef Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.
- **December 20**: Beef Weigh-in, 1—4 p.m.
- **December 22**: Holiday Bake and Take Workshop, 1—3:30 p.m.
- **December 23**: Polymer Clay Ornament Workshop, 1—3 p.m.
- **December 25 & 26**: Office Closed for the Christmas Holiday
- **December 28**: Youth Council Meeting & Holiday Party, 5 p.m.
- **December 30**: Kitchen Chemistry Workshop, 1—4 p.m.

- **January 1**: Office Closed for the New Year Holiday
- **January 2**: Wooden Wall Art Workshop, 1—3 p.m.
- **January 17**: Pottery Painting Workshop, 9:30—11:30
- **January 17**: Dog Clinic, 1—3 p.m.
- **January 24**: Beef Bonanza, 8 a.m.—4 p.m.
NEW 2015 State Fair Livestock Rule Changes

In a webcast last week from the State 4-H Office, we learned of the following rule changes for the 2015 livestock identification and exhibition for the Iowa State Fair.

**Market Beef:**
- New USDA type tags are encouraged for use in calves participating at the 2015 Iowa State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Shows. (We have ordered these tags and plan to use them at the December 20 weigh-in.) You will notice 3 letters and 4 numbers in this sequence. The “old style” tags and numbering system will be used in calves identified for show at the county and district (Clay County) level. Ear tag cost remains $1.50 per tag and an additional $5 for any verifications for State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben.

**Breeding Beef:**
- Breeding beef animals exhibiting at Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben must have a birthdate, registration number (if registered) and tattoo number in the 4honline identification system by May 15th.

**Market Meat Goats:**
- Iowa State Fair Market Meat Goat classes will now consist of both market wethers and market does. All market meat goats must have a retinal image. (We will do these at our April weigh-in.)
- The Iowa State Fair entry limit for 2015 increased from 4 total goats to 6 total with a max. of 4 market or 4 breeding goats entered.

**Breeding Meat Goats:**
- Breeding Does must have a 4-H ear tag OR tattoo for the Iowa State Fair. (If tattoo, the right ear = Herd Prefix ie. RFB and left ear = individual animal identifier, ie. 534.) Birthdates are required for breeding does to determine class. Additionally, for 2015, any breeding does identified for the Iowa State Fair must have a retinal image. We will be doing these at the April weigh-in.
- The Iowa State Fair entry limit for 2015 increased from 4 total goats to 6 total with a max. of 4 market or 4 breeding goats entered.

**Horse:**
- There is an increase from 2 to 3 horses that can be entered per exhibitor at the 2015 Iowa State Fair.
- Youth can now identify up to 5 horses with a max. of 2 leased. (Still no leasing of halter horses.)
Energy Drawing Workshop

Come and explore your creative side on **Tuesday, December 9 from 5—7 p.m.** in the Spirit Lake High School Art Room with instructor Brad Travis (BT). He will lead you into the exciting world of “Energy Drawings” using multiple mediums. The focus is on understanding the importance of mark making in art and how, through art we have the ability to express ourselves by our marks and decisions. All supplies are provided. Cost is $10 and is due to the Extension Office with your registration by Wednesday, December 3.

Photography Workshop Series

Bundle up as we continue our exploration into photographing nature on **Saturday, December 13 from 2—4 p.m.** at the Dickinson County Nature Center (2270 170th St., Okoboji) with local photographer Karen Schwaller! Bring your camera as well as it’s instruction manual. Dress accordingly as we will be outside for part of the workshop. There is no charge for this workshop, but please pre-register by Wednesday, Dec. 10 with the Extension Office. Contact the Extension Office at 336-3488 or xdickinson@iastate.edu.

Beef Committee Meeting

The Beef Committee is meeting at the Extension Office on **Sunday, December 14 at 7PM** to plan Beef Weigh-In. If you are unable to attend, please contact Jessica at 712-336-3488 or jasander@iastate.edu.

Market Beef Weigh-In

Market beef weigh-in for 4-H and FFA animals is **Saturday, December 20 from 1:00 - 4:00 pm** in the Swine, Goat, and Sheep building at the fairgrounds.

The schedule is:

1:00 – 2:30 County Exhibited Calves — those planning to be exhibited at Dickinson County and possibly Clay County.

2:30 – 4:00 State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben Calves — those planning to be exhibited beyond the county or district level must have Retinal Imaging and DNA Hair Samples pulled.

Reminders:

- A maximum of 6 market lead animals can be weighed, tagged, and identified and 4 exhibited at fair.
- A maximum of 2 pens with 3—5 animals designated per pen can be weighed, tagged, and identified and a maximum of 2 pens of 3 can be exhibited at the fair.
- Cost of the ear tags is $1.50 each and payable to ISU Extension at weigh-in.
- Cost to verify animals for State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben is an additional $5 each. Be sure to bring breed registration information on these animals to complete ID papers so they can be exhibited as a breed animal and not a crossbred. **Please call the office at 336-3488 if you plan to identify animals for the State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben so we have enough tags, paperwork materials, and trained volunteers.**
Waverunners Club Competition
You’re invited to support the Waverunners Robotics Club during their competition on Saturday, December 6 from 9—2:30 p.m. at the Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville. Each year First Lego League (FLL) releases a new challenge that engages teams in hands—on robotics design and scientific research. This year's challenge is “World Class” which calls teams to research and present creative solutions for the future of learning. Each team must build and program a LEGO Mindstorms robot to complete missions on a thematic playing surface to teach adults about the way today’s youth learn. Teams will compete in the Challenge’s 3 parts; the Robot Game, the Project, and FLL Core Values.

GOOD LUCK WAVERUNNERS!

Holiday Bake and Take Workshop
Bring your favorite holiday recipe and ingredients and join us on Monday, December 22 from 1—3:30 p.m. at the Dickinson County Community Building for a holiday baking workshop! We’ll bake and share your treats and recipes! Please bring measuring cups, spoons, a bowl, mixing utensils, and a sheet/pan for baking. Bring an extra platter or container to bake and take some home. Cost of the workshop is $5 and due with your pre-registration to the ISU Extension Office by Wednesday, December 17. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 336-3488.

Polymer Clay Ornament Making
Calling all Crafters! Bring your creative ideas and join us in making Polymer Clay ornaments on Tuesday, December 23 from 1—3 p.m. in the Dickinson County Community Building. Please bring your own polymer clay, a cake pan, and a pairing knife. We will supply you with 2 ball ornaments to decorate. The polymer clay can be purchased at Wal-Mart, Michael’s, Hobby Lobby, or other craft stores. Cost of the workshop is $5 and due with your registration by Thursday, December 18 to the ISU Extension Office. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 336-3488.

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.
**County Youth Council Meeting**

The Dickinson County Youth Council is meeting **Sunday, December 28 at 5 p.m. at Pizza Ranch** in Spirit Lake. If you are unable to attend, please contact Jessica at 336-3488 or jasander@iastate.edu.

**Wooden Wall Art Workshop**

Try an innovative new workshop **Friday, January 2 from 1—3 p.m.** in the Dickinson County Community Building. We’re combining Visual Arts, Woodworking, and STEM! Use wood lath, to create a unique piece of artwork for your wall. Choose from 1 of 4 designs or create your own! We will supply the wood lath, sand paper, paint, brushes, and glue. Please bring gloves, tape measure, hand saw, and a dust mask. Cost of the workshop is $5 and due with your registration to the ISU Extension Office by December 24. Contact the office at 336-3488 with questions.

**Pottery Painting Workshop**

Get your creativity going and join us on **Saturday, January 17 from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.** at Kurio Kastle (709 16th St., Spirit Lake) for a pottery painting party! Pick your project within the $20 range and then put some design elements and art principles to work to paint it! The pottery will be fired in a kiln and ready for pickup about a week later! Cost of the workshop is $20 and due with your registration to the ISU Extension Office by January 14. If you have questions, please contact the Extension Office at 336-3488.

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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.
Dog Project Clinic

Join Melissa Fahr in the Dickinson County Community Building on **Saturday, January 17 from 1—3 p.m.** as she introduces you and your dog to the aspects of dog obedience, handling, and agility events. We’ll use this as a kick off to our 2015 dog practices and discover what you and your dog would like to learn and do this year in the dog project area. Please bring your dog, a choke chain, and a 6 foot leash. (Please no flexi leads) Dogs must be up-to-date on vaccinations with a paper copy brought the day of the clinic. Parents are encouraged to attend! Cost of the clinic is $5 and due to the ISU Extension Office by January 7. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 336-3488.

Regional Beef Bonanza 2015

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Regional Beef Bonanza on **Saturday, January 24** at the Iowa Lakes Community College Emmetsburg Campus! Sessions include, “Meat” the Data with Beth Doran; Would You Eat That? With Nancy Clark; Winning with Feeds with Jason Joyce and Joel Thomson; Moo-ving Ahead with Jessica Sander and Katie Holms; Tricky Traits: Breeding & Selection Game, and an ILCC tour. Watch for more information!

December Birthdays

**Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you,**

**Happy Birthday Dear 4-H Member, Happy Birthday to you!**

Grace Radcliffe, Corbin Getting, Chloe Bauler, Gavin Franker, Josue Galvan, Justin Vaughn, Becky Noah, Catherine Gulick, Tyler Wittrock, Eagan Roberts, Jaden Rueter, Nicklas Fodness, Alden Taylor, Emma Vileta, and Jackson Krebs!

4-H T-Shirts for Projects

Are you looking for materials for a sewing project? We have t-shirts from previous year’s 4-H conferences for project use. These shirts are not to be worn for exhibition purposes. If you would like to see them or pick some up, please contact Jessica at 336-3488 or jasander@iastate.edu

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.
Members, Leaders & Volunteers — Re-Enroll Now!

Attention 4-H Members, Leaders, and Volunteers! There is still time to re-enroll in 4-H and update your information in 4honline. This will keep you on the mailing list and more! There is a link and instructions provided below for your assistance, however, please feel free to call or stop by the office if you have questions.

4-H Member Fees are now $35 and payable to your club. The office will bill clubs in January.

http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honline-information-families-and-leaders

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