MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Happy Holidays to everyone from the ISU Extension & Outreach Staff. Thank you to those who participated in the 4-H Festival of Trees again this year. It was a huge success and the court house looks amazing. As Jasper County residents attended the festival following the court house lighting, they were not only aware of the Jasper County 4-H Program, but also the generosity and commitment to community service of our 4-H’ers and leaders.

MARKET BEEF WEIGH IN

All market beef, junior feeders, & plus 1 calves will be weighed in on Tuesday, Dec 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Colfax Livestock Sale Barn.

Weigh In info will be entered into 4hOnline, and exhibitors will have until February 1st to verify in 4-H On-Line that the info entered is correct. After that date all info stands as entered. If you intend to show in a breed steer class at the Iowa State Fair, in 4-HOnline at weigh in time, we just need to know what breed you are exhibiting the calf in. You will need to have your calf tattooed and the registration papers brought to the state fair at check in time. 4-H & FFA members will need to fill out and sign 106 forms at the time of weigh-in if they are planning to exhibit at the COUNTY FAIR. The verification process for the Iowa State Fair, & Ak-Sar-Ben will be done by retinal scanning. Cost for verification of calves for County Fair only is $2.00 for the tag. For State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben the cost is $7.00 ($2 for the tag and $5 for the retinal image). FFA will need to have an FFA tag, nose prints and DNA pulled for state fair. Tag only for county fair. The cost is $5 for the prints and DNA process.
The Iowa State 4-H Youth Conference dates have been set for June 27 - 29. This year’s theme is “Start Your Future Here”. This is a great opportunity to experience college life, attend educational & informative workshops, as well as fun events, including dances and a formal banquet. Registration will be done on-line and open on the State 4-H Website in March.

If you’re interested in animal science, look into becoming part of the ROUND-UP track! We’ll also have a special track devoted to agronomy, called CSI: Crops. Each Roundup species (beef, dairy cattle, horse, sheep, & swine) will be limited to 20 applicants for each species. Applications will be posted in Jan. and due around March 1. Youth not selected for Roundup are still encouraged to attend State 4-H Conference, as there are Ag related workshops for that as well. Be watching for further information and applications.

MEALS FROM THE HEARTLAND

I have talked with Mike Frandson, with Meals from the Heartland. We have set, SATURDAY, February, 25th for our 4-H Packaging Event. If your club would like to help with this event please let me (Stacey) know. We would like to ask for a club donation of $100 from each club participating. However, if this is a problem, let me know and we will figure something out. Everyone who wants to do this should have the opportunity to help. It’s just that someone has to pay for the food. Our goal is to raise $3,260 or more this year, including the youth grant from MFT.

Not all the meals packaged go to overseas. Joel told me that last year 600,000 of them stayed in the US, and 300,000 stayed in Iowa. They packaged 7.8 million meals all together with approximately two million of them going to Haiti, two million going to South Africa, & 285,000 to Mexico. This project seems like such a good fit for 4-H kids, because in most cases it turns out to be “kids helping kids with Hands for Larger Service!” There are some schools that receive these meals in some of these countries and the only reason kids show up to school is not to learn, but rather to have something to eat!!

The first year we did this we packaged 6,480 meals, 2nd year 23,544 meals, 3rd year, 31,140 meals and last year 29,592! How AWESOME is that?! Let’s keep the momentum going and package even more this year. With the donations from your clubs, money the Extension Council grants us, and I’m checking in to withdrawing money from our Geisler Penquite Endowment fund for this year, I know we can do it!

STATE RECORDKEEPING AWARDS

Did you receive a “Top” Project Award at your county awards program? If so, why not consider taking your recordkeeping skills to the next level? The State 4-H Recognition Day will be held on Saturday, April 1, 2017 on the Iowa State University campus. For information about the recognition opportunities, please visit the 4-H Recognition Opportunities website: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/recognition-opportunities. Application materials will be updated in November. Please contact Cayla Taylor, 515-294-1877 or cayla@iastate.edu for more information.

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS
COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

The Jasper County Council will be meeting Sunday, Dec. 18th at 3:00, in the Extension & Outreach Office for our Dec. meeting and Christmas Party. We will be making no sew blankets to donate to the Joppa House in Des Moines. Please bring at least one piece of fleece that is 2 and ½ yards in size, and a snack to share. I will provide a hot chocolate bar, Christmas movie, and games. See you there. 😊

SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP

We will hold a free Scholarship Workshop at the Extension office on Sunday, January 15th at 3:00 p.m. to walk you through the application process. This will be a 45 minute workshop and parents are encouraged to attend, if available. We will also be here to help anyone who would like to apply for a State Project Recordkeeping Award. State 4-H Scholarships are due Feb. 1. Please call the Extension Office to register at 641-792-6433.

RECORDBOOK WORKSHOP

Looking for something to do over Christmas break? Join us for a record book workshop on Wednesday, Dec 29th from 3:00 to 4:30. Learn basic record keeping skills and how to take your record book to the next level. It's never too early to set your 4-H goals for the year. If you are interested in applying for a State Record Keeping Award we can help you with that also. We will have door prizes and refreshments. Call the Extension Office to register at 641-792-6433.

STATE VOLUNTEER LEADER'S RETREAT

Volunteers, staff, and 4-H members in 7th through 12th grades (youth should be involved in leadership projects at a club, or county level) are invited to attend this annual event! The Retreat is designed as a train-the-trainer event and participants are encouraged to use information from the sessions to teach 4-H members in their clubs and counties.

For more information and to register go to www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/state-volunteer-retreat

February 3 - 4, 2017 (Tentative Dates)
Location: Iowa State University, Ames
The 2017 State Volunteer Retreat is FREE to Jasper County Volunteers

OUR VISION

A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE
SUPER CLOVER KIDS

The Jasper County Super Clover Kids will be meeting at DMACC in room 210A on Tuesday, December 20th at 6:30 to 7:30 pm. The group will be making Christmas ornaments and have a presentation on bearded dragons.

INTERMEDIATE CAMP – “IN”

Since we didn’t have an Intermediate Camp Out this fall, we are having a regional “Camp-In” instead. This event is for 7th and 8th Graders and will be January 20th & 21st. Information has been mailed to you and see flyer and registration form enclosed.

BABYSITTING CLASS

Are you interested in babysitting and in grades 5th through 8th? Jasper County Extension & Outreach will be holding a babysitting clinic on January 16th, from 9:00 to 3:00, and January 23rd, from 4:30 to 6:00 at the Monroe Public Library. You must attend both classes to receive your certificate and the cost of the clinic is $20. Registration deadline is Wednesday, January 11. To register please call the Monroe Public Library at 641-259-3065 or the Jasper County Extension Office at 641-792-6433.

JASPER COUNTY GEARBOTS - VERY EXCITING NEWS!!

The Jasper County Gearbots recently competed at a Regional Competition in Ottumwa, where they earned three awards. The Global Innovation Award, Robot Performance 1st place, and honorable mention Champion Award. They will be attending a state competition on January 4th at Iowa State where they will compete for the State Global Innovation Award. They have worked hard! Congratulations Gearbots!! 😊

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.
CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS (CWF) TRIP

Looking for an experience of a lifetime? Look no further than the Citizenship Washington Focus trip where you as a 9th-12th grader can travel by charter bus to visit Washington D.C. and the National 4-H Center. Experience leadership and citizenship on a higher level with this epic opportunity on June 16-24, 2017.

Trip highlights include the Flight 93 Museum, Gettysburg Battlefield, Capitol Hill, Smithsonian Museum, Mount Vernon and the Holocaust Museum. Youth will also meet with the Iowa Congressional and Senate delegations to discuss legislative issues. Besides tours and workshops, 4-H'ers will have time for socializing and meeting new friends!

Cost of the trip is $1,570. This includes lodging, transportation, tour site admissions and most meals. Registration and a $510 deposit will be required to secure a spot. Space is limited. Registration deadline is January 6, 2017. To learn more about the trip and to get registration information visit: www.extension.4h.edu/4h/cwf

In the past, the Jasper County Extension Council has paid for 1/3 of the trip cost for any Jasper County 4-H member attending for the first time. That will probably be the case this year as well, depending on the number of participants going from Jasper County.
**JANUARY 1, 2017** - The Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) will take effect. How you use certain feed and water-based antibiotics will change.

- **What?** A veterinary feed directive (VFD) is a written statement given to an animal owner by a veterinarian that is similar to a prescription. The written statement allows the owner of the animal to purchase and use animal feed containing a VFD drug or combination drug to treat an animal according to the veterinarian’s orders.

- **Why?** Medically important antibiotics will no longer be available to use for growth promotion. The use of these products for prevention, treatment or control of a specific disease will require direct veterinary supervision. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has stated this directive is necessary to protect public health, limit the potential of antimicrobial resistance and to promote the cautious use of these animal health products only when appropriate.

- **How?** Read the label! All feeds containing VFD drugs must have the following statement: “Caution: Federal law restricts medicated feed containing this veterinary feed directive (VFD) drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.”

  - Youth must obtain a VFD order from their veterinarian, then send or take the VFD order to a feed manufacturer or supplier to get the VFD feed. If you manufacture your own feed you must have a VFD to get the medicated feed.
  - VFD feed must be fed according to the information on the label and on the VFD. You must also follow the expiration date on the VFD. VFD feed cannot be fed to animals after the VFD has expired.

### Antibiotic Examples:

- Penicillins
- Glycopeptides
- Cephalosporins
- Tetracyclines
- Macrolides
- Sulfas
- Fluroroquinolones

### Common Names:

- Chlorotetracycline (CTC)
- Aureomycin
- Tylan
- Lincomycin

### Components of a VFD

- Veterinarian’s contact information
- Producer’s contact information
- Location of animals prescribed the VFD
- Date VFD was written
- Expiration date of VFD
- Name of drug
- Species of animals being fed the VFD
- Number of animals to be fed VFD
- Why the drug was prescribed
- Withdrawal time
- Refills
- VFD statement
- Veterinarian’s signature
Antibiotics are just one way producers use to treat, control and prevent animal illnesses therapeutically. Changes in the new VFD ruling prohibits antibiotic use solely for growth promotion.

**Plan Ahead**

- Establish A Working Relationship With Your Veterinarian
- Only feed animal feed containing a VFD drug to animals that were prescribed the VFD.
- Do not feed animals a VFD after the expiration date on the VFD.
- Provide a copy of the VFD feed order to the place where you purchase your feed.
- Record all VFD's on your feed and medication records
- Keep a copy of the VFD order for a minimum of two years
- Provide VFD orders for inspection and copying by the FDA upon request.

**Checklist for Producers**

Do you have a valid Vet-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR) with your Vet?  

Have you reviewed all animal health products, vaccinations, and medications currently being used for your animals?  

Do you know which medications you use can still be purchased over-the-counter or will now need a VFD?  

Do you have a plan in place to store copies of written VFD records for at least 2 years?

For More Information: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock)

Authors: Amy Powell and Mike Anderson - Iowa State University Extension and Outreach; additional information provided by University of Wisconsin Extension, [http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/vfd/](http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/vfd/)

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Direct inquiries to Ross Wilburn, 515-294-1482, wilburn@iastate.edu
2017 4-H Livestock Rule Changes/Updates

4-H Livestock Homepage: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock

- Use the above website to get to all things livestock-related
- Refer to 4-H 202 document: Iowa 4-H Livestock Show Requirements – this document is under updates per the following new rules/policies and will be available in early December

New Ak-Sar-Ben Identification Policy

- Ak-Sar-Ben will now be accepting retinal images as an acceptable form of identification for 2017
- Market Beef, Market Sheep, Market Meat Goats
  - The $5/head nomination fee collected at weigh-in will nominate the animal for BOTH State Fair AND Ak-Sar-Ben – no hair DNA is needed to collect
  - In 4hOnline, be sure to mark the “Retinal Image” checkbox; if the animal is for State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben or both
  - State 4-H staff will send a 4hOnline report to Ak-Sar-Ben staff for all animals with the box checked – be sure families look at the data in 4hOnline to be sure it’s correct!!
- Swine - Ak-Sar-Ben swine will still need a hair DNA sample and $5/head fee for Ak-Sar-Ben – no change in policy – DNA and payment need to be sent directly to Ak-Sar-Ben by their June 15 deadline
  - Swine ID’ed by May 15th, need to be in 4hOnline

New Horse & Dog Identification Rule

- For 2017, immediate family members (siblings/step-siblings) can co-identify the same horse(s) or dog(s).
  - Each dog/horse must still be identified in 4hOnline under each sibling/4-H member
  - No change in rule that the animal is EITHER identified as 4-H or FFA, not both
  - Siblings must both be in 4-H to identify the same dog/horse
  - State Fair (and recommended for county fairs) – the same animal will only be allowed to show in a class ONCE – for example, a 5th grade 4-H’er cannot show a horse in barrels, and the 8th grade sibling show the same horse in barrels; however, the other sibling could show that same horse in pole bending for example
- Reminder: Each 4-H member will still be allowed to ID a max. of 5 horses; of those 5, a max. of 2 can be leased – halter horses are NOT allowed to be leased and must be owned

4HOnline Livestock Identification

- There are some animal ID field updates that better-match what the field is used for
- This will allow any reports run in 4HOnline for animal ID to be cleaner and more accurate for counties
- Ear Tags for Weigh-In type animals—Be sure they are entered correctly!
  - “Old” type of 4-H tag: Enter county code, ear tag # (Ex. “85-245”) (85 Story County code)
  - New USDA type tags: Enter the 3 letters, 4 numbers only (Do NOT enter the “42” U.S. code) i.e. enter as JJK3645 (Do NOT put the “42” OR your 2-digit county code in front!)
**Beef**

➤ State Fair will be dropping the 3% shrink allowance in calculating average daily gain - the gain calculation will just simply take fair weight minus beginning weight divided by days on feed

➤ The current ADG requirement of 2.4 for market steers and 2.2 for market heifers will be adjusted down slightly to reflect the 3% shrink removal. The estimated market steer requirement will be roughly 2.3 or 2.35.

➤ Beef Herdsmanship will continue for 2017

**Dairy Goat**

➤ State Fair will implement a new rule for 4-H, FFA and Open Class – no horns will be allowed on animals

**Dog**

➤ Classes are being re-written to better align with American Kennel Club (AKC) rules

➤ County fairs should adopt these class changes so that we can have consistency across the state

➤ New class descriptions will be available on the 4-H Dog page

**Horse**

➤ Reminder: Halter horses MUST be owned by the 4-H member, cannot be leased; proof of ownership will be required during State Fair check-in for halter classes

➤ State Fair - adding Miniature Horse Obstacle Driving class; dropping the 2/3 year old Western Pleasure class

**Swine**

➤ State Fair – breeding gilts will NOT be allowed to sell on the truck; breeding gilts will all return home and will be released after their show on Monday

➤ Reminder: All county fairs must register their county fair swine show and then fill out the swine show reporting form within 5 days of the county fair swine show completion

**Event Changes/Updates**

➤ 4-H Youth Equine Extravaganza
  - March 4, 5, 6, 2016
  - Location: Ellsworth Community College, Iowa Falls (Equine Center)

➤ 4-H Animal Science Roundup
  - Adding Poultry track for 2017
  - Horse track may be suspended for 2017 due to staffing changes – stay tuned
  - Applications will be due in March