April 2015

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

**Extension Council**
- Susan Reiser: President
- Steve Bruegeman: Vice President
- Connie Purchase: Secretary
- Keith Brockmeyer: Treasurer
- Tim Chapman
- Curt Smith
- Yvonne Taylor
- Robert VonEhwegen
- Ann Warburton

**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**

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>April 1</td>
<td>Dupont Pioneer Seed Grant Applications due</td>
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<td>April 8</td>
<td>Deadline for purchasing Swine ear tags</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
<td>FSQA Training, 5:30—7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>Sheep &amp; Goat Weigh In, 8 a.m.—12 noon</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>PJ Party: Stitch These!, 1—3 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Swine Verifications and Weigh-In</td>
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<td>April 13</td>
<td>Dog Practice, 5:30—6:15</td>
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<td>April 17—18</td>
<td>Intermediate PLUNGE Camp, 5:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
<td>Poultry Workshop, 3—5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
<td>Broiler Project Sign up due to Extension Office</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>Gardening in a Box, 10 a.m.—12 noon</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>Photography in the Spring, 2—4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 26</td>
<td>Youth Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 27</td>
<td>Dog Practice, 5:30—6:15</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
<td>Gardening in a Box, 2—4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
<td>Dog Practice, 5:30—6:15</td>
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<td><strong>MAY 15</strong></td>
<td>ALL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATIONS DUE IN 4HONLINE</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>Dog Practice, 5:30—6:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>Youth Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.</td>
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Please call the Extension Office at (712) 336-3488 with any questions or to register for programs!
PJ Party: Stitch These!

Join us on Saturday, April 11 from 1—3 p.m. in the Dickinson County Community Building for a sewing workshop! Volunteer, Marilyn Miller will help participants to create their own fleece/flannel pajama pants. Bring your material, elastic, thread, straight pins, post it notes, sharp scissors, and a sewing machine if you have one. Mom, Grandma, or someone with sewing experience is encouraged to come along and lend a hand. Register with the Extension Office by April 8 to ensure a spot.

Dog Practices

Dog practices are Monday nights twice a month from 5:30 p.m.—6:15 p.m. at the Dickinson County Expo Center. You and your dog can work on aspects of Obedience, Handling, and Agility. Bring your dog, choke collar, 6 foot leash, bowl for water, and a copy of your dog's vaccination record. (If you attended a practice already, we have yours.) To exhibit your dog at the fair, you must attend at least 5 dog practices/clinics. We will schedule summer practices as the time gets closer.

The Current Dog Practice Schedule Is:

   Monday, April 13 & 27 and   Monday, May 4 & 18

Sheep and Goat Weigh-In

Market sheep and goat weigh in is Saturday, April 11 from 8 a.m. — 12 noon at the fairgrounds. Youth can weigh up to 15 market lambs, 10 feedlot lambs, and 5 market meat goats. See your fair book for more information. Breeding ewes and breeding does do not come to weigh-in, unless you want them retinal imaged for Iowa State Fair.

   The weigh-in schedule is:

   8:00—11:00   County Only Exhibitors

   11:00 —12:00 Iowa State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben Exhibitors/Retinal Imaging

Please contact the Extension Office if you plan to verify animals for State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben so we have the imager and materials on hand.

2015 Important Dates

May 15    ALL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATIONS (ID) DUE

June 30—July 2   4-H State Youth Conference

July 1   Dickinson County Fair Entries Due

July 1   Iowa State Fair Entries Due

July 23 Clay County Fair Entries Due
Swine Weigh-In & Verification

The swine committee is doing weigh-ins and verifications at project member farms on **April 11 and 12**. Derby pigs are weighed in, all other pigs are verified by the committee members. If you plan to exhibit swine this year, please come to the Extension Office prior to **April 8** to purchase your tags and to make arrangements for the committee members to visit your farm to verify your animals. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Food Safety Quality Assurance (FSQA)

Food Safety Quality Assurance certification is required of everyone exhibiting animals at the county, district, or state fair (except pets and horses). Our FSQA training date is **April 10 from 5:30—7:30 p.m.** in the Dickinson County Community Building. Youth in 4th—6th grades must attend a training. Youth in 7th—12th grades may train or test out. Please call the office to sign for training or testing. If our training date does not work, you may attend in a neighboring county. Please contact that County Extension Office to ensure materials and seating.

**Dates of area FSQA Trainings:**

- **April 3rd, 9-11 a.m.** Osceola County 712-754-3648
- **April 18th, 9-11 a.m.** O’Brien County 712-957-5045
- **April 26th, 4-6 p.m.** Clay County 712-262-2264
- **May 28th, 4-6 p.m.** Lyon County 712-472-2576
- **June 3rd, 6-8 p.m.** Clay County 712-262-2264

2015 Fair Dates

July 15    Static Judging Day
July 18—23    Dickinson County Fair
August 13—23    Iowa State Fair
September 12—20    Clay County Fair

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.
4-H Experience Agronomy Event

The Iowa State University Agronomy Club is excited to announce a new and educational opportunity for middle school 4-Hers grades 4-8 who are interested in agriculture and agronomy. Together with the staff and professors of the Iowa State University Agronomy Department, the club will be hosting a fun-filled interactive day full of:

- demonstrations by world renowned ISU Agronomy faculty and teaching assistants
- a career fair with companies in agricultural industries
- a lunch,
- and a raffle.

The day will focus on many important areas such as weeds, seeds, crops, weather, and soil. This event will take place on Saturday, April 11, 2015 in Ames at Agronomy Hall. We are asking for $5 per attendee to help cover the cost of lunch and one t-shirt per person. For the flyer/registration, http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hfiles/pubApr112015AgronomyClub.pdf.

Intermediate PLUNGE Camp

Intermediates, mark your calendars for PLUNGE Camp! This leadership experience is for youth in grades 6—8 and their friends. It is April 17 & 18 at Camp Foster YMCA in Spirit Lake! Activities include a night hike, campfire with s’mores, Community Service at the Camp, Zip Line, Archery, Horseback Riding, and a Nature Hike. Cost for the event is $50. Youth arrive at the camp at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 17. (There will be no meal served Friday night, so please eat before you come to camp.) Parents can pick participants up on Saturday, April 18 at 5 p.m. Participants need to bring bedding and a pillow, all toiletries (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc...), long pants and tie-up closed-toed shoes for Saturday’s activities. Breakfast and lunch are served at the camp. For more information, contact Jessica. Register here!

Gardening in a Box

Dig into Horticulture and Woodworking with this hybrid 2-part container gardening workshop! Join us Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m.—12 noon at the Dickinson County Community Building. In Part 1 we will build a container for your garden. Bring gloves, a drill with a Phillips head bit, an 1/8” drill bit, and a measuring tape. We’ll provide the wood, screws, and soil. Cost for the workshop is $45 and covers all materials. You will purchase your garden plants in Part 2. Payment is due with registration to the Extension Office by April 6. Friends and family are welcome to attend!

In Part 2 is Saturday, May 2 from 2—4 p.m. and we will explore soil composition and container garden plants. We will meet at Fergusons Garden Center in Spirit Lake, where staff will present about different vegetables and planting a container vegetable garden. Soil will be supplied for you. Bring gloves, trowel, and money to purchase your plants/vegetables.
Poultry Announcements

The Poultry Committee is excited to announce a flock of upcoming events!

Poultry Workshop
Sunday, April 19 from 3—5 p.m. in the Dickinson County Community Building. Youth will have an in depth, hands-on experience learning about showing birds, showmanship, and the broiler project. There is no charge for this workshop, but pre-register by April 15 to ensure supplies!

Broiler Project
The Poultry Committee is sponsoring free birds for youth interested in the Broiler Class. The deadline to place an order with the Extension Office is Sunday, April 19. Youth will receive 8—10 FREE birds in early May and be responsible for feeding and caring for the birds, as well as keeping feed records, and bringing them back for processing. The birds will mature and be processed at approximately 6—8 weeks of age. They will be judged on processed carcass results and record keeping only. There will be no live bird judging for the broilers. The committee will set up a date to have the birds processed prior to fair.

Poster Contest
Committee member, Connie Purchase is sponsoring 2 Poster Contests for the 2015 Dickinson County Fair; 1 contest each in the Poultry and Rabbit Project areas! The posters must be educational about Poultry or Rabbits. Youth must be enrolled and competing in that project at the 2015 Dickinson County Fair. Posters will be judged on Saturday, July 18, and the winners announced after the Poultry and Rabbit Show! Posters will be on display in the Poultry and Rabbit Barn during fair. Posters can be up to 3’ x 3’, with 1 poster per youth for each contest, and the theme for the posters contest is Nothing Compares!

Pullorum Blood Draw & Bird Wash Workshop
The Pullorum blood draw and bird washing is Saturday, June 27th from 10 a.m.—12 noon in the Dickinson County Beef Barn Wash Bay. Eric Bilney will be on hand to do your Pullorum Blood Testing that is required for ALL Poultry Shows (including the Dickinson County Fair) so bring all the birds you plan to exhibit. There will also be a demonstration on how to wash a bird for showing! There is no charge but please register by June 25 to ensure materials.

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.
REMINDER! Animal Identifications are due by **Friday, May 15** (with the exception of Jr. Rabbits)! This is the last day they will be accepted! If you know you are bringing an animal such as: pet, dog, rabbit, poultry — including broiler projects, horse, breeding goat, breeding sheep, or breeding beef to fair, identify it now. All market animals are entered by staff after the weigh-in and you simply need to go into 4honline and double-check/verify the information. All ID’s MUST be done in the 4honline database. **NO PAPER COPIES ACCEPTED!** Make sure to ID ALL animals that you are working with and think you might want to bring to the fair. **This is not a fair entry, just an identification of what animals you are working with and may potentially bring.** Actual Fair entry forms will be due July 1st.

**Photography in the Spring**

Continue your exploration into photography for the seasons with our Spring Workshop on **Saturday, April 25 from 2—4 p.m.** at the Dickinson County Nature Center. Local guest photographer, Karess Knudtson, Dickinson County Nature Center Naturalist, will guide us through the process of taking interesting spring photos. Bring your camera and it’s instruction book. There is no charge for this workshop, but pre-register by **April 22** with the Extension Office to ensure supplies. Please dress accordingly for going outside. Friends and family are welcome to attend!

**“Ricochet: An Extreme Leadership Adventure” -Update**

Ricochet is in full speed for second semester. Okoboji, Harris-Lake Park, and Spirit Lake School Districts are implementing the middle school leadership program. Throughout this course youth will learn about the five dimensions of leadership: Leadership Information, Leadership Attitude, Communication, Decision Making and Stress Management Skills. The youth participate in a community leadership project where they show off the skills developed in Ricochet. The Ricochet program is not only led by our teachers, community volunteers facilitate the program as well. Thank you to all those volunteers!

*Pictured to the right are students at Okoboji Middle School Participating in a Ricochet activity focused on decision making and non-verbal communication.*

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**OUR VISION**

*A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSTIVE CHANGE*
State 4-H Camps
Youth in grades 5-8 in the 2014-15 school year have three special-themed 4-H camps designed especially for them. Information on the State 4-H camps has been posted to the 4-H Camping website http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/camping

4-Her’s for 4-H Campaign
The 2015 4-H’ers for 4-H Campaign is now underway! The State 4-H Council Finance Committee has made it their goal to raise $30,303.30 for Iowa 4-H’ers. Contributions raised through this campaign support the State 4-H Youth Conference, facility improvements at the Iowa 4-H Center, and financial aid for 4-H program fees and event registrations. Club Donation Forms and contributions can be sent directly to the Iowa 4-H Foundation or delivered to county offices by May 15. Why support this campaign? Approximately one-third of the funds support the State 4-H Council program, which in turn provides the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference experience for your 8-12th grade 4-H’ers. Almost half of the funds are distributed back to 4-H members in the counties in the form of scholarships for out-of-county 4-H experiences and financial assistance to help cover program development fee costs.

4-H Youth Conference
Mark your calendars for the 2015 4-H Youth Conference at Iowa State University. It’s 3 full days of speakers, workshops, mixers, dances, a banquet, and community service activities. If you’ve completed 8th grade, you’re eligible to attend. For more information please go to: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference

April Birthdays
Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday Dear 4-H Member, Happy Birthday to you!
Lauren Duffy, Lexi Duffy, Ellie Smith, Kaelyn Byers, Hannah Harmon, Emma Watje, Andrew Carr, Ted Doeden, Montana Wilson, Braeton Nitzschke, Kiera Keiner, Emily Parks, Emma Bonnstetter

4-H PLEDGE
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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION & OUTREACH DICKINSON COUNTY
1600 15th Street
Spirit Lake, IA 51360