Dear 4-H families and friends,

Research shows that 4-H teaches young people how to be effective leaders, successful learners, outstanding communicators, and productive citizens. These are ambiguous, big worded descriptions. Take some time to reflect on how 4-H has impacted your personal life. Did you learn a new skill in a project area? Maybe you had personal growth in those hard to define areas like setting goals, time management, or responsibility. Did you develop a new relationship with a close friend or mentor?

It is the time of the year where we wrap up our 2013-14 4-H year with record keeping & award applications and we start fresh with new goals, activities, and pursuits for the 2014-15 4-H year.

You’ve put a lot of work into your 4-H year. Be sure to get recognized for your efforts by completing your records for the bronze, silver, or gold recognition and applying for competitive awards. Save the date for one of two Come & Go record keeping workshops on September 21st or 22nd. Be sure to read the articles Record Books & Recognition and 4-H Record Workshop to learn about what to turn in, where to get paperwork, and how to get help.

We’ll celebrate and recognize those who completed 4-H records at our annual 4-H Awards and Recognition Ceremony from 4:5:30pm on Sunday, November 9th at the Garner Hayfield Ventura High School Auditorium. Don’t forget that our winners from the Exploration Tickets to Success summer contest will be awarded with prizes. Following the ceremony will be a meal and theme basket silent auction. Read the article to find out more details.

With the start of our new 4-H year it is time to re-enroll via iowa.4honline.com. All 4-H members (including ASK 4-H clubs & LEGO clubs) who were members last year and are joining a 4-H club this year should complete the re-enrollment process. This ensures that we have the most current health information, contact information, project sign up, and club membership for our youth. Families completely new to 4-H should fill out paper enrollment forms and turn them into the Extension Office.

What are you setting in your sights for 2015? Think about those 4-H goals and how you can get there. Looking forward to the journey,

Victoria’s office hours
Monday - Friday
12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

WHAT’S INSIDE:
- Victoria’s office hours
- 4-H Calendar
- Thank You Club Leaders
- Welcome Nikki Renner
- Record Books & Award Applications
- County Council Applications
- 4-H Awards Program
- National 4-H Week
- Re-enrolling in 4-H
- Project Updates:
  - 4-H Record Workshop
  - Clover Kids
  - ASK 4-H Clubs
  - Computer Guts Workshop
  - Team Horse Competition
  - CY Coming to Visit
  - Harlache Win scholarship
- Trip to Washington D.C.
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Welcome Nikki Renner

GO CYCLONES! Hi! My name is Nikki Renner and I am the new Youth Enrichment Coordinator for Hancock County Extension. I am so excited to be a part of this awesome team of talented people! I am truly amazed at the outreach the 4-H family has on our community and very proud to be involved.

I married Brent Renner and we live on his family farm near Klemme. We have been married for 15 years and I learn something new about our farm every single day. We have 3 active children who keep us busy! Caleb is 12, Braden is 10 and Madison is 7. We enjoy camping, gardening, playing kickball, cooking and spending time with our friends and family.

I look forward to becoming involved with the Lego League adventures and teaching a group of curious kids in the After School Kids Club. Please stop in and say hello!! I can’t wait to meet everyone!

Nikki can be reached via email at renner@iastate.edu or phone at 641-923-2856.

APPLYING FOR AWARDS AND KEEPING 4-H RECORDS

All award applications and record books are due to the Extension office by Friday, October 3rd.

Record Books & Recognition

There are 3 main categories where 4-Hers can receive awards.

1. Bronze, Silver, or Gold project record completion
   - Project record completion awards are not competitive. If you meet the requirements found on the “Project Record Completion Application” you will receive a bronze, silver, or gold, depending on which level you applied for. You must also submit your records related to that project. These records can be submitted in many forms: in a book with all your 4-H projects, in a binder (or other method of filing) related to just that project area, or a video or other electronic document.

2. Competitive Life Skills awards
   - These awards can only be won once during each age division of 4-H (or age category depending on the award). You must turn in an application as well as your entire collection of 4-H records. The award selection is competitive and will be judged based on your application, record book, and any other supporting material the specific award asks for. These awards are: Wendy Greiman Achievement award & Bock Memorial Scholarship.
   - There are also awards for leaders to fill out: Nomination awards for 4-Hers, awards for the club to win, nominations of outstanding volunteers. Leader nominated awards are due October 17th.

3. Competitive Record keeping & accomplishments awards
   - These awards can only be won once during each age division of 4-H (or age category depending on the award). You must turn in an application as well as your entire collection of 4-H records. The award selection is competitive and will be judged based on your application, record book, and any other supporting material the specific award asks for. These awards are: Wendy Greiman Achievement award & Bock Memorial Scholarship.

4-H Awards Program

Save the date: Sunday, November 9th, 2014.

"Highlight YOUR 4-H” Share-The-Fun

3 minute max performances. Five will be selected. Send your application to the Extension Office by Nov. 1st. Use creativity in your application. Make a video, write-up your idea on a napkin, bring your group in and perform. We don’t care, we just want to see your ideas.

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS
National 4-H Week: October 5-11, 2014

More than 6 million young people from across the country will celebrate National 4-H Week October 5-11. It is a time to promote 4-H, celebrate your accomplishments, get fired up for next year, and share the impact of 4-H. How can you celebrate?

4-H Food Drive Challenge

The county 4-H council is challenging all 4-H clubs (community clubs, LEGO teams, ASK club, and Shooting Sports) to run from Monday, October 6 to Wednesday, October 8. All 4-Hers, parents, leaders, supporters, alumni, and friends of 4-H are encouraged to show off their 4-H spirit. Share pictures of your family and friends and their 4-H spirit on social media. Who can have the most 4-H spirit?

Green 4-H Day - Wednesday, Oct. 8th

Wear green and the 4-H clover on Wednesday, October 8th. All 4-Hers, parents, leaders, supporters, alumni, and friends of 4-H are encouraged to show off their 4-H spirit. Share pictures of your family and friends and their 4-H spirit on social media. Who can have the most 4-H spirit?

Show your 4-H pride.

Show your 4-H pride.

**4-H Online: Re-enrollment process**

Everyone who wishes to continue to in 4-H must re-enroll for the new 4-H year. Re-enrollments must be finished before January 1st, 2015 to avoid paying a $50 late fee. Follow the instructions below:

- Enter your family email that you use frequently. (If you don’t know, the Extension Office can help.)
- Select “I forgot my password” (unless you remember)
- Copy your new temporary password that was emailed to your inbox.
- Click login and scroll down to the family members listed at the bottom of the screen.
- Click to the right side of each family member you want to reactivate.
- Scroll to the bottom of each family member’s page and click “Enroll for 2014-2015.”
- Follow instructions making sure you fill out as many fields as you can or that apply to you.
- The club you were in last year is already identified.
- Don’t forget to select your projects.
- Click submit and the enrollment will be sent to the office for verification that everything is included.

**4-H Club Board Displays**

Take your club board that we displayed at the Hancock County District Fair and show it off in a local business window of your choice (after you get permission and pick up your board from the Extension Office). Take pictures and put them on the Facebook page: ISU Extension - Hancock County, IA

**#iam4H**

Looker Clovers will be distributed at the beginning of 4-H week. We are also looking for helpers to speak about their 4-H experience on the radio. What else can you do? Let’s make 4-H in Hancock County stand out during the 2014 National 4-H Week, October 5-11.

**National 4-H Week**

**October 5-11, 2014**

**5th**

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**4-H Record Workshop**

4-H record keeping can be overwhelming and confusing and also very rewarding and fulfilling. A Come & Go workshop is exactly what you need to reduce stress and confusion. Come with your records or just your questions. Record keeping wins you awards and is a great way to keep track of impressive things you have done for future scholarships and resumes. Awards related to records can be received at the completion of grades 4-12.

**CLOVER KIDS**

Youth in grades K-3rd have the opportunity to sign up for Clover Kids. Each session will offer a variety of crafts and games, and life lessons.

In Garner, Clover Kids meetings are typically on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9-10:30am.

In Britt, Clover Kids now meets on, typically, the 3rd Monday of the month. This is a change from previous years.

Exact dates, registration forms, and additional information can be found at exten.sion.iastate.edu/hancock.

Please fill out the registration form and return it to the Hancock County Extension Office by September 15, 2014 along with the Medical Release Form and fee. Scholarships are available upon request.

**Horse Competition**

Two teams for Hancock County will be participating in a 4-H Team Equestrian Competition on Saturday, September 27th in Estherville at 10am. Teams will compete in a variety of classes, accumulate points in each class, and the top 3 teams will be named. We wish the following 4-Hers the best of luck!

Leah Christ
Justin Ausborn
Alexis Wirtz
Bretta Carolus
Colton Bruce

Sarah Weaver
Jacob Hlavacek
Lauren Wirtz
Hannah Hejlik

Thank you to their coaches Crystal Drake and Lauren Hradcek!

**HORSE CLUBS**

Garner - Hayfield and West Hancock will start with the After School Kids’ 4-H club (ASK) meetings in September. What is ASK? It is a 4-H club that meets after school on Mondays in Garner and Tuesdays in Britt from 3:30-5:00pm for grades 3rd-6th. Members chose the topic they want to learn more about & then discuss what activities they want to do and who to invite to speak at their meetings. They also do a community service project and go on a field trip along with snacks and game at each meeting.

Last spring they learn about pets and plants by going to Ames to tour the horse barns at Iowa State University and Remain Gardens, by visiting the veterinary clinics in Britt and Garner, and by making their own chia pets.

Registration for the ASK club is available now at extension.iastate.edu/hancock and is due no later than September 17th.

**4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH**

**Project Area Updates**

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Registration for the ASK club is available now at extension.iastate.edu/hancock and is due no later than September 17th.

Fourth grade students from Gayfield and West Hancock will start their 4-H center with a meeting on Monday, October 6th, 2014 at 3:00pm in Garner.

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Sarah Weaver
Jacob Hlavacek
Lauren Wirtz
Hannah Hejlik

Thank you to their coaches Crystal Drake and Lauren Hradcek!
Scholarship Received for State Fair Exhibit

Jacob Hlavacek from the Bint Broncos and Bulls Eye Bunch 4-H clubs received some exciting news after the completion of exhibit judging at the Iowa State Fair.

His exhibit, "An Experiment with Fertilizer Gone Awry" was awarded a $500 scholarship for winning the Future Discovery Award from Iowa State University’s College of Liberal Art and Sciences.

Originally his project started off as an experiment for the science fair at school. He did a bit of tweaking, wrote out his goals, steps, and what he learned, and exhibited his poster at the Hancock County District Fair where he was selected to advance to the Iowa State Fair in the category of Ag & Natural Resources, class Crop Production.

Jacob says, “It felt great having my project recognized by Iowa State University with a scholarship. You never know where a good project idea will take you.”

4-H exhibits can win more than just ribbons. Show off what you have created and the ideas you have. Who knows? You may receive a scholarship just like Jacob. Congratulations Jacob on a job well done!

TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.

Visit the Nation’s Capital with Iowa 4-Hers

Citizenship Washington Focus 2015 is a nine-day trip for 4-H youth in grades 9-12 which provides a setting to experience both leadership and citizenship in an up-close, unique way at the National 4-H Center. Youth who have participated in previous trips reported CWF as the single most educational highlight of their 4-H career.

The 2015 trip will take place June 5-13. Members of 4-H and adult chaperones will travel by chartered bus to Washington D.C. Trip highlights: Flight 93 Memorial, Gettysburg Battlefield, Mount Vernon, Iwo Jima Memorial, night view of Washington D.C., Arlington National Cemetery, FDR Memorial, Capitol Hill, Union Station, Air Force Memorial or Twilight Tattoo, National Cathedral or Smithsonian Zoo, theater production, National Mall, Smithsonian Museums and Holocaust Museum.

The trip fee is $1,550. This includes lodging, transportation, tour site admissions and most meals. Registration and a $490 deposit will be required to secure a spot. Registration is now open and closes November 15, 2014. Financial help may be available from Hancock County Extension. A written request can be submitted to the Extension Office.

To learn more about the trip and get registration information visit: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/cwf.

HELP WITH ASK CLUB

Volunteers needed

Are you in middle school or high school? Do you LOVE to have FUN, play games and do AWESOME activities? If So, we NEED your help! I’m looking for someone who would help with the 4-H After School Kids club for 3rd and 4th grade. I pay with the satisfaction of knowing you are helping these kids have a great time, and maybe some chocolate every once in a while. If that sounds like something you are interested in please respond to me at nrenner@iastate.edu with any questions. Volunteer hours can go towards 4-H awards. Thank you!

OUR VISION

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