



CLOVER CONNECTION FEBRUARY 2016



Erica Holliday
HOWARD COUNTY EXTENSION
County Youth Coordinator

132 1st Avenue West Cresco, IA 52136
Phone: 563-547-3001 ehollida@iastate.edu

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Record Book Workshop

Citizenship Group

Spring Fair

Region 4 Camp Dates

Camp Counselors Wanted

County Council

Clover Kids

Verify Beef Weigh-In

Dog Obedience/ Agility Classes

Swine & Sheep Weigh-In

Leader's Corner

4-H Hockey Nights

State Conference

State Recognition Opportunities

Scholarships

Calendar

4-H

GROWING TOGETHER

Let's Think Projects!



As 2016 is well underway, we are also knee-deep in our 4-H year! Now is the time (if you have not already) to pick out your projects and set your 4-H goals! When setting a goal, remember to include ART— Action (how you going to do it), Result (what will you do) and Timetable (when you plan to have it done). Also, once you think you have a

goal written ask yourself these three questions: 1) *does it have ART (3 basic parts)*, 2) *do you have control over your goal*, and 3) *is it measurable*. An example: I want to take photos of wildlife using the rule of thirds by our May club meeting.

Need help in writing goals? Attend the Record Book Workshop on Monday, February 15 from 9-11:30 am at the Extension Office! Plus you will be able to get a jump start on your record book as well! However, if you cannot attend the workshop, PLEASE contact me! I'd love to assist anyway I can to help make your 4-H experience the best it can be! Goal setting is a skill you will use for the rest of your life!

Don't forget about the many opportunities coming up this spring and summer for 4-H'ers and their families! Yes, parents & siblings, you can be a part of 4-H too! You are always welcome! Be on the look out for dates and RSVP deadlines!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Team Howard County placed 5th overall in Quiz Bowl at the Western National Roundup! Thea Hartzell individually placed 2nd overall! Way to go girls!

Erica Holliday





COUNTY NEWS

Record Book Workshop



Have no idea on how to put a record book together? Or looking to get a kick start on your record book? Join me on **Monday, February 15 from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Howard County Extension Office**. We will discuss goal setting, organize your record book, and have some time to work on your book. No cost! Bring your record book, tabs, pictures, old write-ups and we will do some organizing. Please contact the Extension Office to sign up by **Friday, February 12**.

Almost to State Capital...



Our focus on local and state government and citizenship will continue on **Monday, February 15 from 1-2:30 p.m.** at the Extension Office (this is make-up for our January meeting). **Remember**—Bring your items for the slider care packages! We will conclude the year with a tri-county meeting on **Sunday, February 21, 2016 at 2 p.m. in Decorah** and a visit to the State Capital on Wednesday, March 2.

Spring Fair Sign-Up



Want to design an outfit by sewing or purchasing? Showcase a presentation? Or perform a skit? Then Spring Fair is the perfect opportunity for you! Sign up today with your club leader! Spring Fair will be held **Saturday, April 9 at NICC Cresco Center**.

Members will be judged on their share the fun, working exhibits, educational presentations, fashion revue, clothing selection, and \$15 challenge exhibits and learn their ribbon placings. Deadline for registration is **March 18!**

SAVE THE DATE— Pinebluff Region Camps



4-H members in Region 4 will once again have the opportunity to join in on the fun at Pine Bluff 4-H Camp located near Decorah. Junior 4-H members (grades 4th -6th) will have two camps to choose from with the dates being **June 8-9 or June 13-14**. Intermediate 4-H members (grade 7th -8th) camp date is **June 15-16**. Continue to watch the Clover Connection & Express for more information. Camp registration deadline will be **April 15**.

WANTED: Camp Counselors



Attention High School students: Do you enjoy working with younger 4-H members to create a positive experience in an outdoor setting? Do you enjoy tubing, hiking, and campfires? Then being a 4-H camp counselor may be for you. Region 4 is looking for youth counselors to help lead the 4-H camps at Pine Bluff. All camps are 2 days and one night. Junior camps will June 8-9 and June 13-14. The intermediate camp date is June 15-16. Sign up for one or more camps. 9th -12th graders may be junior camp counselors, while 11th & 12th graders may be counselors for Intermediate Camp. Contact your County Youth Coordinator for more information. Deadline to apply is **April 15**.

COUNTY COUNCIL

Mark your calendars! Our next meeting will be **Sunday, February 21 at 5p.m. at the Extension Office**. We will be discussing Spring Fair and Centennial skit ideas!

"A LOT OF GROUPS GO OUT THERE AND TALK ABOUT IT—WE GO OUT THERE AND **ACTUALLY DO IT.**"

JOIN THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING

CLOVER KIDS



Break is Over! Let's Get Back to Having Fun

I don't know about you, but I am ready to get back to seeing all of you Clover Kids! Remember we did not meet in January. Gear up for our meetings in February where we will be getting messy creating paintings and sculptures! Our next meetings are:

◆ CRESCO

Date: Tuesday, February 2

Location: Notre Dame Church Basement

Time: 3:30—5:30 p.m.

◆ ELMA

Date: Saturday, February 6

Location: St. Paul's Maple Leaf Church

Time: 9:15—11:15 a.m.

◆ RICEVILLE

Date: Monday, February 8

Location: Riceville school lunchroom

Time: 3:15—5:15 p.m.



LIVESTOCK INFO

Verify Beef Weigh-In



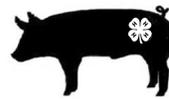
Please login in and verify that all of the information was entered correctly by **Monday, February 1**. If there are any errors, please contact the Extension Office.

Dog Obedience/Agility Classes



We have sent out letters to those enrolled in the project. The first meeting will be **Tuesday, February 23 at 6 p.m. at the NICC Cresco Center**. Remember to bring your dog's Rabies, Parvo, and distemper records plus \$10 to cover class expenses. Please return your postcard by **February 15**. If you are interested in the obedience and agility classes, please contact the Extension Office.

Swine Weigh-In



The swine weigh-in will be held **Saturday, March 12 from 9-11am at the Crestwood FFA Shop**. This is for swine **NOT** being housed at the facility. The safety protocols we used last year will be used again this year. You will have an appointment to weigh and staging time between herds just as last year. The swine being housed at the new facility will have a separate weigh-in. The cost will be \$2 per tag. More information will be sent to swine project members.

Sheep/Meat Goat Weigh-In



The sheep/meat goat weigh-in is scheduled for **Saturday, April 23 from 9-11am at the fair-grounds**. Information will be sent to sheep and meat goat project members. Mark your calendars!

4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH

LEADER'S CORNER

Enrollment Fees

We have sent bills out to the clubs for enrollments fees. Please make those payments ASAP! If you have a youth join after the date of the invoice, they will need to pay \$30.



Spring Volunteer Meeting—Required Training

Mark your calendars—**Monday, February 15 at 6pm** will be our spring volunteer meeting, which includes the yearly state training! This year's training will be "The Heart of LEADERSHIP"! Please contact the Extension Office by **February 10th to RSVP!** If you are unable to attend, please contact Erica to set up another time to do the training or give instructions for the online version!

Judge's Training

Do you desire to be a judge for 4-H? A judge's training is coming to Northeast Iowa on **Saturday, February 20 at the First United Methodist Church in New Hampton from 8:45 a.m.—3:30 p.m.** You will be trained in 2 project areas. Cost is \$45. This training prepares the adult evaluators in subject matter, rules and standards for the upcoming 4-H fair season. Registration form can be downloaded at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/judgestraining> and due by **February 12.**

Fair Theme— "Dive to New Depths"

The theme for the 2016 4-H Exhibit Building will be "Dive to New Depths". Once again, we will be judging club booths this year! Let the creativity begin!

NEEDED ASAP!

Program Books—Heritage Homesteaders, Millennium Masters, and Timberland Targeting

Financial Reports— Heritage Homesteaders, Millennium Masters, and Timberland Targeting

BEYOND THE COUNTY



4-H Hockey Nights in Waterloo



The Waterloo Blackhawks are again planning 4-H nights at two different hockey games this spring. Discount tickets are available for \$7 (regular price \$12-\$14)! Offer is good for individual 4-H families or whole clubs. Ask Erica for more

details on the two available games—**Saturday, April 2** or **Saturday, April 8.**

State 4-H Youth Conference

Make plans to Dive to New Depths in Ames on June 28-30. Any members that are currently in grades 8th-12th may attend! Join over 1,000 youth from across the state for 3 full days of speakers, workshops, community service, dances, and a banquet! You will get to experience campus life all while meeting new people! You will have fun while learning by doing, dancing the nights away, and giving back to the community! You will gain new knowledge and in the process learn something about yourself! Mark your calendars!

State Recognition Opportunities



There are many areas of state awards or to represent the state of Iowa. Opportunities include: National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Congress, State 4-H Council, State

Shooting Sports Ambassador, National 4-H Dairy Conference, and State 4-H Project awards. Learn more about applying for any of these opportunities at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/recognition-opportunities>. These opportunities are open to 4-H'ers in grades 9-12. An application must be complete by **February 1, 2016** and youth will participate in an interview on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at Iowa State University in Ames. If you are interested in applying or seeking help on your application, contact Erica!

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



SCHOLARSHIPS

4-H College Scholarships



Students pursuing a higher education are encouraged to complete a 4-H scholarship application. More than 90 scholarships totaling almost \$100,000 will be awarded to 4-H'ers attending a community college, university, or private college in Iowa. Scholarships range from \$500-\$3,200. Applications are due by **February 1**. For more information visit https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/funding_opportunities/scholarships.

Christina Hixson Scholarship

The Hixson Opportunity Award is at minimum \$10,000 scholarship (distributed \$2,500 per year) offered annually to one student from each of Iowa's 99 counties that are admissible to Iowa State University. Selection is based on eligibility and potential as seen

by the application, letter of recommendation and financial analysis. Students can major in any area of study and must maintain a 2.0 GPA while at Iowa State. For more information and application visit: <http://www.hixson.dso.iastate.edu/>. Application is due **February 1**.

Hawkeye REC \$500 Scholarship

Applicant's parents or guardians must be members of the Hawkeye REC and plan to attend college or technical school, especially those considering Journeyman Lineman School. Must be a US citizen. Download an application at www.hawkeyerec.coop. Return by April 4, 2016 with a copy of high school transcript, letter of recommendation, and essay of minimum 300 words answering the following: How important is social media? Provide examples of how Hawkeye REC can enhance their social media communications.

Calendar

FEBRUARY 2016

- ◆ **Feb 2**—Cresco Clover Kids 3:30-5:30pm
- ◆ **Feb 6**—Elma Clover Kids 9:15-11:00am
- ◆ **Feb 8**—Riceville Clover Kids 3:15-5:15pm
- ◆ **Feb 15**—Record Book Workshop 9-11:30 am Extension Office
- ◆ **Feb 15**—Citizenship 1-2:30 p.m. Extension Office
- ◆ **Feb 15**—Required Leader's Training 6pm Extension Office
- ◆ **Feb 21**—Citizenship Meeting 2pm Decorah
- ◆ **Feb 21**—County Council 5pm Extension Office

MARCH 2016

- ◆ **March 1**—Cresco Clover Kids 3:30-5:30pm
- ◆ **March 2**—Citizenship State Capital Trip
- ◆ **March 5**—Elma Clover Kids 9:15-11:15am
- ◆ **March 12**—Swine Weigh-In 9-11am FFA Shop
- ◆ **March 14**—Riceville Clover Kids 3:15-5:15pm
- ◆ **March 25**—Office Closed

DEADLINES

- ◆ **Feb 1**—State Awards Applications & Scholarships
- ◆ **Feb 12**—RSVP for Record Book Workshop
- ◆ **Feb 10**—RSVP Leader Meeting
- ◆ **Feb 15**—Dog Postcard

FUTURE DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

- ◆ **April 9**—Spring Fair
- ◆ **April 23**—Sheep/Meat Goat Weigh-In
- ◆ **May 24**—FSQA 5-7pm
- ◆ **June 8-9**—Junior Camp
- ◆ **June 13-14**—Junior Camp
- ◆ **June 15-16**—Intermediate Camp



Want to Find Out More?!?

Visit us at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/howard/4h>
Like us on Facebook: Howard County 4-H Follow us on Twitter: