HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It's hard to believe the county fair will be here in a little over six months. This would be a good time to set some 4-H goals and also to check with your 4-H leader to make sure you are a 4-H member in good standing. To be eligible to exhibit at the Jasper County Fair, you must have attended at least 50% of your club meetings or activities, have paid your membership fee, and be enrolled in at least one project area. If you need help with any of this, please contact your leader or Stacey at the Extension & Outreach Office.

LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION

If you weighed in market cattle you will need to go into your 4hOnline account and verify that the info entered is correct. You will have until February 1st to do this. After February 1st the information will stand as entered. This is not an actual fair entry. You will need to enter the animal for county fair by May 15.

4-H ACTIVITY CANCELLATIONS

Please listen to KCOB for cancellations of 4-H events due to inclement weather.
**DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT**

Get your teams together for a fun time and also to support Meals From the Heartland!! Saturday, January 23rd: from 1:00 to 4:00 pm, at the Family Life Center in Prairie City. Eight man teams with the cost of each team being $30. If you want to be on a team and don’t have a team of eight, we will find a team for you to be on. Individual price is $5.00. All proceeds from registration and the concession stand will go to the Meals From the Heartland fund. **PLEASE LET ME KNOW BY THURSDAY, 1/21 IF YOU WILL HAVE A TEAM IN THE TOURNAMENT.** [willosnl@iastate.edu](mailto:willosnl@iastate.edu)

**STATE 4-H YOUTH CONFERENCE**

Youth Conference dates have been set for June 28th through June 30. This year’s theme is “Dive to New Depths”. This is a great opportunity to experience college life, attend fun events including dances and a formal banquet, as well as informative workshops. This event is free for Jasper County 4-H’ers. For more information please contact Stacey at [willosnl@iastate.edu](mailto:willosnl@iastate.edu) or log into [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference).

**ANIMAL SCIENCE ROUND UP** - Youth will be selected by application only this year and only 20 kids per species.

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**COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY - CARD SHOWER**

This year during our Meals From the Heartland Event we will have a station set up to make St. Patrick’s Day cards to take to nursing homes. You will be able to participate in this activity if you have to wait until your assigned time to package meals or feel free to join us early, or stay after your shift to help with this project.

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**MEALS FROM THE HEARTLAND**

Sunday, February, 28th has been set for our Meals From the Heartland 4-H Packaging Event. If your club would like to help with this event please let me (Stacey) know, so that I can get a schedule together. This year we will try to set up & work as clubs. 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.

Not all the meals packaged go to overseas. I was told 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!" 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!!

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**4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS**
IOWA STATE FAIR LITTLE HANDS ON THE FARM

The Iowa State Fair would like to invite 4-H Clubs to help staff their Little Hands on the Farm Display during the 2016 Iowa State Fair. You would need to staff one of the three shifts during an assigned day. Volunteers would receive one admission ticket, one vehicle permit and a Little Hands on the Farm T-Shirt. They are ready to start scheduling shifts so if you are interested in this opportunity, contact Emily Wynn at 515-401-1544 or ewynn@iowastatefair.org.

4-H HALL OF FAME

2016 Hall of Fame
The Iowa 4-H Youth Development Program and the Iowa 4-H Foundation are sponsoring the 14th annual 4-H Hall of Fame at the Iowa State Fair to recognize volunteers and staff who have exhibited outstanding service to the 4-H program. Do you know someone to nominate? Go to www.iowa4hfoundation.org/iowa_4h_hall_of_fame for more information.

STATE VOLUNTEER LEADER’S RETREAT

Volunteers, staff, and 4-H members in 7th through 12th grades (youth should be involved in leadership at project, 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.
To register go www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/state-volunteer-retreat registration deadline is January 22.
February 5 - 6, 2016
Location: Iowa State University, Ames
The 2014 State Volunteer Retreat is FREE!
Registration is limited to first 100 people.

THE HORSE PROJECT CLUB

The Horse Project Club will meet from 1 – 3 pm on Saturday, Jan. 30th at the Extension & Outreach Office to work on projects for the Equine Extravaganza and County Fair. Bring your supplies and $$$ for pizza. If you have any questions contact Vicki Wade at 641-521-5775.

OUR VISION

A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSTIVE CHANGE
Do you enjoy welding, or would like to learn how to weld? This year will be the third year for the Bucket of Junk Contest at the Jasper County Fair. The Bucket of Junk rules are listed below. If you are interested in participating, please call the Extension Office on Monday, February 22nd. We will take reservations for participation in the project starting on Monday, February 22nd. If you are a youth that would like to participate but do not know an adult that can help you weld, please call the Extension Office to sign-up and we will find an adult to work with you. There are only 8 buckets available, so if you sign-up please be sure that you want to participate in the project. To sign up simply be one of the first eight callers to the Extension Office on Monday, Feb 22nd, letting us know you want to participate in this contest. Our office hours are 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Rules:
- Each team will be made up of one 4-H member and one adult.
- If you are a youth that would like to participate but do not know an adult who can help you, please contact the Extension Office and we will find an adult who knows how to weld to help you.
- Each team will get one bucket. Each bucket will have the similar “junk.”
- There will be only 8 buckets available. The first 8 members to contact the Extension Office will be given a bucket of junk.
- The goal is to use the items in your bucket to create a sculpture or lawn art piece.
- You will be asked to name your creation when you turn in the final exhibit.
- You may clean, sand, weld, glue, cut, bolt, fasten, bend, shape, paint or finish the items that you are provided, but no pieces may be added.
- Entries will be judged on artistic merit, technical merit, and the member’s exhibit write-up.
- All entries will be judged in the 4-H Building on the day of regular 4-H/FFA judging.
- All entries must be completed and returned to the Jasper County Extension Office by June 1st.
- All 4-H Exhibit Building rules apply to this project.
- These projects will not be eligible to advance to the State Fair.
- The finished products will be auctioned during the livestock auction at the Jasper County Fair. Proceeds will go to the Jasper County 4-H Program.
- When designing your sculpture pay close attention to Copyright/Trademark designs. You may need to send a request for permission letter/email.

Please contact the Extension at 641-792 6433 or wilsonsl@iastate.edu for more information.
GEARBOT NEWS-

Good Luck to Jasper County 4-H Gearbots. They will be participating in the State FLL Competition on Saturday, January, 16th at Iowa State University. The team has worked hard and has accomplished a lot. We wish them well as they attend this competition.

EQUINE EXPERIENCE NEWS-

The Equine Experience special interest group (this is the group that holds mounted meetings at the fairgrounds and hosts the pre-fair horse show) will be under new leadership this year. Denise Fick and Alex Cleverly will be leading this club. Be watching for information regarding an informational meeting to be held in Feb. to discuss practice times and meeting places. Feel free to contact Denise at Fickdenise@aol.com or Alex at alcleverley@gmail.com if you have any questions about this club.

SWINE NEWS -

Swine Verification
Swine Verification will be held on Sunday April 24th (the tentative date set earlier on the yearly calendar listed Sat. the 23rd for the date. It is on Sunday), from 2 to 4 pm.

New Pens
The Jasper County Swine Barn pens are in need of repairs and updates with the barn being used for different events throughout the year. The decision has been made to replace the current swine pens with new updated pens. The cost of this project is high and we are seeking donations and grants for new swine pens. If you or a family member is interested in donating to make this project happen, please make checks out to the Jasper County Agricultural Society Foundation, and send donations to Kara Warrick, 10463 E 106th St S, Sully IA 50151 or Doyle Ver Ploeg, 6705 Hwy T38 S, Lynnville IA 50153. For more information, please contact Kara at 515-313-3651 or Doyle at 641-527-2772.

EQUINE EXTRAVAGANZA-

The Equine Extravaganza is March 4 – 6 at the Ellsworth Equestrian Center in Iowa Falls. If you love horses and want to participate in contests where horse ownership is not required, this event is for you. To find out what it's all about, and how to register log on to the following website.
http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/equineextravaganza

4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH
WHAT IS DUE WHEN FOR THE JASPER COUNTY FAIR

As a reminder to 4-H'ers and to inform new families the following guideline will be in every newsletter from here on out (providing there is room). If entries are late they are brought before a committee and the decision is made as if the 4-H'er will be allowed to exhibit. We hate to keep anyone from showing at the fair however; it's not fair to those who get their entries in correctly and on time. Hopefully, this will help, and remember... If in doubt ASK!

**May 15** – Identify all animals in 4hOnline this includes Breeding Beef, Bottle Calves, Dairy Cattle, Dairy & Meat Goats, Dogs, Horses, Sheep, & Swine, Rabbits, Cats, & Poultry (Market Beef are done in Dec/Jan following weigh in.)

**May 15**- County Fair Entry Process –be watching future newsletters and email for more information and help sheets for county fair entry.

**July 1**- Entries for Communications- Working Exhibits, Share the Fun, Extemporaneous Speaking, & Educational Presentations. Clothing Selection and Fashion Review Entries are also do July 1st.

**July 1**- STATE FAIR ENTRY FORM DUE

**July 13**- 4-H Building Exhibits Entries Due. This was done in 4hOnline last year, and worked out very well.

Again this year, ALL paper work needs to be complete when you bring your projects to the fair. We will no longer have forms, goal sheets, and tags available in the 4-H building.

MEAT JUDGING TEAM-

The 4-H Meat Judging Team will have an informational meeting this Sunday, Jan. 17 at 3:00 at the Extension & Outreach Office. Parents are welcome as we will be deciding on practice times this spring. If you are even the slightest bit interested in finding out what this is all about, please join us. Chelsey and Breanna Branderhorst will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

Join their Facebook page – Jasper County 4-H Meat Judging Team.

4-H ARCHERY CLUB-

The 4-H Archery Club will meet at the Extension & Outreach Office on Saturday, Jan. 30th at 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome. Please check their FB page (4H Jasper County Archery Club) for more information.
FSQA – FOOD SAFETY QUALITY ASSURANCE – REQUIRED FOR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

FSQA TRAINING IS REQUIRED FOR ANY YOUTH PLANNING TO SHOW RABBITS, POULTRY, DAIRY, GOATS, BEEF, SWINE, & SHEEP (BOTH MARKET AND BREEDING CLASSES) AT THE JASPER COUNTY OR IOWA STATE FAIR.

FSQA Training for Jasper County 4-H and FFA Members will be held on Tuesday, March 22nd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at DMACC in Newton. Tests will be available for those in 7th – 12th grade who wish to test out.

- Youth in grades 4 – 6, on January 1 must attend a training each year.
- Youth in grades 7, 8, & 9 on January 1 may attend training each year or take a test. Youth passing the test will then be certified until they enter 10th grade.
- Youth in grades 10, 11, & 12 on January 1 may attend the training each year or take the test. We strongly encourage these youth to test out because they will then be certified until the age of 20.

If you need to know if your certificate is valid for this year, you can check your 4hOnline acct.
If you need a manual to study for the test, they are on the State 4-H Livestock page. If you have any questions please call me (Stacey) at the Extension & Outreach Office at 641 792 6433. Also call the Extension & Outreach Office to register for this class by March 21st.

If this date does not work for you, you will need to make arrangements to test at a neighboring county. We can help you with that.

STATE 4-H RECOGNITION

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 2nd, 2016 on the Iowa State University campus. Applications are due 2/1/16.
The State 4-H Recognition help sheets, evaluations, and online application links are now posted and ready for all Iowa 4-H’ers to access at the web link below.
How about applying for one of the other State Recognition Opportunities?
-National 4-H Conference
-National 4-H Congress
-State 4-H Council
-Shooting Sports Ambassador Program
-State Project Award (may apply for up to two project areas)

For information about the recognition opportunities, please visit the 4-H Recognition Opportunities website: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/recognition-opportunities. Please contact Cayla Taylor, 515-294-1877 or cayla@iastate.edu for more information.
Tentative Schedule

9:45    Registration
10:10   Welcome & Introductions
10:30   Session 1
11:20   Session 2
12:05   Lunch group A/ Clovers or No Clovers & Bio-security Scavenger Hunt
1:00    Lunch group B/ Clovers or No Clovers & Bio-security Scavenger Hunt
2:00    Session 3
2:50    Session 4
3:40    Wrap Up & Evaluation
4:00    Optional FSQA testing for 4th-12th graders

Bring a feed sample and a hay sample from home!

Break Out Sessions:
- Speak Out for Agriculture—Hannah Brockshus & Darcie Kramer
- From Grass to Manure—Dr. Dan Berkland, Sibley Vet Clinic & Mark Jensen, ILCC Beef Instructor
- Feeding Frenzy—Dr. Beth Doran, ISU Extension Beef Specialist & Gary Eckelberg, Ralco Feeds
- Rumen Digestion—Amy Powell & Julie Naig, ISU Extension

Registration Form—Space is Limited

Please turn this form in to:
Emmet County Extension Office, 26 S. 17 St., Estherville, Iowa, 51334
by FEBRUARY 5, 2016 with registration fee ($5 per youth or adult attending). Fees are non-refundable.
Make Checks to: Emmet County Extension

Primary Contact Name:

Street Address: ______________________________ City: __________________

Home Phone Number: __________________________ Cell Phone: ______________

Email Address: ________________________________

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The fees for service will be used to offset direct expenses and to support the 4-H Youth Development County Extension Program.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach programs are available to all without regard to race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran.
Clinics held Friday night through Sunday afternoon where you will have the opportunity to bring your own cattle in, and work one-on-one with Kirk as he works on clipping, fitting, showmanship, feeding, and the basics of managing your show cattle. Cattle arrive anytime between 3:00 and 6:00 on Friday. Saturday and Sunday begin at 8:00 am and will conclude no later than 4:00 on Sunday.

**PRIZES! DRAWINGS! FREE EVENT T-SHIRT!**

**LEARN TECHNIQUES ON**
- Clipping
- Fitting
- Nutrition
- Showday Dress
- Showmanship
- Daily Care

Supplies to bring include a blocking chute, blower, wash supplies, showstick, adhesives, hair care products and any fitting and showing supplies that you would use on show day. Suggested Clippers: Andis 2-speeds, beef head or hair head. Suggested Blades: super blocking or blocking blade, T-84 blade, medium blending blade, HT 5/8 blade.

**PRESENTED BY THE MARION COUNTY BEEF SUPERINTENDENTS**

- Registration due by March 1, 2016 -

Registration forms available at the Marion County Extension Office and Iowa State Savings Bank.

**CONTACTS**

Casey Gerhardt  phone: 641.828.8000
Trey Schneider  phone: 641.891.7737
Marion County Extension Office phone: 641.842.2014