



Monroe County 4-H Leaders News

January 2024 Issue

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Address:

ISU Extension and Outreach
Monroe County
4 Washington Avenue East
Suite 1
Albia, IA 52531

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday
8:00am-4:30pm

Contact:

Amie Koffman
County Youth Coordinator
641-932-5612
akoffman@iastate.edu

A Note from the Desk of Amie Koffman

Happy 2024! Feel free to give me your thoughts or ideas that would be helpful to you on the Leaders Newsletter. akoffman@iastate.edu

January Leaders News

2023– 2024 4-H Enrollment– February 1st Deadline for enrollment

September 1st was the start of the 2023-2024 program year and enrollment is now open. Please encourage your 4-H families to enroll or re-enroll as soon as possible to remain covered under the 4-H insurance during meeting, activities and to receive the 4-H Newsletter. All returning members must re-enroll by February 1st each year.

Enrollment fees are \$30 per youth with a \$60 family maximum if paid at the Extension Office. Clover Kids is \$10 and is not included in the family maximum.

Do not forget to enroll as a leader!

PLEASE SEND OUT A REMINDER TO CLUB MEMBERS!

Ear Tags– State Fair ID

Cost for Ear Tags have gone up, it is \$5.00 per tag. Retinal Imaging \$5.00 per animal. DNA sample on Swine is \$10.00 per head, all swine is required to have ear notches and DNA sample. Animals that retinal, who have cloudy eyes or are blind will have hair pulled. Tags and State Fair ID will be paid at weigh-ins this year.

Insurance Coverage/Policies/Waivers

If your 4-H club is planning to host a bake sale or an activity that requires additional liability insurance, please contact Amie at least two weeks prior to the event. If your club is planning any special activity, waivers need to be completed, please contact Amie at least two weeks prior. These waivers need to be signed by both the participant and parent/guardian. All waivers need to be submitted to the Monroe County Extension Office at the end of the activity. All members must be enrolled in 4-H online and dues paid to participate in these activities.

Sponsorship

We are needing Sponsorships for Livestock tags. If you are interested or know someone who is, please let the Extension Office know. We are needing tag sponsors in Swine, Poultry, Beef, Sheep and Goats.

Club Pictures

Please send pictures of you club to the Extension Office, We would like to promote Monroe County 4-H by showcasing all the good things each club does!



Annual Volunteer Training

Thank you to all the leaders that attended the Annual Volunteer Training. We had a great turn out! All volunteers must complete Annual Volunteer Training or New Volunteer Training. Follow the link for more information on New Volunteer Training. Annual Training will be available through your 4-H online account in January.

[Volunteer Training | Iowa State University Extension and Outreach 4-H Youth Development \(iastate.edu\)](#)

Sponsorship

We are needing Sponsorships for Livestock tags. If you are interested or know someone who is, please let the Extension Office know. We are needing tag sponsors in Swine, Poultry, Beef, Sheep and Goats.

Fair Book

The 2024 Fair Book rules are posted on our county website as they are approved. Please note there maybe some minor changes as the 4-H 202 has not been released yet.

[County Fair | Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Monroe County \(iastate.edu\)](#)

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION OPENS DECEMBER 1

Iowa 4-H members are eligible to apply for 4-H scholarships if they meet individual scholarship requirements. Applicants must enroll as a full-time student (minimum of 12 credit hours) to receive scholarship awards. Only ONE application form is needed for all Iowa 4-H scholarships. Eligible Iowa 4-H youth may apply for more than one scholarship, however, only one scholarship per individual will be awarded per academic year. Please visit the links below for more information. All 2024 4-H scholarship applications are due **March 1, 2024**, 11:59 p.m.

For more information visit: [Scholarships | Iowa 4-H Foundation \(iowa4hfoundation.org\)](#)

2024 Fair Theme

The Monroe County Youth Council Club has voted on a Fair Theme:

“Country Nights and Barn Lights”

Design will be coming out soon!

YQCA

YQCA in-person training can take place anytime. I would like to do it at each club's meeting. Please let me know what works for your club to do training. All 4-H youth exhibiting any animal at the Monroe County Fair must complete YQCA, certificates need to be turned into the Extension Office by July 1st.

January 7-Boots and Blue Jeans, 6pm

February 4- Youth Council, 4pm

February 4- Albia Troy Troopers, 6pm

February 11- Melrose Majors, 1pm

February 11- Dog Club, 6pm

March 19- Hoof Beats, 6pm



Important Dates- Mark your Calendar!

January 1- Office Closed

January 7- Boots and Blue Jeans YQCA

January 10- Workshop

January 15- Office Closed

January 24- Workshop

February 1- Market Beef 4-H Online Deadline

February 1- 4-H Online Re-enrollment Deadline

February 4- Youth Council YQCA

February 4- Troy Troopers YQCA

February 11- Melrose Majors YQCA

February 11- Dog Club YQCA

February 15- Workshop

February 28- Workshop

Swine Weigh-ins

Weigh-ins are scheduled for April 6, 9-11am at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. If 4-H members need to weigh-in out of county, **Monroe County tags must be used, must make arrangement with Extension ahead of time.** See full set of rules on the county website.

*Ear Notches are required for county and state fair.

*ALL swine will be DNA

*100 pound weight limit

Club Roster and Financials

Club Rosters are sent every month with your Financial Report, please make sure all members on Roster are being contacted for meetings and activities.

Club Attendance

Please email me your club attendance each month. We will be giving out Attendance Awards this year at the Banquet this will be how we keep track of attendances.

2024 Fair Theme

The Monroe County Youth Council Club has voted on a Fair Theme:

“Country Nights and Barn Lights”

Design will be coming out soon!

Sheep/ Goat Weigh-ins

Weigh-ins are scheduled for May 3, 5- 9pm, 8-9pm out of county at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. If 4-H members need to weigh-in out of county, **Monroe County tags must be used, must make arrangement with Extension ahead of time.** See full set of rules on the county website.

Club Fundraisers

Please be sure to fill out the Club Fundraiser form and turn it in prior to having a fundraiser. Forms are in the Leaders Binder you were given at Volunteer Training and also available on county website or the Extension Office.

High School Seniors

It is time to start the 2024 Senior Spotlight in the 4-H Newsletter! Please have your senior club members complete a little write up of the projects they have been involved in throughout their 4-H years and a favorite memory of 4-H.

You can scan, email to akoffman@iastate.edu, drop off at the office or mail them.

High School Seniors

Monroe County 4-H Scholarship

MONROE COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP 2023-2024

Purpose of Scholarship

The Monroe County 4-H Foundation Scholarship awards scholarships to college-bound high school seniors based on personal involvement with Iowa 4-H Priorities including Civic Engagement & Leadership, Healthy Living, Communication and the Arts, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).

Eligibility

Applicants must meet ALL eligibility guidelines listed below to be considered for the scholarship.

- Must be a member of a Monroe County 4-H Club for a minimum of two consecutive years
- Must be a current high school senior
- Must have completed or will be completing all Senior Level (9th-11th grade) 4-H Record Books within a 4-H member
- Must be enrolled in a full-time course of study at a university, private college, or technical/trade school
- Must complete ALL application requirements

Deadline

Scholarship applications are due at **postmarked by April 11th**. Applications may be dropped off at the Monroe County Extension Office during normal business hours, mailed to Monroe County Extension Office, 4 Washington Avenue East, Suite 1, Albia, IA 52531, or emailed to akoffman@iastate.edu (must have Scholarship Application in subject line).

Application

1. **ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT**
Attach a current high school transcript with your application.
2. **PHOTO** (Preferably as a 4-H Event or with a 4-H Project)
Note: The photo may be used for promotional purposes with permission.
3. **ESSAY (50% of Score)** (The essay should be maximum of two typed pages, so please be concise. Please DO NOT include your name at all within the essay portion of the application.)
 - The base 4-H priorities are composed of four areas including Civic Engagement/Leadership, Healthy Living, Communication in the Arts, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics). Please share ONE example of how you have personally participated, inside or outside of 4-H, in each of the four areas.
 - o Examples include:
 - Engagement/Leadership: Student Council, Officer roles, Mentoring
 - Healthy Living: Healthy Living Club Challenge, Sports, Gardening

- Communication in the Arts: Speech, Communication events, Drama, Vocal Band
- STEM: Animal studies, Lego League, Welding, Coding, Culinary Arts, Academic Team

4. INTERVIEW (50% of Score) (Applicant will be contacted to set up the interview.)

- Applicants will be given 5 questions when his/her application is turned in. This will allow for preparation for the upcoming interview.
- Applicants will be asked three of the given five questions during the interview process.
- **Communications Interview Tips and Tricks** (iastate.edu) (you can download this resource to help you prepare)

Notification of Award & Payout Process

The Monroe County Extension Council members determine the total amount of dollars available for scholarships in the given year at the March Council meeting based on the current budget. The Monroe County Extension Council distributes individual scholarship awards based on the applications submitted.

Scholarship certificates will be awarded annually at the Monroe County Fair Opening Ceremony which is held Monday before the start of fair. Recipients will also be recognized at the 4-H Awards Banquet.

Scholarship awards will be transferred directly to a student's account in the business office after completion of the first semester. Each scholarship recipient is required to provide a college transcript of his/her first semester of college, student ID#, and address for college or trade school to the Monroe County Extension Office. Once received, the awarded funds will be sent directly to the student account at the given address.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship or the scholarship process, please contact Anie at the Monroe County Extension Office at akoffman@iastate.edu or 641-832-5812.