Calendar of Events

March
9th  Ida County Clover Kids 1:00PM
10th Maple Huskies Meeting 1:00PM
10th Grant 4-H’ers Meeting 1:00PM
10th Woodworking Workshop 2:00-4:00PM
10th Ida High Achievers Meeting 5:00PM
10th Logan Hotshots Meeting 5:00PM
12th Ridgeview Clover Kids 3:30PM
15th Fundraiser Pickup 3:00-6:00PM
20th Rabbit Carrier Workshop Signup Deadline
25th 4-H Foundation Scholarships due to Office

April
6th  Derby Swine Weigh-ins 9:00-10:30AM
6th  Rabbit Carrier Workshop 1:00PM
7th  4-H Foundation Pancake Feed 9:30AM-1:00PM
15th Animal Science Round-up Application Deadline
27th Sheep and Goat Weigh-ins 9:00-11:00AM

May
15th Livestock ID Deadline
15th State Fair Swine DNA due to Extension Office

Don’t forget to like the Facebook page—Ida County 4-H!
Information, reminders and pictures are posted to this page!
4-H Fundraiser Pickup March 15th

Thank you to those that sold MinnTex Fruit and Tiefenthaler brat for our county fundraiser. Fundraiser pickup will be on Friday, March 15th from 3:00PM-6:00PM at the Extension Office. Please note the time for pickup has been pushed back by a half an hour. Please make sure you have arrangements for someone to pick up the orders as we do not have room at the Extension Office to store the products!

2019 Equine Extravaganza - March 22-24

We all know that having horses requires more than riding and jumping. The 2019 Equine Extravaganza will be held March 22nd-23rd at the Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls. Get motivated to learn more about the science behind horses at Equine Extravaganza! It isn’t too soon to start gathering a team! Information from previous years is available at https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/equineextravaganza. Check back for 2019 information and registration. If you have never participated before, consider attending this year and observing or jump right in!

Ida County 4-H Foundation Scholarship

The Ida County 4-H Foundation Scholarship Application may be picked up at the Extension Office or online at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ida/4h. The applications are due back to the Extension Office on Monday, March 25th by 4:30PM. The final record book will be due by the deadline provided by the Extension Office. Scholarship applications will be reviewed by the 4-H Scholarship Committee to determine which applications are eligible and how much each will receive. The eligibility requirements are listed below. If you have questions, please contact Laura.

Foundation Requirements Include:
- To have been in 4-H for 5 years, including junior and senior years in high school
- To have exhibited at the Ida County Fair, including at least one Communications Exhibit
- To have completed a record book for 5 years, including junior and senior years in high school
- To have served in a leadership role, such as a club officer or council member
- To have participated in a community service project
- To have participated in spring fundraising efforts during junior and senior years of 4-H
- To have participated in the 4-H Foundation Auction during junior and senior years of 4-H
- Must submit a 4-H Educational Scholarship application form.

Independent members must contact the Ida County 4-H Foundation.

Derby Swine Weigh-in - April 6th

Derby Swine Weigh-ins will be held on Saturday, April 6th from 9:00AM-10:30AM at the Ida County Fairgrounds. You are allowed to weigh in SIX animals. The maximum weight is 60 pounds. Remember, only Derby Pigs need to be weighed in, but all other pigs need to be identified in 4-H Online by May 15th. Ear tags will be available that day or you can stop in at the Extension Office to purchase tags. County tags are $1.50 each and State Fair swine tags are $8 each. Derby pigs that come to the fair will be ultra-sounded after weigh-in at the fair.
Rabbit Carrier Workshop - April 6th
For rabbit enthusiasts—there will be a rabbit carrier workshop on Saturday, April 6th from 1:00-3:00PM at the Extension Office. You can choose the size of carrier you would like to make. Single carriers are $18; Double carriers are $31; Small triple carriers are $34 and Giant single carriers are $26. Handles are available for $1.25/handle. The money must be received at the Extension Office by Wednesday, March 20th to hold your spot! If you have rabbits that need tattooed for fair, Mary Rohlk will be available that day to get it done. Call the Ida County Extension and Outreach Office at 712-364-3003 or email ljohnk@iastate.edu to get signed up!

4-H Foundation Pancake Feed - April 7th
Once again this year, the 4-H Foundation is hosting a Pancake Feed and Silent Auction. It will be on Sunday, April 7, 2019 from 9:30AM-1:00PM at Boulders in Holstein. Proceeds from the 4-H Pancake Feed directly benefit Ida County. The money raised goes to the Ida County 4-H Foundation, a fund to defray the cost of camps and workshops, support scholarships, grant applications for clubs and start up dollars for youth programs including Clover Kids and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). Each Clubs is being asked to work an hour shift and provide 12-15 club members to help out. Laura will be sending more information out to leaders. The cost is $7.00 per person to enjoy pancakes. Children 4-8 is $4.00 and children 3 and under eat for free. Please encourage friends, family and neighbors to come out on April 7th and support Ida County 4-H!

Club Challenge: The Ida County 4-H Foundation is asking that each club once again create a placemat design that will be used on April 7th. Those that attend will vote on their favorite placemat design and clubs will be awarded prize money. Please have your club’s design to Laura by Wednesday, April 3rd. Placemats will be printed on 11x17 paper.

Livestock Quiz Bowl - April 13th
The Livestock Quiz Bowl date is set for April 13, 2019 at Iowa State University. This event is the qualifier for the National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl held during Aksarben each fall. Youth in grades 4-12 may participate and the questions cover beef, goats, sheep and swine. The registration link will be available soon. For more information and study materials go to the quiz bowl webpage. Contact Amy Powell with questions.

Livestock Identification Deadline - May 15th
May is not too far away, please remember, all livestock must be identified in 4-HOnline by 11:59PM on May 15th to exhibit at County Fair, Clay County Fair, State Fair and AK-SAR-BEN. I encourage you to enter your animals before the evening of May 15th in case you have any questions or problems with entering them. You will log in to your 4-HOnline account and select which 4-H’er to enter for and then click on the Animals/Livestock tab in the upper left corner. You will then select the type of animal you want to enter, add the information and save. After the information is entered it will appear under the “Animal List.” I will enter the information from swine and sheep weigh-ins and then send out an email for you to verify the information. Please contact the Extension Office if you need assistance with ID’ing your animals or verifying your animals in 4-HOnline.
YQCA

ALL beef, bucket bottle, swine, sheep, dairy cattle, dairy goat, meat goat, rabbit, and poultry exhibitors are REQUIRED to be YQCA certified to exhibit at the County Fair and State Fair. This certification shows our youth are working and learning to produce healthy, safe and quality food for market. For those of you that have taken the FQSA test in the past, I encourage you to check in 4-HOnline or with me if you are unsure of your certification status for this year. Previous FSQA testing will be honored through the expiration date. If you completed the YQCA training last year, you will have to complete it again this year.

Youth will complete their YQCA certification online at www.yqca.org using your 4HOnline account. Youth will select their training based on their age as of January 1, 2019. The program includes three components for each topic and are designed specifically for age groups. To fulfill their year of training, youth will complete three of these online modules.

1) Knowledge Builder - allows students to read content, watch videos, analyze pictures, and practice skills while progressing through a series of interactive content components.

2) Skills Lab - offers realistic situational opportunities for youth to apply the new knowledge gained in the knowledge builder. These labs take students through a comprehensive journey of the content, requiring them to apply skills and make decisions resembling those they will face in real life.

3) Quiz - The quiz is the final piece of the online learning experience, testing student’s overall knowledge of the content. A pass rate of 80% has been established with students being able to repeat the module if needed.

There is a $12.00 fee associated with YQCA, but this program will be free to 4-H’ers thanks to generous sponsorships from the Ida County 4-H Foundation and Platinum Ethanol. You will need to contact Laura to get your coupon code when you are ready to take the training. This code will cover the $12.00 fee. YQCA Training must be completed by June 1st. I encourage you to get the code from me now and take the training before the weather warms up and we want to be outside all the time!

I will need a copy of your completion certificate that you can download as a PDF and email it to ljohnk@iastate.edu. If you do not have internet access, please contact the Extension Office to set up a time to come use one of our laptops to complete your training.

2019 Ida County Fair

It will be here before we know it. Mark your calendars for the Ida County Fair, July 17-24. Keep watching the upcoming newsletters for exhibit information, schedules, tips and important messages. I am working on updating the fairbook and final schedule and will hopefully have those available to families in May. We hope you are excited to make the 2019 Ida County Fair the best one yet! This year, the fair theme is “A Universe of Possibilities.”

Dog Obedience Training

If you are interested in dog obedience training this year, please send me an email letting me know (ljohnk@iastate.edu) and I will put you on the list. I am currently working on putting meeting dates together and will send you more information once it is available.
Save the Date: Camp Wild

Take a ride on the "WILD" side and mark your calendars to attend Camp Wild, June 8-10, 2019, at Camp Clover Woods near Madrid, Iowa. Camp Wild is offered for youth completing grades 5, 6, and 7 in Spring 2019.

Experience adventure and excitement during three days filled with 4-H camp traditions and favorite activities, including nature hikes, challenge course, creek walk, rock wall, archery, swimming, camp songs, crafts, and campfires. Bring a friend with you and make new ones while you are there too! Camp will run from Saturday, June 8 at 11:00AM until the closing ceremony, starting at 3:15PM on Monday, June 10.

Registration is currently open. Registration Deadline will be May 15, 2019. Register before May 1, 2019 to secure your spot and receive our $200 registration early bird price, $230 for non-4-H youth. Registration costs $220 after May 1 and before May 15, $250 for non-4-H youth. Ida County 4-H Foundation offers financial assistance for 4-H members attending camp. Contact Laura for more information. Scholarships are also available from the Iowa 4-H Foundation, with a May 1st deadline for application. Visit www.iowa4hfoundation.com for information or to apply.

Iowa 4-H Youth Conference

Attention all 4-H’ers, grades 8-12! The dates for this summers 4-H Youth Conference in Ames have been set for June 25-27, 2019. Every June, almost 900 teenagers converge on the campus of Iowa State University for 3 days full of speakers, workshops, mixers, dances, a banquet, and community service activities. During the three day conference, experience dorm life and make new friends from across the state. This event is open to all Iowa youth who have completed the 8th grade so invite your friends! More details can be found at https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference.

Animal Science Round-Up

All youth in 8-12th grade are invited to apply to attend a three-day conference all about animal science. Species that you may choose from are beef, dairy, horse, meat goat, poultry, sheep and swine. Hands-on learning from the top scientists in the county. Activities included: dissection, ration formulations, meats, reproduction, selection, careers, competitions and more.

For more information or to apply visit: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/animalscienceroundup. All applications are due April 15th and participants will be notified by May 1st.

Financial Assistance for 4-H Activities

Summer will be here before we know it and during the summer there are lots of 4-H opportunities for camps and 4-H related activities. Just a reminder that the Ida County 4-H Foundation will provide financial assistance to those 4-H members that wish to attend camps, State 4-H conference, etc. 4-H’ers just need to complete the grant application form and turn it into the Extension Office.

General Livestock Update

4-H 202 - UPDATED The official document on identification, ownership and eligibility for livestock shows. You are responsible for following these guidelines when exhibiting 4-H Livestock. You can get this document from the office or online at https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/194.

The State 4-H Website - this is located at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock. This website has many resources for exhibitors and their families.
Healthy Living Club Challenge

It’s back again! The challenge started December 1st, but it’s not too late to join! The challenge will run through May 31st. Clubs can take part in the Healthy Living Club Challenge by introducing a variety of healthy living practices during club meetings each month and earn their “miles” as they race across Iowa. This 1,400 mile route destination fulfills the definition of a challenge, but by working together as a team and setting goals to incorporate healthy living practices each month, we hope to see you meet or surpass the final mile by the end of May!

Water - Offer water as the main beverage as meetings. Try infusing the water with fruit. 75 miles
Fruits and Veggies - include a fruit or vegetable as a snack. 100 miles
Physical Activity - organize a physical activity to get everyone moving for 10-15 minutes. 125 miles

Watch the website for bonus challenges throughout the year! https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/healthy-living-club-challenge

AKSARBEN Stock Show Update

The AKSARBEN Stock Show will transition to a junior livestock format in 2019; therefore, all AKSARBEN animals will be both identified and entered for the show through AKSARBEN. County offices will no longer be able to process any AKSARBEN information. https://www.aksarbenstockshow.com/

Clothing and Communications Judging

It’s not too early to mark your calendars! This year, the dates for Clothing and Communications Judging will be Wednesday, July 10th. Entry forms will be available at a later date.