

Mahaska County  
212 North I Street  
Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577

Helping make 4-H possible  
in Mahaska County.



United Way  
of Mahaska County

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### Youth Staff

Amy Brainard  
County Youth Coordinator  
Ashtin Harris  
4-H Youth Program Assistant  
Kim Kuester  
Youth Program Specialist  
Lea DeCook  
Office Assistant

### Iowa 4-H Mission

4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential through youth-adult partnerships and research-based experiences.

### Iowa 4-H Vision

Preparing Iowa's youth to be successful, contributing members of society.

### Beef Weigh-in

Tuesday, December 18 4:00-7:00 PM  
Fairgrounds Scale  
(Pull in on SOUTH side, go behind sheep barn)  
Inclement weather date is Thursday, December 20 from 4:00-7:00 PM. In case of inclement weather, listen to 104.9 FM and check our 4-H Facebook page.

Ear tags cost \$4.00 each and Iowa State Fair & Ak-Sar-Ben Verification will be \$5.00 per head. Exhibitors are responsible for signing up for classes at this weigh-in. Class options include the list below and are described on page 3: Carcass Beef, Advanced Feeder Pen (3-5 head), Return Bucket/Bottle Steer/Heifer, No Fit Beef, Mahaska County Steer, Market Steer, and Market Heifer.

**The Superintendents request that all calves coming to the December weigh-in have some type of halter on for safety of all in attendance at the weigh-in.**

(cont'd. on pg. 2)

## Clover Kids Corner

Registration for Clover Kids has closed for this year. Children may still join a group, pending we have enough volunteers for a 1:6 ratio. Anyone joining after December 1st will pay a \$10 late fee (\$35.00 enrollment total) and they will not receive a Clover Kids t-shirt.

Thank you to all of our awesome Clover Kids Leaders! Many of our Clover Kids Leaders are NEW this year, we are so happy to have them on board!

The December meeting theme is, "Weather is Fun!"

**Reminder: We need parents to sign their children out from the meetings. If children will be going home with someone else, the leader or Ashtin must be notified in advance.**

If you have any questions about Clover Kids, please contact Ashtin Harris at [acharris@iastate.edu](mailto:acharris@iastate.edu) or 673-5841 ext. 11.

## 4-H "Fall" Leader Meeting

Our very delayed Fall Leader Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 12** at 6:30 p.m. in the Extension office Auditorium. We'll discuss updates and have time to share ideas! We will cover the 4-H Financial Policy Changes, Record Keeping, County Fair, and Program Updates. Keokuk County has been overseeing their 4-H club accounts for a few years, so two of their staff members will be present at our meeting to answer questions. A dinner will be served. RSVP is required by December 1st to ensure we have enough food available. If you have any dietary restrictions, please let us know in advance. RSVP by emailing [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu) or calling 641-673-5841.

## Workshops for the New 4-H Year

Contact Amy if you have any ideas or would like to be a presenter for workshops this year at 641-673-5841 or [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu).

## Tentative Fair Schedule

### Monday, July 15

7:00-9:30 AM - Swine Weigh-in at scale  
8:00 AM-2:00 PM - 4-H Static Exhibit Judging in Exhibit Hall & 4-H Bldg.  
9:00-11:00 AM - Poultry Check-in in Poultry barn  
10:00-11:00 AM - Sheep Weigh-in at scale  
10:00 AM-Noon - Rabbit Check-in at cages  
by 6:00 PM - Dairy Check-in at Dairy stalls w/Superintendents  
6:00-8:00 PM - Beef Weigh-in/Check-in at scale, Breeding Beef in Pavilion

### Tuesday, July 16

9:00 AM - 4-H & FFA Poultry Show Sale Ring  
9:00 -11:00 AM & 12:00-2:00 PM - Communications: Educ. Pres., STF, Extemp. Spkg. Judging at Free Stage  
4:00-6:00 PM - 4-H & FFA Horse Check-in at barns  
6:00 PM - Mandatory 4-H & FFA Horse Exhibitor Meeting at check-in area  
6:00 PM - 4-H & FFA Swine Show in Pavilion

### Wednesday, July 17

8:00 AM - 4-H & FFA Sheep Show in Pavilion  
9:00 AM-Noon - Communications: Working Exhibit Judging at Free Stage  
12:30-1:45 PM - 4-H & FFA Dairy Show in Pavilion  
6:00 PM - 4-H & FFA Rabbit Show in Sale Ring

### Thursday, July 18

8:00 AM-Noon approx. - 4-H & FFA Beef Show in Pavilion  
3:00-4:00 PM - 4-H & Clover Kids Pet Show at Free Stage  
5:45 PM - 4-H & FFA Bucket'o'Junk Auction in Pavilion  
6:30 PM - Barnyard Games in Pavilion

### Friday, July 19

8:00 AM - 4-H & FFA Horse Show at Outdoor Arena  
**Animal Verification in Fair Board Office – by 10:00 AM, NO EXCEPTIONS! Must have affidavit (Market Beef, Meat Goats, Market Lambs, Rabbits, & Poultry) on file at Fair Board Office for animal to be eligible for the auction.**

1:30-2:00 PM - Livestock Judging Contest Registration in Sale Ring  
2:00 PM - Livestock Judging Contest in Sale Ring  
5:00 PM - Supreme Showmanship Contest in Pavilion  
8:00 PM - Non-Auction Livestock & Horses Released

### Saturday, July 20

**4-H Office will be CLOSED**

8:00 AM - Livestock Auction (following Buyer's Breakfast) in Sale Ring  
11:00 AM-Noon - Horses Released  
7:00 PM - Non-Livestock Exhibits Released from Exhibit Hall & 4-H Bldg.

### Sunday, July 21

Animals Must Be Gone by 5:00 PM  
Exhibits Must Be Gone between 1-3 PM in the Exhibit Hall & 4-H Building

***This schedule is subject to change due to conflicts and weather. Some events are missing at this time due to not having met with 4-H Superintendents yet, as details are approved, they will be released on Facebook and monthly newsletters.***

## Christmas Gift Workshop



Join the Mahaska County Extension Staff to make gifts to give or to keep! The Christmas Gift Workshop will be held on **Wednesday, December 19** from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Extension office.

Cost to attend this workshop is \$5.00 and it is open to anyone of any age. Registration and \$5.00 is due by Friday, December 14. Do it yourself stations include: Dipped Hot Cocoa Spoons, Lavender Oatmeal Soap, Cookie Mix Jars, and Stamped Towels. Cookies and hot cocoa will be served. Let us know if you have any questions by calling 673-5841 or emailing our staff at [xmahaska@iastate.edu](mailto:xmahaska@iastate.edu).

## Garden Basics Classes

Come learn Garden Basics at monthly classes, typically on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Extension office. These classes are free & open to the public and RSVP is not required, though appreciated. Garden Basics classes are local Master Gardeners presenting live classes on a variety of gardening topics. Each one is an independent topic presented as a family-friendly presentation.

**December 20** – Birdfeeding – tips including making feeders from household items

**January 17** – Square Foot Gardening and Seed Shopping

To register and/or for more information about these classes, please call Suzette Striegel, Horticulturist, at 673-5841 or email [striegel@iastate.edu](mailto:striegel@iastate.edu).

## Beef Weigh-in December 18 (cont'd.)

Exhibitors are responsible for signing up for classes at this weigh-in. Class options include Carcass Beef (see pg. 12), Advanced Feeder Pen (see pg. 13), Return Bucket/Bottle (must have been a 4-H or FFA Bucket/Bottle Calf either steer or heifer, exhibited by the verifying 4-H or FFA member at the 2018 county fair—this does not include the Open Youth B/B animals), No Fit Beef (no clipping prior to fair), Mahaska County Steer (must have been born in Mahaska County), Market Steer, and Market Heifer.

**The Superintendents request that all calves coming to the December weigh-in have some type of halter on for safety of all in attendance at the weigh-in.**

Youth are responsible for making sure their ID forms are complete and correct before leaving the weigh-in site. **Families are also asked to verify the information our staff will enter into 4hOnline to be correct by February 1, 2019, this is especially important for those who plan to exhibit at the Iowa State Fair.** All breed information and registration numbers for market beef must be in 4hOnline by **February 1**, no exceptions. All heifers going to the Iowa State Fair must have tattoos plus one of the following, registration # if purebred, calfhood vaccine #, or 4-H tag.

**Heifer Tattooing is not being offered this 4-H year.** Breeding Heifers must either have a tattoo or 4-H tag and be identified by the families in 4hOnline (paper ID for FFA only) by May 15. Iowa State Fair Breeding Beef must have all breed and registration information entered by the family in 4hOnline by May 15. Tattoos/tags will not be checked until fair check-in.

If you have any questions, please contact a Beef Superintendent: Dave Orman (814-2599), Kyle Shaw (670-0279), Clayton Hester (295-5013), & Miranda Johnson (295-3776).

## New Volunteer Training

If you are a 4-H or Clover Kids Leader and need to complete the New Volunteer Training (NVT), please contact Amy at [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu) or 673-5841 ext. 28 by the end of December. If need be, we can schedule another training in Mahaska County in January.

## Horse Project Information

Every 4-H & FFA member who plans to exhibit horses, ponies, or mules at the 2019 Southern Iowa Fair must complete at least 1 \*clinic and 2 \*ride nights to gain eligibility to exhibit at the county fair.

The first Tuesday of each month, starting in April, will be a Mahaska County 4-H Horse Clinic. The third Tuesday of each month, starting in April, will be a Mahaska County 4-H Horse Ride Night. Youth must bring horses and ride for the Ride Night to count. Clinics and Ride Nights will be held at the Outdoor Arena on the Southern Iowa Fairgrounds, unless otherwise noted. Clinics and Ride Nights will begin at 6:30 p.m.

*April 2, May 7, June 4—Clinics*

*April 16, May 21, June 18—Ride Nights*

*July 2—Tentative Vet Check*

All clinics and ride nights will be open at 6:30 p.m. on the scheduled date, if no one arrives within 15 minutes, the superintendents and speakers will leave and the event will be over.

\* Approved clinics must be offered by the Mahaska County 4-H Horse Superintendents or pre-approved by the Mahaska County 4-H Horse Superintendents. Photo proof of exhibitor attending other event must be emailed to the 4-H Horse Superintendent group at:

Jennifer Fynaardt – [jenniferfynaardt@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferfynaardt@gmail.com), 402-917-0533

Lisa Fields – [fieldsl599@gmail.com](mailto:fieldsl599@gmail.com), 563-212-2905

Jennifer Hoy – [jenncnolan@hotmail.com](mailto:jenncnolan@hotmail.com), 641-436-6323

\* Approved ride nights must be offered by the Mahaska County 4-H Horse Superintendents, Mahaska County Saddle Club Fun Show, or Mahaska County Saddle Club Barrel Series. Exhibitors MUST ride horses for these to count as a Ride Night. Photos of exhibitors riding at the Mahaska County Saddle Club events must be submitted to the 4-H Horse Superintendent group at the addresses above.

## Mahaska County Code of Conduct

Every 4-H member in Mahaska County is required to complete the Mahaska County 4-H Code of Good Conduct form one time. Re-enrolling members have their forms completed. New members have until May 15, 2019 to complete their form. Forms can be completed electronically through the webform on our website at: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mahaska/news/mahaska-county-4-h-code-good-conduct-form>, they can be printed and mailed/dropped off, or they can be completed at the Extension office. Please note this only needs to be done ONCE EVER, not each year.

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## Advanced Feeder Beef Class Info

Each member will feed two to five head of cattle per pen, more than one pen per exhibitor is acceptable. Feeder calves are required to have 4-H ear tags. Beginning weigh-in will be in December, March is not an option in 2019.

Individual interviews will be held during the fair. Complete monthly feed records using the spreadsheet from the Extension office. Exhibitors will participate in a group conference discussion during the fair. This meeting is for 4-H families and friends to attend and learn more from the ISU Extension and Outreach Livestock Specialist, Patrick Wall. Dates & times for the fair weigh-in, interviews, and conference are TBD. Projects must come to the fair to compete for awards. Records may be kept daily, weekly or monthly with totals for each month. The right to discount calfy heifers is reserved. Placing will be based on the following:

Production Records

Cattle Performance/Ultrasound Data

Youth Interview

Evaluation of Feeder Pen

Members must furnish this information with supporting records at final weighing. No Bulls at weigh-in. *A March class will NOT be offered in 2019.*

If you have any questions about this class, please contact one of the Advanced Feeder Pen Superintendents listed below:  
Dave Willemsen (780-1398), Byron Eekhoff (660-9110)

## Superintendent Openings

Do you have knowledge in Sheep or Meat Goats?

We're looking for volunteers to become superintendents!

**Sheep Superintendent**—Attend fall planning meeting to set schedule, update rules, and suggest judges, assist with spring weigh-in, offer/organize workshops, re-tag lambs and answer questions (as needed), set Sheep stall assignments and pen set-up, assist with the fair weigh-in, create the Sheep Show Order, work at the Sheep Show, attend 2-3 meetings per year. 2 openings.

**Meat Goat Superintendent**—Attend fall planning meeting to set schedule, update rules, and suggest judges, assist with spring weigh-in, offer/organize workshops, re-tag goats and answer questions (as needed), set Meat Goat stall assignments, assist with the fair weigh-in, create the Meat Goat Show Order, work at the Meat Goat Show, attend 2-3 meetings per year. 1-2 openings.

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## Carcass Beef Class Information

Exhibitors may enter a maximum of two animals. It must be weighed and ear tagged at the December weigh-in. All beef carcasses in the contest will be evaluated under three different sets of criteria:

**Performance Carcass Contest** – ranked on retail value per day on test, using Iowa State Fair Beef of Merit formula. Rankings will include adjustments for rate of gain, carcass traits (rib eye, back fat, kidney, heart, and pelvic fat and USDA quality grade) and current carcass prices.

**High Quality Grade Value Grid** – ranked on net premium per hundred weight of carcass, as evaluated against an industry accepted grid-pricing formula that rewards high quality grade cattle. Premiums and discounts will be placed on each carcass based on individual measurements and current market prices. Larger premiums will be placed on Prime and Premium Choice cattle.

**High Retail Product Value Grid** – ranked on net premium per hundred weight of carcass as evaluated against an industry accepted grid-pricing formula that rewards high lean, well-muscled cattle. Premiums and discounts will be placed on each carcass based on individual measurements and current market prices. Larger premiums will be placed on USDA Yield Grade 1 and 2 cattle.

We must have at least 3 entries to be able to offer this class. If you are interested in this class but have more questions, please contact a Beef Superintendent listed below:

Dave Orman (814-2599), Kyle Shaw (670-0279),  
Clayton Hester (295-5013), & Miranda Johnson (295-3776).

## Mahaska County Livestock Summary

We have updated the Mahaska County Livestock Summary. This graph contains information about every species animals you're able to exhibit at the county fair. It includes weigh-in & identification info, animal requirements, specific health requirements, YQCA training requirements, exhibit limits, and fair requirements. It is a helpful guide for any 4-H or FFA member planning to exhibit livestock at the county or state fair. Printed copies are available at the Extension office.

## Bucket/Bottle Animal Birthdates

**Bucket/Bottle Calves must be born between:**

**February 1 and April 30, 2019**

**Bottle Lambs & Goats must be born between:**

**January 1 and April 30, 2019**

All bucket/bottle animals must be in the youth exhibitor's possession within **two** weeks of the animal's birth and must be bottle/bucket fed. Packets for Bucket/Bottle animals will be available by the beginning of January. We are currently revising the Bottle Lamb & Goat packets. If you get an animal before the packets are available, please start keeping a journal of feedings, care, housing, cleaning, etc. and remember to take pictures! All bucket/bottle animals must be identified in 4hOnline by 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2019. You may identify more than one bucket/bottle animal, but may only exhibit one of each at the fair. **Bottle Lambs and Goats do not need to attend the weigh-in this year.**

## 4-H Livestock Rules (4H 202)

If you plan to exhibit livestock at the county or state fair in 2019, please read the 4H 202 document very thoroughly. The 4H 202 can be found at <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/194.pdf>. It includes important information for each species, including identification requirements. It is the responsibility of the 4-H family to read these requirements and abide by the rules set by the county and state 4-H program.

## 4-H Intermediate Trip in June

Any 4-H member in 7th-9th grade is invited to attend the Regional Intermediate Trip to **Kansas City on June 11-12, 2019**. Cost and official details will be shared as they are received. If you're interested, please let Amy know to add you to her list to contact with full details. Amy can be reached at [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu) or 673-5841.

*This newsletter was prepared and written by  
Amy Brainard, Mahaska County Youth Coordinator.  
Amy can be reached by calling 641-673-5841 ext. 28 or by  
emailing [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu).*

## Correspondence Preferences

Please be sure to have all of your contact information updated in 4hOnline. Families (including members and volunteers), please log into 4hOnline to update your family's correspondence preferences. After you log in to your family account, please click the Edit Family button within the gray rectangular box. You can select email or mail correspondence. If you have moved, please be sure your Family Profile, as well as member/leader profile reflect the correct mailing address. A lot of times, email addresses change during the year, please be sure your email address is listed correctly as well. This is where we will send you the monthly newsletter and other important correspondence throughout the year.

## 4-H Club Financial Policy Update

### VERY IMPORTANT—PLEASE READ!

In case you missed it in the September/October newsletters, please read the following details about the new 4-H Club Financial Policy. Full details can be found in the September newsletter.

The State Auditor of Iowa, referencing 12C.1 and 176A of the Code of Iowa, has determined that 4-H club funds are the responsibility of County Extension Councils. National 4-H has recommended practices about how funds raised by clubs and learning communities are managed. Managing the funds through the County Extension District will address both of these concerns. Councils will be in compliance with state code and clubs will be following sound fiduciary practices. Dr. John Lawrence, VP of ISU Extension and Outreach would like to have a large number of clubs transitioned by **June 30, 2019**.

**If your club is ready for the Extension office to start taking over the funds, please contact Amy and we can start working on a plan.**

## Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) Trip

### *Celebrate the 60th year of CWF in 2019!*

Any 4-H'er in 9th-12th grade is eligible to attend the CWF Trip to Washington D.C. on **June 14-22, 2019**. This is an opportunity to meet new people, explore D.C. and the surrounding areas, learn about legislature, see numerous monuments, and so much more! Cost of the trip is \$1850.00. The Extension Council will cover the final payment for the first TWO youth who register. **Deadline to register is January 15, 2019**. To learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, visit <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/cwf>. This site also includes fundraising ideas to help offset the cost of the trip. Trip organizers are also looking for adult chaperones, if interested you can find more details at the link above.

## United Way Campaign

Did you know that Mahaska County 4-H is a United Way funded agency? We receive funds to assist with various 4-H & Clover Kids programming, as well as volunteer background screenings, trainings, day camps, in-school programming, workshops, and more. Please support their campaign this year! Visit [www.unitedwaymahaska.org](http://www.unitedwaymahaska.org) or find them on social media to learn more!

## 4-H Scholarships

The Iowa 4-H Foundation scholarship applications for the 4-H scholarship program are available now through February 1, 2019. 4-H members are strongly encouraged to read and follow the helpful hints and instructions that are at [https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/funding\\_for\\_4hers/scholarships/](https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/funding_for_4hers/scholarships/). Applications can be submitted [online](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship Coordinator [Mary Clancy](#) by email or phone (712) 830-1321.

## 4-H ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!

Please visit <https://iowa.4honline.com> (no www.) to enroll. HELP SHEETS are available at the Extension office and online. The Help Sheets provide step-by-step instructions for those who are RE-enrolling and enrolling as new members. Anyone who has previously been in 4-H or Clover Kids in the state of Iowa within the past 5 years should already have accounts in 4hOnline. Please contact the Extension office at 673-5841 if this applies to you. **Please DO NOT create a new account. Creating a new account using a different email is unacceptable.** We are not permitted to approve multiple profiles and/or accounts for 4-H members and families, so if an account already exists for your family and you create a new one, we will have to delete the new account.

If you cannot remember your password, you can check the “I Forgot My Password” button and submit with your family email address and a new, temporary password will be emailed to you shortly. If you can’t remember your family email account or no longer utilize that account, please contact the Extension office to have our staff either look it up or change it for you.

As we reach 4-H enrollment “milestones” (Ex: 250, 300, 350+ enrollments), we will draw two names of youth who have already enrolled to receive free 4-H enrollment for the year and a 4-H t-shirt.

If you have any questions about enrolling or run into issues, please contact Amy at [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu) or 673-5841.

4hOnline works best with Firefox & Chrome browsers and can sometimes glitch with Internet Explorer and other browsers. The 4-H enrollment fee is \$35.00 this year and **must** be paid directly to your 4-H club, unless specified otherwise (FIRST LEGO League & Clover Kids). The family maximum is \$105.00 for those children living in the same household.

If you are already participating in 4-H club activities, please be sure to enroll ASAP. **Those who have been attending meetings, but are not enrolled yet, should be counted as guests in club attendance until they officially re-enroll. Youth who are not enrolled are NOT covered by the special 4-H insurance policy. All RE-enrolling 4-H'ers MUST be enrolled and have their enrollment fee paid by January 1, 2019 to be eligible to exhibit at the Southern Iowa Fair in 2019.**



These monthly workshops are free and open to anyone in 4th-12th grade, not just 4-H members. Workshops will be held in the Extension office from 5:00-6:00 p.m. on the dates listed below. Don't forget to RSVP by the Friday before the workshop. We must have at least 5 RSVPs in to hold the workshop. RSVP by calling 641-673-5841 or emailing [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu).

**Monday, December 10—MAKING using Technology**  
Cubelets & 3D Printing Pens

**Monday, January 7—MAKING through Coding**  
MaKey MaKey and Scratch coding

**Monday, February 4—MAKING with Polymers**  
The science behind baby diapers, slime, and more!

Additional dates are March 4, April 15, and May 13  
Topics to be announced.

## Upcoming Weigh-in Dates

**Beef Weigh-in**—Tuesday, December 18 4:00-7:00 PM  
Southern Iowa Fairgrounds Scale  
Weigh-in details are on pages 1 & 3 of this newsletter.

**Swine Weigh-in**—Saturday, March 23 8:00-10:00 AM  
Southern Iowa Fairgrounds Maintenance Shop

**Sheep & Meat Goat Weigh-in**—Saturday, May 4 8-10 AM  
Southern Iowa Fairgrounds Scale  
Bottle Lambs & Bottle Goats are **not** required to attend the weigh-in in 2019.

## Club Recruitment Contest

The 4-H Youth Committee and Mahaska County Extension Council would like to encourage every 4-H club to recruit as many new members as possible again this year! We will award the club(s) with the highest percentage of growth based upon their 2017-18 numbers with an Ice Cream Party!

**This contest will end on December 31, 2018.**

## Teen Council Meeting

The next Teen Council meeting will be held on Sunday, **December 16 at 3:00 PM** in the Extension office 4-H Room (downstairs). We'll play some fun holiday games and have a \$5 gift exchange. All members are expected to attend. In case of inclement weather, this meeting will be postponed. Feel free to bring snacks to share. We will work on plans for countywide events, Teen Council t-shirts, and we'll hand out fundraiser orders that have been received. Thank you to all of the Teen Council members who assisted with the 4-H Awards Event on November 17! We appreciate your assistance and are proud of all you have accomplished!

## Region 14 Teen Council Retreat

Jasper, Poweshiek, Marion, and Mahaska County Teen Council members are invited to a Regional County Council Retreat. This retreat will be held in Newton. Carpooling will be available. The retreat will be held in March, date & time TBA. Full details will be announced soon. Teen Council members should plan to attend this free retreat where we'll do team building activities, learn about leadership styles, do a service project, and have a lot of fun and snacks! Check the Mahaska County 4-H Facebook page for full details once they are released.

## Record Book Requirement

4-H Record Books will not be required in 2019, but are still strongly encouraged. We will be working with the 4-H Record Keeping & Recognition Taskforce to overhaul the entire record keeping process. The plan is to simplify the process and not duplicate information/forms needed for the various project areas. If you have any suggestions for the group, please submit them to Amy at [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu) or call 673-5841. More details will be shared as they are confirmed.

## Southern Iowa Fair Dates & Theme

The 2019 Southern Iowa Fair will be held Monday, July 15 through Saturday, July 20 and the theme is "Red, White, & Blue - This Fair Is For You!".

## 4-H Fundraisers & Activities

Is your 4-H club planning to do a fundraiser or county-wide event? Do you want us to post that information to the Mahaska County 4-H Facebook page? We're happy to share information for your club. Please drop off or email information to the Extension office with full details and we'll get it posted to our Facebook page, which now has over 1,000 followers!

## Welding Project Scrap Metal

If you are interested in the Welding project area, you can stop by the Extension office anytime in November-December to pick up free scrap metal. These are leftover pieces from the Bucket'o'Junk Contest. 4-H'ers are expected to use these pieces for a fair exhibit in 2019. You **MUST** bring your own box or bucket to load the pieces into. We have a limited supply available, so it may be best to call 673-5841 or email [vermeerA@iastate.edu](mailto:vermeerA@iastate.edu) in advance to ensure we still have pieces available. Pieces must be picked up by December 31, 2018.