

# Keokuk County 4-H Family Newsletter

## March - April 2023



### IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 1st:**  
Spring Leaders Training
- **March 10th:**  
4-H Lock-In
- **March 15th:**  
Horse Department Meet & Greet
- **March 25th:**  
Swine Weigh-In
- **April 1st:**  
Communication Workshop
- **April 14th:**  
Intermediate Trip
- **May 6th:**  
Sheep/Goat Weigh-In
- **May 9th:**  
Dog Practices Begin
- **May 15th:**  
4-H Online Animal ID Due
- **June 1st:**  
FairEntry Opens
- **June 1st:**  
YQCA due
- **June 11th:**  
Clothing Event
- **June 17th:**  
Achievement Day
- **July 1st:**  
FairEntry Due
- **July 9th-16th :**  
Expo Fair

### You make a difference!

Thank you all for another great 4-H enrollment fundraiser! The Butter Braids are always a hit! Preparations for the 2023 Keokuk County Expo are in full swing! Please check out some important reminders and resources in this newsletter.

#### ISU Extension and Outreach Keokuk County

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Sigourney, Iowa 52591  
641-622-2680

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Office hours: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM  
[www.extension.iastate.edu/keokuk](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/keokuk)

 [Iowa State University Extension: Keokuk County](https://www.facebook.com/IowaStateUniversityExtensionKeokukCounty)



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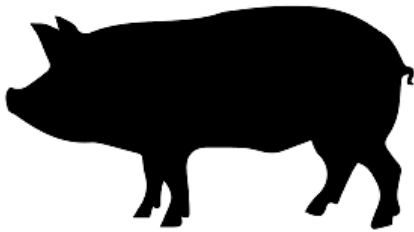


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# SAVE THE DATE

## Livestock Weigh-Ins



### Swine Weigh-In

Saturday, March 25th, 2023

8am-10am

at the Keokuk County Fairgrounds

- Only swine that are going to show in the Derby or Farm Class in the 2023 Swine Show **must** attend weigh-in. However, all swine will need to be ear notched and tagged. We encourage all swine exhibitors to bring their swine to weigh-in
- If you plan to attend swine weigh-in be on the look out for a sign-up sheet.
- All swine need to have 4-H or FFA tags in their ears.
- Derby pigs can have a **maximum beginning weight of 75lbs. No Exceptions!**
- A maximum of 10 swine per exhibitor may be weighed in.
- State Fair DNA tagging will cost \$9.00 per swine. You may pay at weigh-in or the office can bill you after weigh-in.
- Families who will be DNA tagging swine for State Fair on their own need to contact the Extension Office to arrange a time to pick up DNA tags, envelope, and tagging supplies. These families need to return the DNA samples to the Extension Office by May 6th, 2023.
- All new members/families need to turn in an origin premise ID number, origin farm name, and origin address to the Extension Office by May 15th, 2023.
- Any purebred animal showing at Expo Fair needs to turn in a copy of the registration papers at the time of weigh-in or to the Extension Office.





# Sheep & Goat Weigh-In



**Saturday, May 6th, 2023 8:00-10:00AM**

**Livestock Barn on Expo Fairgrounds, 400 220th Ave, Sigourney, IA 52591**

**Please read the important information below!**

- ♦ **ALL Sheep and Goats MUST attend weigh-in**
- ♦ Weigh-In will include ALL 4-H and FFA County and State Fair animals.
- ♦ All State Fair lambs will be retinal scanned and MUST attend weigh-in.
- ♦ State Fair scanning is \$8.00 per animal for in county.
- ♦ If a truck load has multiple exhibitors' animals in it, please weigh-in all animals for the first exhibitor before moving to the next exhibitor's animals.
- ♦ If you cannot attend this weigh-in, you must attend in another county. Contact the Extension Office so we can make arrangements with another county.
- ♦ All families are required to enter their sheep/goat information in 4-HOnline by May 15th, 2023. No Exceptions! This is only 9 days after weigh-in!
- ♦ Any purebred animal showing at Expo Fair needs to turn in a copy of registration at weigh-in or to the Extension Office by July 1st, 2023.
- ♦ A maximum of eight goats per exhibitor can be weighed in for county and out of county events, but no more than two per class.
- ♦ You may nominate 6 lambs for a pen with a minimum of 2 and up to 4 returning to Expo.
- ♦ All goats and sheep must have a 4-H/FFA tag and an official USDA Scrapie tag.



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# Keokuk County 4-H Lock-In

Come and join us for a fun filled night of games and making new friends! If you would like to come you must fill out the Keokuk County 4-H Lock-In Registration. The registration can be found at the Extension Office or on the website. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

We need volunteers! If you are a parent and would like to stay and volunteer you must complete a background screening. Please contact the Extension Office!

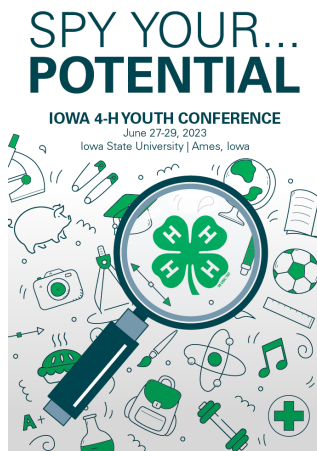
## 2023 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference

**Who:** ALL youth in 8th-12th grades

**When:** June 27-29, 2023

**Where:** Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Registration opens in March!



If you have completed 8th grade, you are eligible to attend Iowa 4-H Youth Conference. You don't even have to be in 4-H! You will get to experience the campus life and meet new people from across the state! You will have fun, while learning by doing, dancing, and serving the community. There are so many opportunities for you to share your talents with the rest of the state!



If you have completed 8th grade and are interested in dog, beef, dairy cattle, horse, poultry, sheep, or swine be sure to check out Animal Science Round Up!

This event runs at the same time as 4-H Youth Conference. The difference between the two events is Youth Conference you pick from a variety of workshops for each day and Animal Science Round Up you spend the three days taking a deep dive into your specific animal species with others who have the same passion. Space is limited for Animal Science Round up and youth must apply and be selected to participate. More information will be available soon at: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/animalscienceroundup>



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**Anyone** showing any of the following animals at the 2023 Keokuk County Expo Fair or Iowa State Fair **must** take the YQCA test.

Beef...Dairy Cattle or Goat... Meat Goat... Poultry... Rabbit... Sheep...Swine

- **Coupon Codes will be available from the Keokuk County Extension Office in January. The codes will be given to 4-H leaders to give out to their club members.**
- YQCA certifications are due to the Keokuk County Extension Office by June 1st, 2023 for all 4-H and FFA livestock exhibitors (beef, dairy cattle or goat, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and swine).
- Once you have your code:
  1. Go to <https://yqcaprogram.org/>
  2. Sign-in with either 4-HOnline or (FFA only) a new profile.
  3. Select the member taking the course.
  4. Select age of youth in 2023
  5. Pay (enter code)
  6. Send a PDF version of your Certificate of Completion to Joselyn at [jrabel@iastate.edu](mailto:jrabell@iastate.edu) or drop a copy off to the Keokuk County Extension Office by June 1st, 2023.
- Coupons expire June 1st
- You can check your certification status on 4-HOnline at <https://v2.4honline.com>
- Tests may be taken multiple times. You must wait 1 hour between tests.
- Once passed, you are certified until the following year!



# 4-H Communications Workshop



April 1st | 9am-11am | 4th-12th grade | Parents & Leaders

Keokuk County Extension Office

## 4-H Poster Communication Exhibit!

- Learn about the **4-H Poster Communication Class**
  - Brainstorm ideas
  - Visually tell a story by creating a poster
  - *Supplies provided*
- Receive help completing the Poster Exhibit Entry Form
  - *Required for county fair exhibit*
  - No charge to attend

**You will have a project ready for the 2023 Keokuk County Expo!**

**Please register by Monday, March 20th – call or email**

**Joselyn Abell, County Youth Coordinator**

**641-622-2680**

**[jrabel@iastate.edu](mailto:jrabell@iastate.edu)**



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# Summer Day Camps

We will be having the following Summer day camps. We will also be in the public library's programming in Keota, Sigourney, and Richland.

Stay tuned for more information about these Summer Day Camps.

Babysitting Clinic

Adventures at the Lake

On Their Own & OK

Junior Camp

## Building a Vibrant Club:

4-H Clubs are all about youth having fun, making friends, discovering one's voice, and learning to work with others. 4-H members will come to club meetings when their four needs are being met: belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity.

If you would like more information or ideas follow this link: [https://](https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Topic/Volunteer-Resources/Vibrant-Clubs-Series?S=0&A=0&F=0)

[store.extension.iastate.edu/Topic/Volunteer-Resources/Vibrant-Clubs-Series?S=0&A=0&F=0](https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Topic/Volunteer-Resources/Vibrant-Clubs-Series?S=0&A=0&F=0)

## BUILDING A VIBRANT CLUB

4-H Clubs are all about youth having fun, making friends, discovering one's voice, and learning to work with others. 4-H members will come to club meetings when their four needs are being met:

- **Belonging:** having fun with friends and making new friends.
- **Mastery:** learning new things and improving their skills.
- **Independence:** making decisions as a group and having a voice in club activities.
- **Generosity:** providing service to others.



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## May 15th Deadline for 4-HOnline:

Reminder that all livestock must be entered into 4-HOnline by May 15th.

No Exceptions!

- Families can enter this data at <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
- An animal can only be identified under one 4-H member.
- County staff will verify animal ID information families have entered against information collected at weigh-in on the 106 forms.
- Family ID Help Sheets are located at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/4honline-information-families-and-leaders](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/4honline-information-families-and-leaders)

## Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs—Quick Reference Guide (2023)

Plan ahead for a successful fair experience. Use these guidelines to help select and acceptable product for exhibit, find an approved recipe source, and identify the appropriate preparations method. <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/6434>

Exhibit Tip Sheets are a great resource to reference as you are working on your projects because it explains how the judges evaluate your projects. <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/exhibit-tip-sheets>

Please review copyright resources on this page, especially as you plan your visual arts projects. <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/state-fair-4-h-static-exhibits-handbook>

### Tested Vanilla Buttercream Recipe

#### Required for use with Iowa 4-H Fair Food Product Exhibits.

(All Iowa 4-Hers must reference and attach this blog to their write-up for full credit if a homemade frosting is used in the exhibit. Any change or addition of ingredients will be unacceptable and will result in disqualification.)

1 cup unsalted butter, slightly softened  
4 cups powdered sugar  
¼ teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
2 Tablespoons **dairy** milk (skim, 2%, or whole)

Beat the butter, salt, and vanilla together until fully combined on medium speed. Reduce speed and add the powdered sugar and milk. Add the milk a teaspoon at a time to achieve the right consistency for the way you want to use the frosting. DO NOT use more than 2 tablespoons of milk. Slowly increase the speed of the mixer and beat until the frosting is light and fluffy.



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# 4-H SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



## Abby Harris



Abby is the daughter of Ryan and Jaime Harris and has one younger brother. Abby is the Secretary for Liberty Leaders, and has been a part of County Council for 1 year. Throughout Abby's years in 4-H she has participated in shooting sports, showing poultry, sheep/goats, horse, photography, visual arts, and Ag. Science.

Abby's favorite 4-H memory was mentoring a younger Liberty Leader's member, Allie, with sheep. Last year Allie showed a lamb that Abby raised at Expo and won Reserve Supreme Champion Female.

While in school, Abby has also participated in cheerleading, Valley Rush Dance, volleyball, band, FFA, National Honor Society, girl scouts, and showing livestock at open shows. Outside of school and 4-H you can find Abby working at Just Automotive, spending time with her horses and other livestock on the farm, and showing livestock at open shows.

Some of her favorite things include:

**Snacks:** Cookie dough ice cream

**Drink:** Dr. Pepper

**Movie:** Mamma Mia

**Vacation she has taken:** Traveling to Northern Minnesota to visit our friends' cattle ranch and getting to bear hunt.

After graduation, Abby plans to attend Ellsworth Community College and major in Equine Science and Equine Management. We wish Abby the best for the remainder of her senior year and future plans.

Best of Luck Abby!



## Natalie Axmear

Natalie is the daughter of Jesse and Anne Axmear and has four siblings; Kaeley, Drake, Edie, and Abe. Natalie is an active member of Liberty Leaders 4-H Club.

Throughout Natalie's years in 4-H she has participated in exhibiting beef and swine.

Natalie's favorite 4-H memory was winning 3rd Overall Market Hog at the Keokuk County Expo in 2022.

While in school, Natalie has also participated in cross country, National Honor Society, church youth group, and FFA. Outside of school and 4-H you can find Natalie working at the Grain Elevator. Along with spending most of her time with livestock when they have them.

Some of her favorite things include:

**Snacks:** Pepperjack cheese

**Drink:** Blueberry Redbull

**Movie:** Step Brother

**Vacation she has taken:** Alaska with her family.

After graduation, Natalie is undecided on her future plans. We look forward to watching Natalie grow as a senior 4-Her and where her path takes her!

Best of luck, Natalie!



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Keokuk County  
400 220th Ave, Suite A  
Sigourney, IA 52591

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## 4-H Pledge

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,  
My **HEART** to greater loyalty,  
My **HANDS** to larger service,  
My **HEALTH** to better living,  
For my club, my community,  
my country, and my world.



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