

# Mitchell County 4-H Newsletter

## November 2023



Hello 4-H Families,

As we enter November, it is a great time to reflect on the past year and think about what we are thankful for. I would like to say thank you to all of you! With the hard work from 4-H members, families, and volunteers, our Mitchell County 4-H program would not be where it is today. We have tremendous participation, and I have seen first hand the learning that is happening in 4-H. In the past year, our program has grown by 8% and I would love to see it continue to grow.

I encourage you as a 4-H member to think about those you are thankful for. Take time this month to show your appreciation to those people, whether it be verbally or sending them a letter of gratitude.

To show your gratitude in 4-H, please fill out the leaves included in this newsletter and return to the Extension Office to help decorate our windows for the month of November!

Sincerely,

Bailey Dohlman, County Youth Coordinator

### ISU Extension and Outreach Mitchell County

315 Main Street  
Osage, IA  
641-732-5574

[www.extension.iastate.edu/mitchell](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/mitchell)



ISU Extension and  
Outreach Mitchell County



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### Bailey Dohlman

County Youth Coordinator  
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Phone: 641-732-5574  
Cell: 641-832-1980



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## Your Invited! Annual Awards Night

**Date: November 19, 5:30pm at the CRC Events Center**

Supper and the awards program will be the spotlight of the event. This is a great family event where youth are recognized on stage for their participation and their 4-H achievements over the past year. We look forward to seeing you all there! Clubs will be in charge of their own table decorations so please talk to your club leaders to plan your table arrangements.

**Please RSVP to the Extension Office by November 10th by phone at 641-732-5574, emailing [xmitchell@iastate.edu](mailto:xmitchell@iastate.edu), or texting 641-832-1980, so we have an accurate food count.**

## New Member Night—December 3

New Member Night will be held on Sunday, December 3rd from 3:00pm-4:30pm at Milton R. Owen Nature Center in Osage. This event is for first and second year 4-H members to meet other 4-H members, learn the basics of 4-H, a teen council panel, and other important 4-H information. Parents are encouraged to attend with their youth and bring questions for 4-H staff.

If you are planning on attending this event, please register online at <https://v2.4honline.com/> under the “Events” tab. Registration for this event closes on November 27. If you have any questions, please contact Bailey at 641-732-5574 or email [bdohlman@iastate.edu](mailto:bdohlman@iastate.edu).

## Beef Weigh-In—December 2

All 4-H and FFA youth interested in showing market beef at the 2024 Mitchell County Fair and the Iowa State Fair MUST weigh-in and ear tag their calves at the Market Beef Weigh-In.

**Date:** Saturday, December 2, 2023

**Time:** 8:30am-10:00am for county fair calves only; 10:00am-10:30am for state fair calves only.

**Place:** Mitchell County Fairgrounds

**Pre-Register by Monday, November 27:** Call the Extension Office or email [xmitchell@iastate.edu](mailto:xmitchell@iastate.edu) with the number of calves you plan to weigh-in and if they will be nominated for the county fair and/or state fair.

**Letters** will be sent to all 4-H members that enrolled in the beef project. If you do not receive a letter in the next few weeks, please contact the Extension Office immediately.



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## Pig Challenge Applications Due January 5

Are you interested in learning more about a livestock project and the origin of your food but don't have the financial resources or facilities to do so? Apply for our Pig Challenge program!

Youth are selected to participate in this project based on their application to show barriers to ownership, support from a caring adult, and their interest in the project area.

Youth who are selected to participate in the project will receive a piglet at random during the 2024 swine weigh-in. Youth are responsible for caring for their animal. All feed, vet, bedding, and other expenses related to owning livestock are the responsibility of the youth.

A copy of the application has been included in this newsletter. Additional copies may be picked up at the Extension Office.

If you have any questions relating to this program or a copy of the application, please call the Extension Office at 641-732-5574 or email [bdohlman@iastate.edu](mailto:bdohlman@iastate.edu).

## Save the Date! Record Book Award Trip

Please save the date for the Record Book Award Trip! This trip will be held on **November 22, 2023** in the afternoon into evening. The Mitchell County 4-H and Youth Committee awards this experience FREE for any and all youth in grades 5-12 who submitted a record book for the 2022-2023 4-H year. **Registration for this event is on 4HOnline under the "Events" tab.**

Tentative schedule for this trip:

12:30pm—Bus Leaves Osage High School

1:00pm—Bus leaves St. Ansgar High School

2:30pm-3:30pm—Tour KTTC News Station

3:40pm-6:00pm—Bowlocity—Arcade & Bowling

7:30pm—Return to St. Ansgar School

8:00pm—Return to Osage School



# Teen Council Invitation

All 4-H members who are in 7-12th grade are invited to join Teen Council. Members of Teen Council serve as a liaison between 4-H members and adults to identify the needs of 4-H members. As a member of teen council you are given opportunities to work with teens from other counties, help with a variety of 4-H events, attend team building experiences, and much more.

If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please email [bdohlman@iastate.edu](mailto:bdohlman@iastate.edu) or call 641-5574. Application to join Teen Council can be found at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mitchell/club-resources> under the “Applications” drop down.

# Club Officer Training

A club officer training will be held at the Extension Office on Sunday, **December 10 from 1-2pm**. To register for this event, please visit the “Events” tab on 4HOnline. Youth will receive beneficial information regarding their positions as club officers.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Nov.</b>	1	Club Forms due to the Extension Office
	19	Awards Night
	22	Record Book Award Trip
	23-24	Office Closed—Thanksgiving
<b>Dec.</b>	2	Beef Weigh-In
	3	Teen Council Meeting
	3	New Member Night
	10	Club Officer Training
<b>Jan.</b>	7	Teen Council Meeting
	8	Clover Kids Starts
	15	Office Closed—Martin Luther King Day
<b>Feb.</b>	3	Jr. Fun Night



# Mitchell County Pig Challenge Program Application

## Due January 5, 2024

### Purpose:

To grow interest in all facets of 4-H/ FFA Livestock projects and educate youth about the origin of their food in a livestock project who may not otherwise be able due to:

- lack of financial resources needed to purchase and care for an animal
- lack of facilities and equipment necessary to provide proper daily care for a large animal.

### Overview:

Youth who apply and are selected by the committee will receive a piglet at random during the 2024 April pig weigh-in. Youth can choose from our pre-approved locations (locations selected in Osage and St. Ansgar) or find a location of their choosing to keep their project until fair.

Animals will be donated by local producers. Sponsorship pays for the purchase of the pig at the conclusion of fair and covers the cost of processing. Animals will be donated to local food banks at the conclusion of the project. This is a terminal project.

We hope youth who participate in this program will try another 4-H or FFA project next.

### Youth Responsibilities:

Youth will be responsible for attending **two** educational workshops organized by Mitchell County Extension Staff and volunteers, completing a record book, writing to sponsors and extension staff a total of **six** times over the project, and completing an interview about their project at the 2024 fair.

All feed, vet care, bedding, and all other expenses related to owning livestock is the responsibility of the youth.

### Fair:

Animals will compete in their own class at fair, as well as their coordinating swine class, and are ribbon auction eligible. Ribbon auction rules apply; each exhibitor may only sell one ribbon.

### Eligibility Criteria:

Filling out an application **does not** guarantee youth will receive an animal. Youth will be selected to participate based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated barriers to ownership; lack of finances, facilities/equipment needed for raising a livestock project, etc.
- First time livestock or pig exhibitors will be given preference
- Overall strength of application demonstrating an interest in the project area
- Support from a caring adult, this does not need to be a parent but someone willing to support youth's interest and learning.
- Decisions about participation will be made by a committee comprised of volunteers and extension staff.
- Return the attached application to the Mitchell County Extension Office, located at 315 Main St., Osage by **January 5, 2024**.

(over)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Club/Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting Partner: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you shown livestock before? Y N

Have you shown pigs before? Y N

What prevents you from owning/showing livestock (For example the expense, lack of facilities, or lack of experience/knowledge)?

What are you hoping to learn by participating in this program? If you are selected, what are you most looking forward to?

Who will be supporting you and your project? This could be a parent, FFA Advisor, 4-H Leader, other adult, or older 4-H member. If you are not sure, contact the Extension Office (641)-732-5574.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name) understand that applying does not guarantee participation in the Pig Challenge Program. If selected, more details about the project will be provided.

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

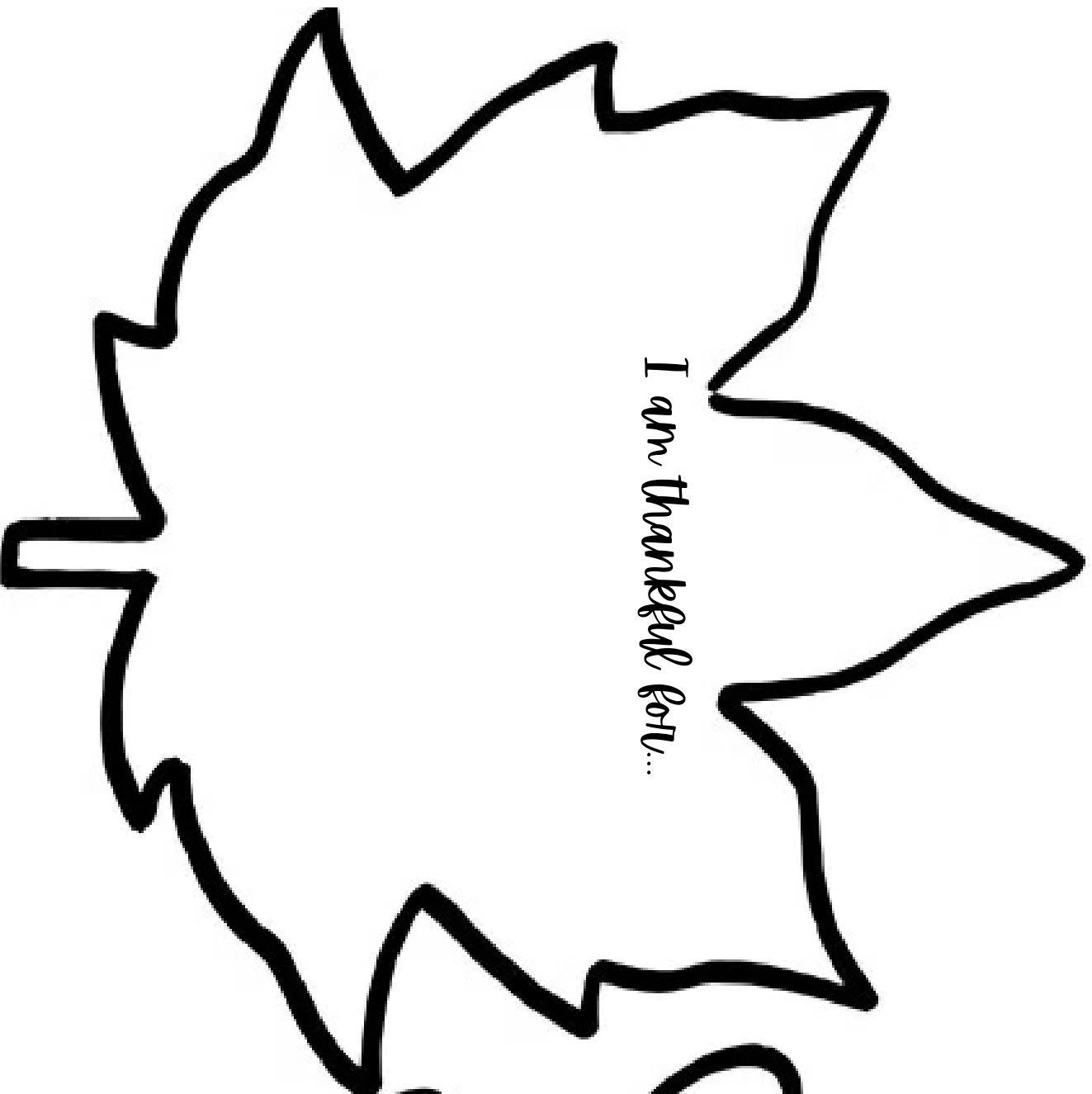
4-H Leader/FFA Advisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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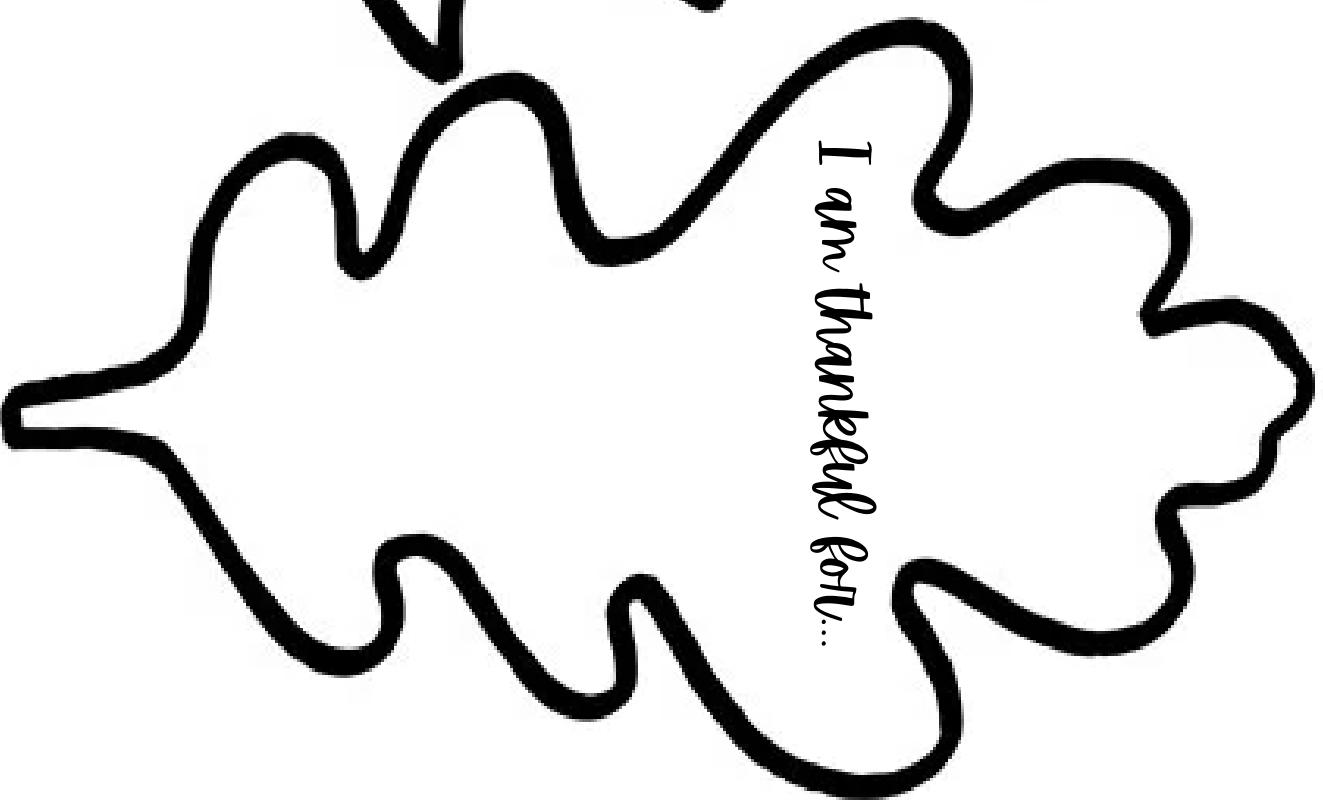


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Please fill out who/what you are thankful for in 4-H. You may decorate your leaf however you would like. After completion please cutout and turn into the Extension Office to help decorate our windows!



*I am thankful for...*



*I am thankful for...*