

Mills County 4-H Newsletter

March 2024



Mills County

4-H Clubs:

- Balfour
Barnstormers/
Clover Kids
- Country Cousins/
Clover Kids
- Henderson
Hornets/Ambitious
Andies & Clover
Beez
- Future Feeders
- Lively Oaks
- Loyal Lassies/
Ingraham Straight
Shooters
- Mills Billies
- Mills County Prize
Winners
- Silver Clouds
- Silver Creek
Go-Getters
- Silver Creek
Crushers

Springtime is Near

March 19th is the official first day of Spring and I'm looking forward to consistently warm(er) temperatures!

With the change in seasons comes another reminder that we continue to inch closer and closer to the Mills County Fair. It really is only a few months away!

Now is the time to start putting any exhibit plans into action and check-in with your club leaders on your attendance. How many club meetings have you attended since September 2023? Have you attended your additional 4-H event or activity?

Also be mindful of the fast approaching May 15th deadline for enrollments and ID'ing of animals.

I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events. Have a wonderful month of March!

- Amber McClary, Mills CYC



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County Youth Coordinator
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Kevin Pitzen
County Director
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Mark Your Calendars!

COUNTY COUNCIL

Junior Overnight Event
March 15-16

We will meet on Saturday,
March 16 at 8:30 AM
immediately following Junior
Overnight.

Please check your emails for
further details!

CREW

Sunday, March 17

Delivering blankets &
volunteering at New
Visions—look for
communication from Tammie

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Sunday, March 17

5:00 PM

Extension Office Conference
Room

Dates and Deadlines

March

1: Iowa 4-H Foundation
Scholarship Deadline/Mills
County 4-H Scholarship
Deadline

6: Office Closed—
Professional Development

12: YQCA Training*

15 & 16: Junior Overnight*

17: Bake This! Set This!
Contest

19: Endowment Pancake
Feed—helpers needed!*

26: Special Market Broiler
Meeting*

27: Mills County 4-H
Scholarship Interviews

April

1: 2024 4-H/FFA Fair Book
Release Date

15-20: ISU Extension and
Outreach Week

25: Dog Project Meeting*

28: Goat & Sheep Weigh-In

* = counts as an additional
4-H event or activity for your
attendance requirement

Upcoming

May 7: Rabbit Tattooing &
Showmanship

May 15: Animal ID Deadline &
Final Enrollment Deadline

June 1-30: FairEntry is Open

June 1: Poultry PT Testing/
YQCA Certifications Due

June 4: Fair 101 Night*

June 8: Showmanship Clinic*

June 25-27: Iowa 4-H Youth
Conference*

July 1: State Fair Livestock/
Horticulture Entry Deadline

July 2: Pre-Fair Clean-Up*

July 9: Clothing/
Communication Contest

July 11: Static Judging Day

July 12-16: Mills County Fair

August 8-18: Iowa State Fair



Have you liked the [Mills County 4-H Facebook page](#)?

Like and follow our page for the latest information and updates on upcoming programs and events, important reminders, and stories of youth enjoying their 4-H experience in Mills County!

In-Person YQCA Training March 12th



The second and final offering of in-person YQCA training will be on **Tuesday, March 12th beginning at 6:30 PM in the Lakin Center**. The training cost is \$3.00 and **both pre-registration and payment is required** to be done through the YQCA website: <https://yqcaprogram.org/>

YQCA is a mandatory annual ethics training for all 4-H & FFA members showing the following livestock: beef, swine, sheep, goat, rabbit, and poultry. Members participating in shared animal projects such as Trowbridge Calf Class and Share-A-Sheep are also required to take this training.

Any member who attends an in-person training must complete both the pre- and post-test and then download their certificate. **Remember, this year all members must provide the office with their YQCA certificate, and all YQCA certifications must be completed by June 1st!**



Junior Overnight March 15 & 16: “Saddle Up for a Fun 4-H Night!”

Our County Council is excited to announce their annual Junior Overnight event will be held March 15 & March 16 at the Lakin Center in Malvern!

This event is open to **ANY** youth in grades 4-6 (4-H’ers, invite your friends)!

Check-in will be at 6:30 PM on Friday, March 15 and pick-up will be at 8:00 AM on Saturday, March 16. The cost is \$10.00 for 4-H members and \$15.00 for non-members (cash or check payments only). Dinner, breakfast, and snacks will be provided.

Both members and non-members must register through 4-H Online (paper copy registration forms are available upon request). **The registration deadline is March 8th!**

For full details and helpful registration help sheets, please visit: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills/junior-overnight-march-15-16>

“Bake This! Set This!” Contest March 17—Open to 4-H’ers AND Clover Kids!

The annual “Bake This! Set This!” contest will be held on Sunday, March 17th at 2:00 PM at the Lakin Center in Malvern. This contest is open to any enrolled 4-H’er or Clover Kid in Mills County!

Bake This! is a culinary challenge to bake a dessert. 4-H members must bake a dessert that includes **ALL** of the following ingredients: flour, sugar, egg (yolk, white, or both), vanilla, and baking soda/baking powder. Clover Kids should prepare a plate of either 6 cupcakes or 6 cookies.

Set This! is a fun contest where 4-H and Clover Kid members set a table, develop a menu, choose a theme, and plan a special occasion dining experience for their “guest”. Entries will be divided by formal and casual classes.

Registration forms and full contest rules can be found here: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills/club-resources>

All contest registrations must be received by Friday, March 8th!

4-H Endowment Pancake Feed Fundraiser March 19—Helpers Needed!

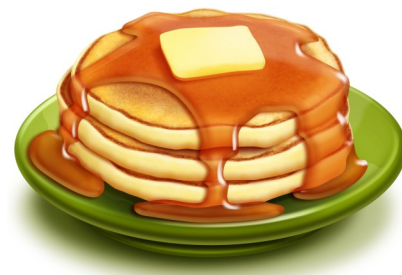
The Mills County 4-H Endowment is holding its second pancake feed fundraiser on **Tuesday, March 19th from 5:00-7:30 PM** at the **Malvern Liberty Memorial Building!**

Endowment provides financial resources to our 4-H program in the form of enrollment fee discounts, senior scholarships, financial aid for out of county events, and more! ALL money raised at this event will go toward funding these things in the future.

Advance tickets can be purchased for \$9.00 per person, \$5.00 for youth under 6. Tickets at the door will be \$10.00 per person, \$6.00 for youth under 6. 4-H'ers are asked to help sell advance tickets!

We are also needing volunteers to help during the event! Helping at the pancake feed does count as an additional 4-H event or activity for your attendance requirement. To sign up for a shift, please go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B4AA9AB2FABFC1-47299414-2024#/>

Please contact the office with any questions!



March 26 Special Market Broiler Meeting



Interested in participating in the Special Market Broiler class at fair? Join us for an informational meeting on Tuesday, March 26 at 6:30 PM in the Extension Office Conference Room!

The meeting will go over the project as a whole, ordering process, time commitment, cost, and more. **Any member that participated in the Special Market Broilers in 2023 is not eligible to participate a second year.**

Please RSVP by calling 712-624-8616 or emailing ambersue@iastate.edu!

4-H'ers for 4-H—Donation Forms due by June 15

The 4-H'ers for 4-H is one of the longest running youth campaigns and members of the State 4-H Council Youth Philanthropy Committee are inviting Iowa 4-H clubs to be part of the 2024 campaign!

This year's goal is to raise \$27,000 to support financial aid for enrollment fees, scholarships to attend state-wide events, support State 4-H Conference, and support the State 4-H Council.

Clubs that participate are asked to donate \$4.00 per member.

Donation forms are due to the office by June 15, 2024. For donation forms and more information, please visit: <https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/what-we-do/funding-for-4-h-ers/4-h-ers-for-4-h>



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Goat & Sheep Weigh-In April 28th

The goat & sheep weigh-in will be Sunday, April 28th from 2:00-3:00 PM at the Mills County Fairgrounds.

All goats and sheep planning to be shown as market animals for the county and/or State Fair are required to come to the weigh-in and be tagged. Retinal scans are required for animals intending to be shown as 4-H animals at the Iowa State Fair and the cost is \$5.00 per animal, payable by cash or check at weigh-in.

Any other non-market goat or sheep being shown at the county or State Fair may be brought to be tagged. Please call with any questions!

Dog Project Meeting April 25th

If you are interested in participating in the dog project at fair this year, please plan to attend the dog project meeting on Thursday, April 25 at 6:30 PM in the Extension Office Conference Room!

New and returning members are encouraged to come meet your superintendents, learn about the project offerings, and get updates on dates/rules/requirements for dog practices and the dog show. Please DO NOT bring your dog to this meeting!

Weekly dog practice will begin on Thursday, May 2nd, at 7:00 PM in the Commercial Building on the Mills County Fairgrounds. Dog practice will continue to be held weekly on Thursdays (weather allowing) until the week prior to fair. All dogs attending must have a physical copy or current rabies vaccination.

Interested in Rabbits? Contact the Extension Office!

Our office has received a few phone calls about rabbits and hutches for sale in the area. If you are interested, please contact the office and we will connect you with those individuals!



Kayla Streight's Mills County Fair Poultry Barn Fundraiser
EGG MY YARD

HAPPY EASTER

Available in Malvern, Hastings, Emerson, Glenwood & Surrounding Towns!

ORDER YOUR PRE-FILLED EGGS TO BE HIDDEN IN YOUR YARD THE NIGHT BEFORE EASTER.
IF YOU NEED AN ALTERNATE DATE, PLEASE CONTACT ME AND WE CAN ARRANGE THIS FOR YOU!

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF CHAMPION & RESERVE CHAMPION CAGE TOPPER TROPHIES FOR THE POULTRY BARN

25 EGGS \$30
40 EGGS \$45
55 EGGS \$60

BOOK YOUR SPOT TODAY!
HURRY! SPOTS FILL VERY FAST!

We appreciate your support!

For more information on this event, please contact Donna Streight at 641-895-5764 or donna_n_mike@yahoo.com

Share-A-Sheep Registration Open

Are you interested in showing livestock but not sure where to start? Consider signing up for Share-A-Sheep!

This program will teach you about grooming, care of the sheep, basic lessons in feeding, and how to prepare and show the lamb at fair. Buddi and Jamie Thompson will help you learn and grow in this project and the sheep will reside at the Thompson's farm. Dates for classes will be announced in April at the first meeting. Registration fee is \$50.00.



There are still two spots open! Please call 712-624-8616 or email ambersue@iastate.edu to register!

2024 Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs—Quick Reference Guide Document Available

Are you planning to bring a food exhibit to fair? Please read the Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs document, which gives a list of acceptable and unacceptable foods and ingredients that can be exhibited at the fair!

The updated document can be found on our website at: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills/county-fair>

If you ever have questions on safe and consumable food products for the fair, you can always contact the Extension Office or reach out to AnswerLine at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/answerline/>

2024 Mills County Fair: Important Dates, Reminders, and Resources

The Mills County Fair will be here before we know it! Read on for important information on what must be done to exhibit and show in 2024!

April 1 Fair Book Published: The fair book is a great resource and answers questions on project area specific rules. This will be posted on our county fair website: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills/county-fair>

May 15 Animal ID & Final Enrollment Deadline: ALL animals (exception of meat rabbits and birds) MUST be ID'ed in 4-H Online by 11:59 PM. ALL 4-H enrollments must be completed and enrollment fees paid. If you are not enrolled in 4-H Online as a 4-H member by this date and time, you will not show at the Mills County Fair as a 4-H exhibitor. If your animal is not ID'ed in 4-H Online by this date and time, it will not show at the Mills County Fair and/or the Iowa State Fair as a 4-H animal.

June 1-30 FairEntry is Open: This is different than 4-H Online! All exhibitor and animal information is transferred from 4-H Online into FairEntry, and then families must sign exhibitors/animals into specific classes for the fair by June 30th at 11:59 PM!

June 1: Meat birds must be ID'ed in 4-H Online!

June 15: Meat rabbits must be ID'ed in 4-H Online!

July 2: Pre-fair clean-up—ALL exhibitors are expected to attend and contribute!

4-H PLEDGE

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



Extension and Outreach Resources

There are resources available to help you! Find resources for healthy eating, relationships, mental health and wellbeing, personal finance, food safety, and nutrition here: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/>

Need someone to talk to?

Call the Iowa Warm Line at 844-775-9276 to connect with a peer counselor or COVID Recovery Iowa counselor. Visit <https://covidrecoveryiowa.org/> and complete a contact form and a counselor will get back to you.

Iowa Concern Hotline: 1-800-447-1985

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 988

Connect with Mills County Extension!

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 [Find us on Facebook](#)



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