K-3rd Grade youth discovered robots and computer science during a full-day event at the President’s Day Off camp in Mapleton on February 20.
AKSARBEN Stock Show Moving to Grand Island

The AKSARBEN Stock Show is moving to its new location in Grand Island, Nebraska in 2017. The $42 million livestock facilities located at Fonner Park includes nearly 500,000 square feet of state-of-the-art exhibition, livestock and equine facilities constructed initially for the Nebraska State Fair. These facilities allow us to ensure the sustainability and growth of AKSARBEN’S 90-year old 4-H livestock exhibition. The dates are Thursday, September 28 through Sunday, October 1, 2017. There will be some scheduling changes from our previous days and times in Omaha. The exact schedule will be coming soon. The DNA nomination deadlines will remain the same. Market Beef retinal images were taken at the county weigh-in. DNA nominations for feeder calves, market goats, market hogs and market lambs are due by June 15 to the Extension Office. For more information, visit aksarbenstockshow.com.

Fruit Delivery March 18 at Struble Agronomy

The fruit truck will arrive on Saturday, March 18, in the morning at Struble Agronomy, just East of Onawa. We can always use extra hands with unloading and dividing fruit boxes. Nancy will be contacting you with exact semi delivery time. Would leaders please let Nancy know by March 10th what time you would like to get your fruit and if you are willing to help unload and sort. Your cooperation in spacing out pick up times is greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Cookie Factory Workshop Coming Soon

We’re excited to announce the upcoming Cookie Factory workshop. Explore the science of baking. What happens to my cookies if I forget the baking soda or flour? This workshop is being tentatively planned for Saturday, April 29 and will be open to all 4th-8th graders. Watch for details on the location and price to be coming soon! Call the Extension Office to add your name to the list if you are interested!

Club Mini Grants Due April 1

Mini grants are available to support local community service projects and are available to 4-H clubs twice a year from the Monona County 4-H program. Applications are due April 1 for a maximum award of $250. Matching funds must come from the club. Applications are available at the Extension office or online at extension.iastate.edu/Monona.
**COUNTY NEWS**

**4-H Club T-Shirts**

Clubs can order green or white 4-H t-shirts with the club name featured. County fair rules require green 4-H shirts be worn for showing livestock. Green or white can be worn for project judging day or any other time to promote 4-H. Green 4-H club t-shirts will cost $15. Orders are due to the Extension Office by April 10.

**COUNTY NEWS**

**Sign Up For Special Swine Program**

Do you want to be a part of the special swine project? Any 4th-12th grade 4-H’er can participate. Learn about all aspects of raising a pig, spend time with your pig(s) and show them at the Monona County Fair. Pigs will be housed at one farm together, East of Turin. Each 4-H’er is responsible for a $30 fee to participate, responsible for chore rotation and attendance for educational sessions and receiving FSQA certification.

**Call Melissa by March 20** if you want to participate or have any questions. The project will begin in April.

**COUNTY NEWS**

**Livestock I.D. due in 4hOnline by May 15**

All livestock I.D.’s will be required to be entered in 4hOnline through your 4hOnline account. Every 4-H member has an online account. You will use your current email and password to login. Once logged in, click on the Animals/Livestock link in the upper left corner. Then select the type of animal you want to enter. A data entry screen will then open up. All required fields are in bold. Detailed help sheets are available at our website or the Extension Office. Melissa or Keith can help you if you have questions.

**DO NOT wait until the last minute to enter these, the system will lock you out on May 15 and no paper I.D. forms will be accepted at the office.**

**COUNTY NEWS**

**Livestock Drug Affidavits Required for Fair**

Raising an animal or animals that will enter the food chain is a large responsibility. As a 4-H’er you have an obligation to be a responsible producer. Every animal is subject to federal regulations including proper drug usage. All market livestock are now required to have a completed Animal Care & Management Disclosure Statement presented for each animal shown. Forms will be available at our office, at FSQA trainings or [extension.iastate.edu/monona](http://extension.iastate.edu/monona). Give Melissa a call if you have questions.
FSQA Certification and Spring Animal Workshop

**Monona County:**
April 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m. ISU Research Farm, Castana
May 6, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monona Co Fairgrounds

The 4-H Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) program is in place for the 2017 State Fair and Monona County Fair for Beef, Goat, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, and Rabbit exhibitors. All Juniors 4-H’ers are required to attend the face-to-face training annually. Discover or Clover Kids 4-H DO NOT have to attend. Intermediate and Senior 4-H’ers need to attend the training or may take the written test. If you took the test as an intermediate, you also need to take the test when you become a senior 4-H’er, 10th grade and above.

All exhibitors showing animals, except for horse and dog are required to be FSQA certified. When 4-Hers meet the 4-H FSQA certification, they have also met the Beef Quality Assurance and Pork Quality Assurance certification.

If you are an Intermediate or Senior 4-H’er and would like to take the test, you can take it at 8:30 a.m. on May 6 or 5:30 p.m. on April 25. If you would like to take the test any other time, call the Extension Office (712-423-2175) to make an appointment.

You must call ahead to pre-register for any of the FSQA dates. The May 6 date will fill quickly. If you do not pre-register early, you may not be able to take the class.

**Call to register NOW. DON’T WAIT!**

Animal Workshop May 6 after FSQA

An animal showing/grooming workshop will happen at the fairgrounds after FSQA. Get hands-on experience with livestock. Learn the ins-and-outs from County Council 4-H members, livestock superintendents and specialists. You do not want to miss this event!

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**COUNTY NEWS**

Celebrate 100 Years of Monona Co Extension

Monona County Extension has been providing educational opportunities to residents since 1917. We are proud to celebrate 100 years of serving Monona County. Save the date for Friday, May 5th. We will have a full day celebration planned. We are currently gathering historical items so if you or anyone you know has photos, documents, or items you would like to share, please contact us.

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**COUNTY NEWS**

2017 Sewing Challenge

The annual Sewing Challenge is always a successful class, thanks to the hard work of 4-H’ers! The goal of the sewing challenge is to make something to give to others. It combines the Sewing and Needle Arts and Citizenship Projects into one fun event. The project this year is to create head turbans that will be given to local cancer patients.

Sample patterns are available at the Monona County Extension Office. Participants will receive ribbons and premium points. Turbans will not be eligible for the State Fair because they will be donated to a local organization.
**COUNTY NEWS**

### ACEs Presentation for 4-H & Community Leaders

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are traumatic events that can dramatically upset a child’s sense of safety and well-being and are linked with a higher risk of experiencing medical, psychiatric and social issues into adulthood. This affects the child, family, school and community. The ACEs Study gives us a new way to look at the health and social issues we are working to address in our communities – and is inspiring a movement to respond. Paper Tigers is a documentary showing what one school did to help struggling students heal.

Parents and other community adults are invited to join a presentation about the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and view the Paper Tigers documentary on April 3. Choose the 1:30 PM program in Mapleton or the 6:00 PM program in Onawa. Presentation will be by Lori Hayungs, ISUEO Families Extension Specialist. This event is free due to support from Community Partnership for Protecting Children’s Neighborhood Networks. Contact the Extension Office to sign up. Call 712/423-2175 or e-mail Cheri at chardi@iastate.edu.

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### Finances of Caregiving Program

Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach invites family caregivers to participate in the five-session Finances of Caregiving course beginning March 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Monona County Extension Office in Onawa. Caregivers are often adult children caring for their parents or grandparents, but they may also be parents caring for their young or adult child with special health or behavior needs. Most American caregivers require flexible work schedules and personal leave time.

Sometimes the caregiver is required to take leave without pay or even permanently give up his or her job. The Finances of Caregiving program provides materials and expertise to assist caregivers in making financial decisions for the care recipient, as well as for themselves. Caregivers also need to protect their assets and prepare for their own retirement while providing care to others. For more information and/or to register, contact the Monona County Extension at 712-423-217.

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### National 4-H Day of Service

Every day, 4-H’ers across the nation pledge their hands to larger service. And every day, 4-H’ers are rolling up their sleeves and putting their pledge into action – leading positive change that empowers their peers and their communities. This April, 4-H is launching an annual True Leaders in Service initiative in honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Month. True Leaders in Service, a month-long community service activation,

will officially kick-off the first day of April, and culminate with the National 4-H Day of Service on April 29. Thousands of 4-H’ers will venture out into their communities to do what 4-H’ers do best: they will lead in service to tackle community challenges and help meet the needs of others. If your club plans to participate, register the event and get more information at http://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/.

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### State-Wide Livestock & Ag Workshops

**Rabbit Workshop:** March 19, Poweshiek County—Grinnell, IA. (319) 775-2357

**Equine Extravaganza:** March 24-26 Ellsworth College in Iowa Falls www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/equineextravaganza

**Horse Clinic:** June 10, Adair County, Greenfield, IA (641) 743-8412

**Meat Goat Extravaganza:** April 29, Poweshiek County (641) 990-7152

**Field Crop Scout School:** March 25, Ames. www.aep.iastate.edu/scout.