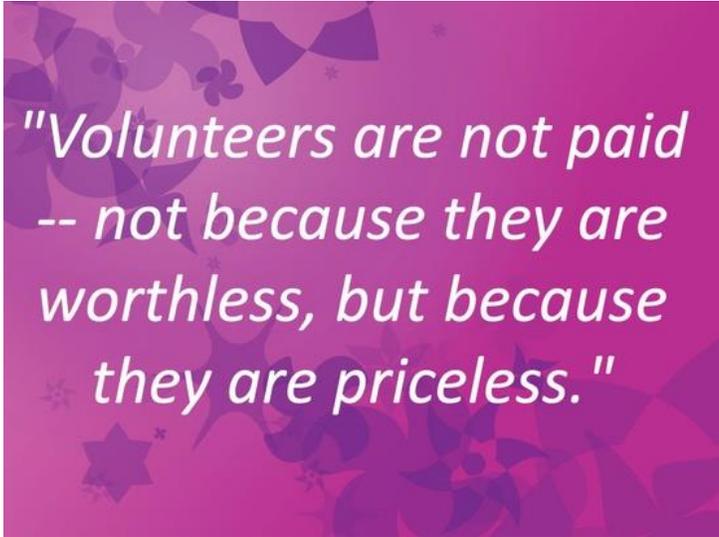


LEADER'S LINGO

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK...Is April 15-21!



*"Volunteers are not paid
-- not because they are
worthless, but because
they are priceless."*

DON'T FORGET THE EARTAGS!

4-H and FFA members must have their swine tagged and identified by May 15. The tags are available at the Extension & Outreach Office for \$2.00/tag. Families or leaders may pick the tags up but we will need to know exactly how many tags are going to each member so when we spot check those tags are accounted for. **So if you call and say your club needs 40 tags, we need to know that 5 are going to Johnny 4-H'er and 7 are going to Jenny 4-H'er, and etc. Payment is due when you pick the tags up. Please remind your 4-H'ers that we cannot refund money for tags and they all must be in an ear.** Identification for 4-H members will take place on the 4-H Online enrollment database. Instructions are available on our website. If you have a family that does not have internet access they may use one of our computers or request a paper identification form from the ISU Extension & Outreach Office. No photos needed of livestock with the exception of horses. Exhibitors with swine for the Iowa State Fair will need to contact the ISU Extension & Outreach Office to set up a time for them to be tagged and DNA collected and Extension Staff enter these animals in identification in 4-H Online.

SHEEP & MEAT GOAT WEIGH-IN REMINDERS FOR YOUR MEMBERS

- **Sheep & Meat Goat Weigh in** will take place on Saturday, April 28 from 9:00-12:00 p.m. at the Plymouth County Fairgrounds. ***All lambs (breeding & market) will be weighed and tagged and any meat goats (market & breeding) going to State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben must also come to weigh-in! County only meat goats do not need to come to weigh in, but will need a 4-H tag and be entered into 4H Online by May 15.**
- Vehicles will need to enter the main gate and head north through the carnival area and then proceed east to the north end of the sheep barn. You will then unload on the north end of the sheep barn. County only animals will be penned on the east side of the barn and Iowa State Fair/Ak-Sar-Ben lambs will be penned on the west side of the barn.
- You will load out of the south end of the sheep barn but please do not back up until all of your animals have been tagged/verified.
- All animals that will be exhibited at the Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben will need to have a retinal image.
- FFA members nominating sheep for Iowa State Fair will need to secure DNA envelopes from their advisor.
- **Birthdates are required for breeding ewes the day of weigh-in!**
- The ISU Extension & Outreach Office will enter all the weigh in data on 4-H Online, members will then need to log on and confirm the information by May 15. If they do not confirm the information, it stays as entered and no corrections can be made after that time. Please make sure your members understand that confirming the weigh in data is NOT making a state fair entry. State Fair entry is a different process that takes place after weigh in is completed and before July 1!

Cost: County Only - \$2.00

County & State - \$7.00

County & AK - \$7.00

County, State, & AK - \$7.00

ALL OTHER LIVESTOCK - IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

For those animals that need to be identified by May 15th (breeding beef, cow/calf, feeder calf, dairy cow, dairy goat, county only meat goats, horse, dog, swine) the directions to complete this process online are on our website and in the April Clover Connection. Also **feeder calves will need to have a 4-H tag in their LEFT ear and identified online by May 15.** Those tags are available at the ISU Extension & Outreach Office for \$2.00. Pets, Poultry, and Cats are not ID'd on 4-H Online, but will need to be entered into Fair Entry by July 13 to be eligible for the Plymouth County Fair. 4-H'ers may call or stop by the ISU Extension & Outreach Office if they need assistance but please be making contact with your members reminding them of what needs to be completed. Paper copies are available for those without internet access, but we need everyone to at least try to complete this online. **The system does lock down at 11:59 p.m. on May 15 and we can't enter anything after that so do NOT wait until May 15 to attempt to id your livestock...do it now!** **THE EXTENSION OFFICE CLOSSES AT 4:30 P.M. and we will not be able to assist you after that time!**
*Rabbits will remain open and need to be identified by 11:59 p.m. on July 1 on 4-H Online.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Please be checking with your club secretary on your members' attendance. If any have not already attended at least four meetings please take the time to give them a friendly reminder now that there are only a few club meetings left until the fair entry deadline! It is easier to notify them now, rather than when it's too late to get the meetings in. It is their responsibility to know this and get to meetings, but as a caring adult volunteer, please take the time to remind them now!

BLAIR HOUSE CLUBS

The 4-H Promotion & Recruitment Committee will once again ask two clubs to be featured in the Blair House. This year's clubs to be featured are the **Portland Preston Pillars and American Achievers**. Be thinking of what you want to display about your club...posters or special exhibits are great!

4-H'ERS FOR 4-H CAMPAIGN

Just a reminder that the 4-H'ers for 4-H campaign forms were emailed or mailed directly to leaders. This is what we call a "Goal Club" at the Recognition Event. It means that your club has donated the goal that the state has set for each club which is \$3.00/member. These forms are due to the ISU Extension & Outreach Office by **May 15th and checks are to be made payable to the Iowa 4-H Foundation**. Let's try to get all 20 clubs represented! If you have misplaced the form a copy can be found at https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/ways_to_give/4hers_for_4h/. Counties are also recognized at State Conference for raising money for the campaign.

PLYMOUTH COUNTY ROYALTY

The Royalty forms will be mailed to the organizational leader. We encourage candidates to open the form on our website and type it! Dates and times for the King and Queen activities have been set. If you know of a fine young candidate for either the King or Queen, encourage them to run! Each club may nominate two candidates for queen and two for king. If you have more we can help you find another club for the others to represent. It is a wonderful experience and an honor to represent one of the best fairs in Iowa! **A copy of the club minutes where the candidates were nominated must be included with the application form along with an original photo (no scanned or emailed) and the entry fee. One check per club works great!** Deadline to enter is May 15!

Saturday, June 16: Ice Cream Days Parade (optional)

Sunday, June 24: King Judging Day/Queen Rehearsal Day

Tuesday, July 17: Queen Judging Day

Wednesday, July 25: Crowning

STATE 4-H CONFERENCE

Any person who is in grades 8-12 may attend State Conference this summer in Ames. You do not have to be a 4-H'er to attend. The dates this year are June 26-28. We will be leaving on Monday afternoon, June 25, on a chartered bus. The bus transportation will be provided free of charge to Plymouth County participants. The cost of the conference is \$180 per person and that covers lodging and meals during conference as well as a t-shirt. The 4-H & Youth Committee will give a scholarship of \$25 and the 4-H Foundation will give a \$50 scholarship to any 4-H'er that attends which brings the total for a member to attend to \$105. The Clover Connection includes instructions on how to register on-line. We do have a paper copy if needed. Once members

submit their registration they need to make a check out payable to Plymouth County Extension for \$105.

There will be an additional charge of approximately \$25 for the stay Monday night prior to the conference which also includes breakfast. This small fee is collected when we arrive on campus (DO **NOT** INCLUDE WITH REGISTRATION FEE). Registration deadline is May 31. Clubs could consider giving their own scholarships to members attending.

SPOT CHECKING

Please make sure your members understand the importance of having their animals identified and housed at their residence **unless other locations have been pre-approved by the 4-H & Youth Committee**. If families have questions concerning this they need to contact the ISU Extension & Outreach Office prior to May 15. All members are subject to have their sheep, swine, beef, and poultry spot checked anytime between the May 15 deadline and the first day of the Plymouth County Fair. **If a 4-H'er is in violation on any visit or subsequent visit, they will not exhibit that species at the fair, as they are in violation of the Code of Ethics signed at enrollment in 4-H Online. We encourage youth to participate in other livestock shows outside of the county fair.** Members will not be penalized for taking their animals from their residence to a show or have routine vet work and other necessary things done! That is not the point of the spot checking procedure!

We want to know that the animals are being housed and cared for at the appropriate location and love to hear the 4-H'ers tell us their stories about daily care for their projects!

ENROLLMENT

We are at 408 members with several still inactive! Also be double checking that all new members are enrolled as we don't know who they are and they aren't getting Clover Connections! Remember you can log in at any time to check the status and see what project areas they are enrolled in. Members will not be able to identify livestock or make a fair entry unless they are enrolled.

FAIR LEADER'S MEETING

Please be sure to attend the next Leader's meeting to learn all about details regarding the fair! It will be on Thursday, May 31 at the Extension Office. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. with food being served and the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

FAIR VOLUNTEER JOBS

We are all very busy during the fair, but please consider volunteering at an event! We need lots of hands to make it run smoothly! Each year we send out a postcard asking parents, leaders and past volunteers to help us with certain duties. A postcard will be mailed to you for you to return to us by May 15th. If you can't help consider asking a parent or recent graduate if they would be interested. Have them complete the card and return it! It's a great learning experience! None of these events would happen without the help of great volunteers and parents to pitch in during these events!

FAIR T-SHIRTS

A fair t-shirt order form will be mailed. Please be checking with your members if they are needing a fair t-shirt. We offer the option of having the club name printed on the back. If you have some choose to have the club name on the back we have to print them all at once. You can still get additional t-shirts from us later, but they will not have them club name on them. Please turn this in at the Leader's Meeting on May 31st so we can get them printed and back out to you before your July club meetings. **Your club will need to pay the ISU Extension & Outreach office with one check when you pick the t-shirts up.**

FOOD STAND PREFERENCE FORMS

This form will be mailed and is the form used to sign up for a shift for your club to work in the 4-H Food Stand. Shifts are assigned on a first come first serve basis. So complete this as soon as you get it and return to the office immediately. Remember that larger clubs will work two shifts and if your club has only a few members you will be assigned with another club so that we can offer excellent customer service to our supporters!

***The form asks for you to list your top three time preferences. We start with the first one and work until we can fill one of the three. If those three are already spoken for, we will call or email you the options left. So don't put down preferences if they don't work for your club! This is not an easy task and we receive over half of the club forms back with 24 hours of receiving them!**

APP

Thanks to the Classy Clovers for their generous donation, we were able to develop an app for smart phones! It's available on the Apple Store and Google Play! Search for Plymouth County 4-H! The newsletter is there along with many other things! We will continually be adding to it, especially with fair approaching!

PARADE – 100TH ANNI.

Plymouth County Extension turns 100 years old this year!!!! We would love to have a float in the Ice Cream Days parade on June 16 that includes hundreds of 4-H'ers wearing their 4-H t-shirts! We are looking for a club or member that would like to organize the float and then we ask that everyone that can, participate! We will pay for any float decorations and have some items to hand out along the parade route! Please contact us ASAP if your club is interested in leading the activity!

BROCK AUCTION – LOOKING FOR CLUBS TO SERVE LUNCH AT AUCTIONS

Brock Auction would like to utilize local 4-H clubs and other youth groups to serve lunch at their auctions. The clubs would keep the funds raised! More details will be coming! Stay tuned!

***ENCLOSURES IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADER'S LINGO:** Food Stand preference form, Clothing Event (\$15 Challenge, selected & constructed) sheets, t-shirt order form, Royalty forms,
***ENCLOSURES IN ALL LEADER'S LINGO:** Fair Volunteer Job Postcard

FORMS THAT WILL BE MAILED!

Available
at the
Plymouth
County
Extension
website!

→ <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/plymouth/4h>

CLUB T-SHIRT ORDER FORM by May 31.

FOOD STAND PREFERENCE FORM: this is the form you indicate which time your club would prefer to work in the 4-H Food stand during the fair. Preferences will be given on a first come first serve basis but all forms must be turned in by May 15.

FAIR VOLUNTEER JOB POSTCARD: This postcard is a place for you as a leader to volunteer for a special job during the fair. We are always in great need of clerks on judging day. Even if it's for half a day I would appreciate it and you will learn a lot to better assist your members. Assistant leaders and parents that have helped in the past will also receive a postcard to make their volunteer selections. Due May 15th!

FASHION REVUE, CLOTHING SELECTION, and \$15 CHALLENGE FORMS: If any of your members want to participate in the clothing event they will need to complete the appropriate form. These are due back to the office by June 22. The actual conference judging will take place on Tuesday, July 10 beginning around 9:00 a.m. This is the only day the judges are here so if a member is going to be gone, they will not be able to participate this year. The fashion show and awards will take place during the fair on Wednesday, July 25 at noon. We have included one form in the packet and encourage members to go to the website and use the form that they can type in and save!

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

- 14** - 4-H Foundation Glow Walk
- 15**- Horse Project Meeting
- 17**-Adopt a Pig Meeting
- 23**-Dog Project Meeting
- 22**-Sheep & Meat Goat Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds 9-12
- 27-28**- 4-H Plunge Camp @ Camp Foster

MAY

- 3**-County Council @ Extension & Outreach Office 7:00 p.m.
- 5** – Project Discovery Day 9-11 a.m.
- 5**-Adopt a Pig educational meeting 1-3 p.m.
- 15**-Foodstand preference forms & Fair Volunteer forms Due, Fair Royalty forms Due
- 15**-4-H'ers for 4-H forms due, Fair volunteer cards due
- 15**- Livestock ID due online and weighed in animals must be verified
- 28**-Memorial Day- Office closed
- 31**-Leader's Meeting 6:30 p.m. @ Extension & Outreach Office

JUNE

- 7** – FSQA Training 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- 10**- Last day to identify lambs or swine for Clay County Fair
- 12-13** – Clover Kids Camp
- 14**- Return of the Mad Scientist Camp
- 15**-Last day to identify lambs or swine for Ak-Sar-Ben
- 19-20** – Mad Science Camp (1.0)
- 22**- Clothing Event forms due
Pride of Iowa forms due
- 24** - King Judging/Queen Rehearsal
- 25**-Leave for State Conference
- 26-28**-State Conference
- July 1** – Rabbit Identification due
- July 1** – State Fair entries due