Can you believe a new year is already here! We sure packed a lot into 2019, but I know that 2020 will have so much more.

With this new year just beginning, it seems like the perfect time to look at our goals and think about how to make plans on achieving them.

Here is a great way to work on planning out your goals.

**S.M.A.R.T. GOALS**

- **S - Specific**
- **M - Measurable**
- **A - Achievable**
- **R - Relevant**
- **T - Timed**

**Specific** — What do you really want to accomplish? Describe your goal in precise terms so there is no confusion as to what needs to be accomplished. Try answering the "5W"s: Who, what, where, when, why.

**Measurable** — If we can’t measure our progress, how do we know when we are done? Make sure you include the measures you will use to judge your progress towards achieving the goal.

**Achievable** — Do I have enough control of this to make it happen? Construct a goal that is achievable. Don’t set it so high that in the back of your mind you know failure will eventually happen.

**Relevant** — Is this goal consistent with other goals, and does it fit with immediate and long-range plans? Goals must be an important element in the overall plan for achieving your mission and reaching your vision.

**Timed** — What is the evaluation deadline for this goal? Effective goals are constantly reviewed and revised. Determine a date, timeframe, or schedule for your goal.

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Alycne Boban
Mills County Youth Coordinator
(712)624-8616
Pioneer Grants for Clubs

Pioneer is proud to offer $5,000 in seed grant money to 4-H clubs across Iowa.

The objective of these grants is to stimulate local 4-H clubs in Iowa to plan and carry out community improvement activities by providing “seed money” needed to make the projects successful.

2019-2020 Pioneer Seed Grants are due to the Extension Office January 16th

Pioneer Seed Grant Information for Iowa 4-H Club Community Improvement Project can be found below:

- Brochure
- Information Sheet
- Application Tips
- Application: PDF

Calling all Teens!

Camp Wild is coming up and we are looking for some fun and energetic Camp Counselors.

Camp will be held in Guthrie Grove this year and will run from June 4th-6th.

Requirements:
Must be 16 by June 4th

You will also have to attend 2 TRAINING SESSIONS PRIOR TO THE CAMP EXPERIENCE!!.

The training dates will be Wednesday, April 15 from 8-9 pm (web-based training) and Wednesday, May 13 from 5:30-8 pm (face-to-face, location TBD)

Applications can be found here or pick one up from the Extension and Outreach Office.
4-H Night at the Lancers

4-Hers, Hockey and Star Wars, Oh my!

**January 11th** is our annual 4-H Night at the Lancers game.

Not only will it be an awesome game, but it’s also Star Wars night! What could be better than 4-H, Hockey and Star Wars!!

The Lancers have initiated a new ticketing system which will be easier. You can order your tickets here:

[www.fevo.me/4h2020](http://www.fevo.me/4h2020)

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Clover Kids

Time to pull out your favorite treat recipe and your creative table setting skills.

The Clover Kids Set this, Bake this is coming up **Sunday, March 26th**

More Details to come next Month.
Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium Overnight for 4th & 5th Graders!

Come to our pajama party with the penguins May 8-9, 2020!
Snooze next to the ocean birds and enjoy behind the scenes tours of the zoo. Registration fee includes the overnight stay, tours, snacks, breakfast.

*If families choose to visit the zoo on Friday, the campers’ admission is covered!* Limit of 40 registrants! Packets available in the office and an email will be sent out once regis-

Save the Date

June 4 - 6, 2020

Experience the adventure and excitement of three days filled with 4-H camping traditions and favorite activities, including nature hikes, orienteering, canoeing, fishing, archery, swimming, camp songs, and campfires. Bring a friend with you and make new ones while you are there too!

Summer Camp for Grades 5, 6 & 7
At Guthrie Grove Retreat Center – Guthrie Center, Iowa
Registration Opens Soon!
Watch your 4-H Newsletter for More Information
YQCA yearly in Person Training

YQCA is a mandatory yearly ethics training for all 4-H members showing any type of Livestock. This training is Required to be eligible to show at the County Fair and State Fair in all Livestock shows.

The fun, in person YQCA training date has been set for **February 25th, 2020 at the Lakin Center**.

**Dinner and training to begin at 6 pm**

**Sign up link will be sent out soon!**

Call or email Alycne with questions (712)624-8616

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**Share A Sheep**

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at showing Sheep, but don't know where to start. Or maybe you don't have the room to keep livestock.

Our popular Share A Sheep program is getting ready to kick off again for 2020!

You will learn about grooming, care of the animal, basic lessons in feeding and how to prepare to show.

For more information contact Alycne or Buddi at the Extension Office.

To sign up please follow the link provided

[Share A Sheep](#)

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**Trowbridge**

Our very popular Trowbridge class is getting ready to start up again.

For more information or to get on the waiting list, contact Tammie at the Extension Office.

[Share A Sheep](#)
If you weighed in a Market steer of Heifer, do not forget to go in and VERIFY your animal in 4-H online BEFORE February 1st.

This is for ALL calves weighed in!

Fashion Revue is coming up Saturday, April 4th.
We will be adding new “for fun” challenge categories this year. More info to come next Month!

Beef Verification

Its time to get out your patterns, thread and sewing machine.

Committee Opportunities

Would you like to help out with the 4-H program, but not take on the responsibility of leading a project?

We are looking for volunteers to help on the following Committees.

Fashion Revue Committee:
Help plan and implement our upcoming Fashion Revue April 4th. You don’t need any knowledge in sewing or fashion, just a desire to help make a fun event for the kids.

Youth Committee:
This committee is made up of youth representatives from each club and adults. The adults may be parents, leaders, superintendents, or community members. The role of Youth Committee is to help govern and guide the County 4-H program.

Contact Alycene at the Extension Office for more information (712)624-8616

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.
Water Connects Us All Challenge

Iowa 4-H is looking for teen leaders to bring the 4-H Valuable Water Challenge program to youth across the state! Join us for a great learning and leadership experience perfect for youth interested in agriculture, conservation, environmental sciences, and biological sciences. Participants will also develop leadership skills as teen leaders deliver educational programs to younger youth audiences.

The Water Connects Us All Challenge is a part of the 4-H Ag Innovators Experience, an annual program that challenges young people to apply critical thinking and STEM skills to a real-world agriculture challenge. In Iowa, the collaborative, hands-on challenge will help youth:

- Learn about the importance of water and how it connects us.
- Understand how wetlands provide important ecosystem services.
- Explore ways conservation practices work to improve water quality.

Youth in grades 8-12 are welcome to apply.

State Teen Leadership applications are due February 15th.

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Record Book Workshop and Online app

Did you know we now have a Record book App?

Come learn more about the Record Book App and how to get started. We will also be going over some Record Book tips to help you get started on this years book.

Join us at 6pm on Tuesday, January 21st at the Extension Office

Bring your laptop or tablet with you to try out the new Record book App as we go!

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4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH
Meetings & Updates

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Next Meeting
Sunday, January 26th @ 4:30 pm

**CREW**

CREW meeting
Sunday, January 19th at the Extension office.
Time: 4:30 pm

**Youth Committee**

Tuesday, January 28th
6pm at the Extension Office

**Fashion Revue**

Wednesday, January 29th
6pm at the Extension Office

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**February**

- 02/04 New 4-H Family Night
- 02/21 Club Dodge Ball Tournament hosted by County Council
- 02/25 YQCA 6pm

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**Coming soon**

**March:**
- Junior Overnight

**April:**
- 4th Fashion Revue
- 25th Goat and Sheep Weigh in
- 26th Clover Kid Set This and Bake this

**May:**
- 8-9th Sleeping Bags and Sharks ~ Omaha Zoo

**June:**
- 4-6th Camp Wild
- 16th Static Judging Practice

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**4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH**