

Keokuk County 4-H Family Newsletter

March - April 2024



IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 1:**
Scholarship Due
- **March 1:**
4-H Lock-In
- **March 18:**
Spring Leader's Meeting
- **March 23:**
Swine Weigh-In
- **April 5-6**
Intermediate Trip
- **May 4:**
Sheep/Goat Weigh-In
- **May 6:**
Clothing Event Workshop
- **May 7:**
Dog Practices Begin
- **May 15:**
4-H Online Animal ID Due
- **June 1:**
FairEntry Opens
- **June 1:**
YQCA due
- **June 1:**
Clothing Event Sign-Up Due
- **June 4-5:**
Junior Camp
- **June 9:**
Clothing Event
- **June 20:**
Summer Kick-Off
- **June 25-27:**
State Conference
- **June 30:**
Photo Matting
- **July 1:**
Livestock and Communications FairEntry Due
- **July 13:**
Static FairEntry Due
- **July 14-21:**
Expo Fair

Spring has Sprung

Preparations for the 2024 Keokuk County Expo Fair are in full swing! Please check out some important reminders and resources in this newsletter.

Reminder: Any exhibitor planning to show at the 2024 Expo Fair must attend 6 4-H meetings/events/activities by Expo Fair.

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Sigourney, Iowa 52591

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If your child needs special / [Reasonable Accommodations](#) to participate in any program, please contact Regional Director, Katharina Bain:
kbain@iastate.edu



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Important Updates, Changes and Reminders

Meet the New CYC

Please welcome our new CYC, Ashley Yedlik. Ashley is a recent Iowa State graduate with her degree in Family and Consumer Sciences. Ashley was a 9-year 4-H member in Johnson County. She was highly involved during her time in 4-H, including being a part of the Iowa 4-H State Council. She also participated in various project areas including family and consumer sciences, personal development, communications, and more. Ashley has interned at both Muscatine and Linn County, as well as with Iowa 4-H and Human Sciences Extension and Outreach.



Tags and Taggers are available in the extension office! ****NEW THIS YEAR**** If you need to borrow a tagger, **you will be asked to pay a refundable deposit of \$20** which will be given back to you upon the return of the tagger. This is to hopefully prevent our taggers from disappearing so we can continue to have them available for families to check out!



4-H Online is our main form of communication, so please reach out to the office if you are currently not receiving emails! A good way to make sure you receive emails are to add the email address to your contact book so the email is less likely to go to your junk or spam folder! Additionally, information also goes out in the mail. Please check and make sure your address is up to date in 4-H Online. This includes adding your PO Box if that is where and how you receive your mail.

We will have lots of opportunities, events, activities, and information upcoming so it is important to check your email. Newsletters contain a lot of information so make sure to read it fully! Club leaders will also be given the information to communicate with families as needed.



Reminder that all 4-H members wanting to exhibit at the 2024 Expo Fair must attend at least 6 meetings/events/activities before the start of fair!

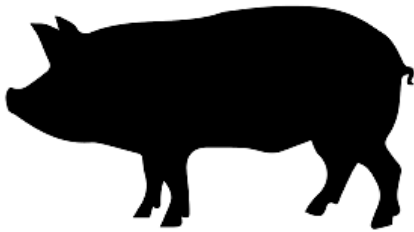


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SAVE THE DATE

Livestock Weigh-Ins



Swine Weigh-In

Saturday, March 23rd, 2024

8am-10am

at the Keokuk County Fairgrounds

- Only swine that are going to show in the Derby or Farm Class in the 2024 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, please sign-up for a timeslot at <https://go.iastate.edu/14REAP> or scan the QR code.
- 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 pick up DNA tags, envelope, and tagging supplies from the extension office. These families need to return the DNA samples to the Extension Office by **May 1st, 2024**. If not, families will be in charge of shipping their own samples.
- 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, 2024.
- Any purebred animal showing at Expo Fair needs to turn in a copy of the registration papers at the time of Expo weigh-in or to the Extension Office by July 1.



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Sheep & Goat Weigh-In



Saturday, May 4th, 2024 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 \$5.00 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, 2024. No Exceptions! *This is only 11 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, 2024.
- ♦ A maximum of 8 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 Recap

Thank you to everyone who came out and participated in the 2024 Keokuk County 4-H Lock-In! It was a fun-filled night of games and making new friends! Events like this are not possible without our volunteers! A special thank you to everyone who helped at the Lock-In!



2024 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference

Who: ALL youth in 8th-12th grades

When: June 25-27, 2024

Where: Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Cost: \$150 (great discount!)

Registration opens in April on 4-HOnline!



If you have completed 8th grade by June, 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 opportunities for you to share your talents and meet new people through educational workshops, teambuilding activities, and a talent show.



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.

More information is available at: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/animalscienceroundup>



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Anyone showing any of the following animals at the 2024 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 have been 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, 2024 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 or create a new account.
 3. Select the member taking the course.
 4. Select age of youth in 2024
 5. Pay (enter code)
 6. Send a PDF version of your Certificate of Completion to Emily at ebelvel@iastate.edu or drop a copy off to the Keokuk County Extension Office by June 1st, 2024.
- Coupons expire June 1st
- Once passed, you are certified until the following year!
- Help sheets and background information: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/yqca>



2024 Summer Day Camps

Pg. 1

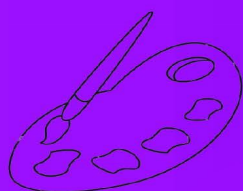
(more camp opportunities on the back side)

Scales, & Tails, & Zoos, OH MY!

- ☀ When: Thursday, June 6th, 9am – 3pm
- ☀ Where: Keokuk County Extension Office
- ☀ Grades Completed in 2023-2024: Kindergarten – 1st
- ☀ Cost: \$25 per youth
- ☀ Bring your lunch
- ☀ From snakes to salamanders and turtles to toads, campers will be introduced to the fascinating cold-blooded world of reptiles and amphibians. Youth will learn how they survive in our northern climate, the places they call home, what and especially how they eat, as well as investigate some very common misconceptions about these scaly and slimy neighbors of ours. Later on, we will have our friends from the Blank Park Zoo join us so we can see some of these animals in person!



Art Adventures



- ☀ When: Thursday, June 13th, 9am – 3pm
- ☀ Where: Keokuk County Extension Office
- ☀ Grades Completed in 2023-2024: Kindergarten – 1st
- ☀ Cost: \$25 per youth
- ☀ Bring your lunch

- ☀ Create and explore during this art camp with take home projects focused on elements of line, shape, color, form, and texture through integrated art and literacy activities.

Kids in the Kitchen

- ☀ When: Thursday, June 20th, 9am – 3pm
- ☀ Where: Keokuk County Extension Office
- ☀ Grades Completed in 2023-2024: 2nd – 3rd
- ☀ Cost: \$25 per youth
- ☀ Optional: Bring your lunch
- ☀ Explore different foods and safe handling practices in the kitchen. Healthy eating habits will come into practices as you make your own snacks, practice measuring, mixing, reading recipes, and more!



On Their Own & Ok



- ☀ When: Thursday, June 27th, 9am – 3pm
- ☀ Where: Keokuk County Extension Office
- ☀ Grades Completed in 2023-2024: 4th – 6th
- ☀ Cost: \$25 per youth
- ☀ Optional: Bring your lunch

- ☀ Youth left at home by themselves without self-care skills may find ways to occupy their time that parents or guardians do not support. Some young people may truly be fearful of staying home alone. On Their own & Ok builds skills in youth, as well as incorporates ways for parents or guardians in the home to support this step toward independence.

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

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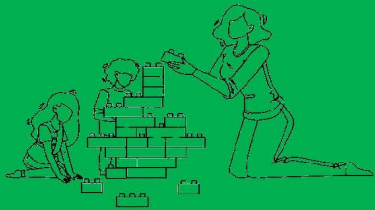


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2024 Summer Day Camps

Spy School

- ☀ When: Tuesday, July 2nd, 9am – 3pm
- ☀ Where: Keokuk County Extension Office
- ☀ Grades Completed in 2023-2024: 2nd – 3rd
- ☀ Cost: \$25 per youth
- ☀ Bring your lunch
- ☀ Learn detective skills like fingerprinting, opening letters without a trace, and how to write hidden messages as you solve the mystery of the disappearing clover at Spy School!



Babysitting Clinic

- ☀ When: Wednesday, June 12th, 9am – 3pm
- ☀ Where: Keokuk County Extension Office
- ☀ Grades Completed in 2023-2024: 4th – 6th
- ☀ Cost: FREE
- ☀ Bring your lunch
- ☀ All 4th, 5th, & 6th grade youth are welcome to attend the Babysitting Clinic. Youth will learn about fire and weather safety, and first aid/CPR. You will learn age-appropriate toys, play poison control games, and so much more.

Adventures at the Lake

- ☀ When: Tuesday, June 18th, 8am – 5pm
- ☀ Where: Lake Belva Deer Beach Area
- ☀ Grades Completed in 2023-2024: 4th – 6th
- ☀ Cost: \$25 per youth
- ☀ Bring your lunch
- ☀ Adventures at the Lake is a day camp for 4th, 5th, & 6th graders. Come join us as we have a jammed packed day of fishing, hiking, outdoor crafts, swimming, kayaking, and so much more.



Registration forms were handed out at local schools the week of March 4. Additionally, they can be found on our website, Facebook page, or in the extension office.



Junior Camp 2024

Who: 4th-6th Grade 4-H Members

When: June 4th-5th, 2024

Where: Crooked Creek Christian Camp near Washington, Iowa

Cost: \$180

Registration: Closes May 1st: First Come, First Serve



Junior (4th-6th grade) 4-H members are invited to attend Junior Camp! Come and join the fun!!! This overnight camp will have you meeting new friends while you try fishing, canoeing, dancing, climbing the rock wall, water slides, cooking, taking a night swim, spending time around the campfire and more!!

Additionally, we need camp counselors! Keokuk County 4-H Members 16 and older by the time of camp are invited to join in on the fun! Whether you attended Junior Camp yourself or not, 16 year old's and older are encouraged to fill out the application! Counselors will be needed starting on Monday, June 3rd in the afternoon until June 5th in the evening.

Both forms will be available on our website at www.extension.iastate.edu/keokuk/, on our Facebook page, and in the Extension Office.



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4-H Clothing Event Workshop



May 6th | 9:30am-3:30pm | 4th-12th grade | Parents & Leaders

Keokuk County Extension Office

4-H \$20 Challenge Exhibit!

- Learn about the **Clothing Event Project Area**
 - Brainstorm ideas
 - Go shopping for an outfit
- Learn about elements and principles of design
- Receive help completing the Exhibit Entry Form
- Cost is \$20 to purchase an outfit + money for lunch

You will have an exhibit ready for the 2024 Keokuk County Expo!

Please register by Friday, April 26th – call or email

Ashley Yedlik, County Youth Coordinator

641-622-2680

aeyedlik@iastate.edu



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Project Area Spotlight

The first project area spotlight is clothing event! There are 4 classes within this project area: clothing selection, fashion revue, \$20 challenge, and innovative design. Everyone owns clothes, so this is an easy project area to exhibit. You are already halfway done with the exhibit once you choose an outfit!

Buy an outfit from a store, construct your own, buy from a consignment store, or get creative and create an outfit never seen before!

To learn more about this project area, attend the clothing event workshop in May! You will walk away with a completed exhibit!

For questions regarding this project area, or any project area, reach out to the county extension office.

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>

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://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** animals 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 <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/livestock-id>

Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs—Quick Reference Guide (2024)

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>

Contact Iowa State University Extension and Outreach **AnswerLine** with any questions. Tell them you are calling in reference to a 4-H exhibit. Calls are answered Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–noon, 1–4 p.m. CALL: 1-800-262-3804 (Iowa area codes) 515-296-5883 (non-Iowa area codes) 1-800-735-2942 Relay Iowa for hearing impaired EMAIL: answer@iastate.edu

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



Gabby Kustes



Gabby is the daughter of Chris and Bark Kustes and Amy Gent. She also has two siblings, MacKenzie and Zane. Gabby is the Treasurer for Liberty Leaders. Throughout Gabby's years in 4-H she has participated in fashion revue, clothing selection, \$15 challenge, animal science, woodworking, and showed goats, rabbits, and cattle.

Gabby's favorite 4-H memory was when she received the Best Exhibit in the Building for her first art exhibit! Another highlight was when she got Top 3 for Rate of Gain with her goat.

While in school, Abby has also participated in cheerleading, dance, Silver Cord, FFA, National Honor Society. Outside of school and 4-H you can find Gabby working as a CNA (certified nursing assistant), spending time with her friends, working on her college work, or taking her dog for a walk.

Some of her favorite things include:

Snacks: Chocolate Covered Pretzels

Drink: Raspberry Tea

Movie: *Legally Blonde*

Vacation she has taken: Myrtle Beach

After graduation, Gabby plans to attend Kirkwood Community College and major in Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene. Gabby will also be on the cheer team. We wish Gabby the best for the remainder of her senior year and future plans.

Best of Luck Gabby!



Haylea Oostra



Haylea is the daughter of David and Sheri Oostra and has 2 older siblings: Faith and Shae. Haylea is a member of the Patriotic Panthers and Keokuk County Council.

Throughout Haylea's years in 4-H she has participated in sheep, goats, pet, various static project areas, and working exhibits. She has had many static and working exhibits go to the state fair.

Haylea's favorite 4-H memory is her club's holiday party playing bingo and doing a white elephant gift exchange.

While in school, Haylea has also participated in volleyball, winter volleyball, track, FCCLA, FCA, FFA, National Honor Society, Iron Chef, ISTEP, Choir, Color Guard, Drama, and Pekin Rising Ruritans.

Some of her favorite things include:

Snacks: Popcorn

Drink: Blue Mountain Dew

Movie: *The Longest Ride*

Vacation she has taken: Waco, Texas

After graduation, Haylea plans to attend Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) for Culinary Arts. We wish Haylea the best of luck and thank her for her dedication to the 4-H program.



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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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