

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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NOVEMBER 2018



Youth Staff

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

4-H Year-End Awards Celebration

The 4-H Year-End Awards Celebration will be held on **Saturday, November 17 at 2:00 PM** in Bradbury Hall at Nelson Pioneer Farm, just northeast of Oskaloosa. The Teen Council will provide a Hot Cocoa & Coffee Bar at this event. If it is a warm day, we'll switch to an Ice Cream Sundae Bar. Attendees are not being asked to bring snacks. We will also hold a Silent Auction at this event with all proceeds going into the 4-H & FFA Youth Shows Fair Fund for 2019 fair expenses. If you are interested in donating any items for the Silent Auction, please let Amy know by October 31.

Award recipients are being notified with postcards. All Clover Kids who were in 3rd grade in '17-'18 will be recognized with their Graduation Certificates. Anyone who applied for Project Awards will be recognized. The Make A Difference Award Recipients that are listed on page 3 of this newsletter will also be recognized. We hope to see you on November 17. **RSVPs are requested by October 31.** RSVP by calling 641-673-5841 or emailing vermeerA@iastate.edu.

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.

Clover Kids Corner

Clover Kids groups are open to all children in Kindergarten-3rd grade, so you do not have to attend at the location nearest to you. Registration is open until the groups are full or November 30th.

The group details are below:

New Sharon—1st Monday from 5-6 PM

Christian Church in New Sharon

Led by Dorothy Hester, Stacy Sammons, Jil Van Utrecht, & Kelly Pierson

Oskaloosa Christian—1st Thursday from 3:30-4:45 PM

Christian School Music Room

Led by Katie Empie, Marie Cotter, Amie Roberts, & Deann DeGroot **THIS GROUP IS FULL**

Oskaloosa—2nd Monday from 3:30-5:00 PM

Mahaska County Extension office

Led by Ashtin Harris, Jenny Jarvis, Lindsay Maxwell, & Cassie Ferree

Fremont—2nd Tuesday from 3:15-4:30 PM

Fremont School Cafeteria

Led by Sarah Finger, Marina Rupperecht, & Sylvia Brown

Eddyville—2nd Thursday from 3:10-4:30 PM

Eddyville Elementary Cafeteria

Led by Megan Lehman, Jolene Long, Teresa Long, & Renee Davis

The November meeting theme is, "Terrific Trees"!

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



4-H Newsletter Subscription

If you would like to continue receiving a paper copy of the monthly 4-H Newsletter in the mail, please complete the form before and submit it with your \$10.00 payment to the Extension office. The subscription fee covers part of the cost of printing, postage, and staff time.

Family Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

For office use only:

Fee paid *cash* *check* # _____

**Please return this completed form with \$10 payment to:
Mahaska County Extension
212 North I Street
Oskaloosa, IA 52577**

Garden Accents Workshop



Join Master Gardeners, Lois Harris and Ann Evans, for this hands-on workshop to create your garden accent items. It will be held **Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30 PM** at the Mahaska County Extension office.

Many gardeners accent their gardens with flat surfaces and items decorated with sayings in unique fonts. These are then hung as signs or posted within garden spaces.

Red, Black and White Paint pens and instructions will be provided for everyone to stencil phrases on the item they bring. Participants are to bring a wood or metal item they would like to hang or post ready to paint upon.

There is **no cost** to attend the workshop. It is free, open to the public. Youth may attend the workshop, but must attend with an adult if unable to complete the task unassisted. **Registration is required.** To register, please contact Suzette Striegel by email (striegel@iastate.edu) or phone 641-673-5841.

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.

November 15 – Growing Your Thanksgiving Meal – discussing how to grow potatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans and herbs etal. Also growing cuttings from sweet potatoes, and herbs!

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.

Make a Difference Award Recipients

The following youth have been nominated for the Make a Difference Award. These youth exemplify traits of strong leaders and youth of outstanding character. They will be recognized with certificates during the 4-H Awards Event on **Saturday, November 17** in Bradbury Hall.

Andrew Stodghill, Addison McKain, Addison Beane, Raeann Elliott, Madi Hol, Nathan Groenendyk, Grace Marshall, Kira Doty, Isabelle Larson, Nathan McKim, Chase Rozenboom, Mia Shilling, Aden Scott, Sevanna Hol, Trace Hol, Atalissa Lobberecht, Brooke Ransford, Olivia Rupe, Nolan Scott, Taylor Rozenboom, Raegan Rozenboom, Carly Malloy, Wyatt Hol, Clayton Hol, Nicole Edgren, Zachery Edgren, Jacob Spears, Allie Van Donselaar, Olivia Stodghill, Teale Pose, Trisha Van Donselaar, Abby Drost, Riley Sytsma, Emmitt Boender, Tyler Bayliss, Lane Bayliss, Bryce Roquet, Jerrick Middlesworth, Regan Middlesworth, Caitlyn Kuntz, Ephraim Van Zante, Emmet Van Zante, Eden Van Zante, Eliza Van Zante, Katherine Wielard, Ben DeBoef, Amelia Bowen, Brandon Groenendyk, Ally Nolan, Paige Carman, Sarah Carman, Lydia Denniston, Katrina Elliott, Erika Walston, Courtney Van Donselaar, Veronica Bolibaugh, Addisyn McCrea, Cody Randell, Lexi De Jong

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) Trip

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 will be determined by the Extension Council in November. The Extension Council typically covers a portion of the registration fee for a set number of participants. This decision will be made at the November 19 Extension Council meeting. **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>.

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, 402-917-0533

Lisa Fields – fieldsl599@gmail.com, 563-212-2905

Jennifer Hoy – 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 December or March. Each date will be a separate class. 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. 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)

Bucket/Bottle Project Packets

The Bucket/Bottle Calf, Bottle Goat, and Bottle Lamb packets will be revised in 2019. We aim to simplify the process and make it easier for youth to complete before the fair, since we know it is a very busy time for 4-H exhibitors. If you have suggestions for changes, please contact Amy at vermeerA@iastate.edu or call 673-5841.

Superintendent Openings

We are still looking for individuals to become Sheep Superintendents and Meat Goat Superintendents. If you are interested, please let Amy know and she can provide more information!

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 and 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 are in the process of updating the Mahaska County 4-H & FFA Livestock Summary that will be available later this month. 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 will be a helpful guide for any 4-H or FFA member planning to exhibit livestock at the county or state fair. Printed copies will be available at the Extension office.

4-H Club Programs

Each 4-H club is required to set their club's yearly program/ calendar of events (minimum of meeting dates/locations) and turn it in to the Extension office by **NOVEMBER 1st**. This is a state required document that our staff will upload into the Manager side of 4hOnline. If your clubs needs a club program template, one can be found on our 4-H Club Support page at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mahaska/page/club-support>. Additional club forms and details are on this site.

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 or 673-5841 ext. 28 by the end of October. If need be, we can schedule another training in Mahaska County.

Club Changes

Some of our 4-H clubs are undergoing changes in leadership, membership, location, time, etc. Please consider supporting these clubs as they make these transitions. Youth: Encourage your friends to join 4-H. Adults: Consider becoming a leader.

* **Harrison Zippers**—This club is in need of more youth members. Call or text Barb Oldham at 641-670-7739 or Charlene Doyle at 641-777-8173.

* **Spring Creek Achievers**—This club has new leaders and would love more members. Call or text MaKayla Scanlon at 641-660-9637.

*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.*

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.

Beef Weigh-in December 18

4-H & FFA Beef Weigh-in

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

4:00-7:00 p.m.—Fairgrounds Scale

Pull in on the SOUTH side, go behind Sheep & "Beef" Barns

Inclement weather date is Thursday, December 20 from

4:00-7:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, listen to 104.9 FM.

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 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.

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).

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. These drawings will be held until November 15, so enroll soon!

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

4hOnline works best with Firefox & Chrome browsers and can sometimes be 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.



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.

Monday, November 12—MAKING Structures
Building structures using Strawbees & Cardboard

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 page 11 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 Saturday, November 17 prior to the 4-H Awards Event. Members must arrive to Bradbury Hall by noon to begin setting up for the awards event. The Teen Council's fundraiser will be announced during the 4-H Awards Event, please consider supporting them as all funds raised will be used to provide county-wide activities throughout the year, including "Ag Olympics", which will be changing to "Barnyard Games" in 2019.

Region 14 Teen Council Retreat

Jasper, Poweshiek, Marion, and Mahaska County Teen Council members are invited to a Regional County Council Retreat. The retreat will be held this winter. 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.

Beef Blast December 1st

Beef Blast is set for **December 1, 2018** and the theme is general beef cattle management. This event is for youth in grades 7-12. The event will be held at Iowa State University's Hansen Student Learning Center from 9:30 AM-3:30 PM. Full details can be found at <https://www.ans.iastate.edu/4-h-beef-blast-0>. **Register by November 20th!**

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 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 in advance to ensure we still have pieces available. Pieces must be picked up by December 31, 2018.