CLOVER CONNECTION – MARCH 2012

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HOWARD COUNTY EXTENSION
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Spring is around the corner!

It is hard to believe that it is already the month of March which usually signifies the beginning of the end of winter! As we begin March, let's remember that it is never too early to begin planning for spring fair and county fair. Start planning early and leave yourself with less stress the closer we get to fair time. Maybe this is the year you want to try a new project area? It is never too early or too late to set a goal and go for it! Make plans for your fair exhibits and begin identifying your non-weigh-in animals for Livestock ID. Don't forget about those goals that you've been working to develop! Set your sights on your goals and soar into the spring!

It is not too late to enroll for 1st time members or re-enroll for returning members; we still want you and any new members you know! If you would like help with the re-enrollment process or need internet access, call the office and I'd be happy to set up an appointment with you! However, if you don't call and let me know you want assistance with the re-enrollment or enrollment process, I won't know that you want it! Call today! Help us reach *our goal of 236 members, we are 91% of the way there!*

Kaitlin Hanson

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Events Calendar
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Citizenship Group
FSQA
Howard 4-H Alumni Scholarship
Innovative Ag Services Scholarship
State 4-H Scholarship
Spring Fair
New Photography Challenge Class!
Cookie Challenge Recipe
4-H Market Broiler Order
Projects & Workshops
State 4-H Camps & Conference
Area 4-H Camps coming in June 2012
Leader's Corner
CSI: Crop Funding Opportunity
4-H Raffle Tickets
Herbert Hoover Award
4-H County Council
Inserts: Area 4-H Camp Registration
CSI: Crops Application
Livestock ID Help Sheet

Howard County Citizenship Group will travel to Des Moines to the State Capitol on March 14, 2012

ISU Extension & Outreach Week March 25-31, 2012

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER

Iowa State University Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.

PROJECTS & WORKSHOPS

SWINE

NEW MARKET SHOW CLASS

- New for 2012 Fair!
- Limit of 2 animals per Exhibitor
- Animals must weigh between 230 and 280 pounds at fair
- Barrows & gilts will show together
- No hair clipping
- Animals can only be shown in the Market show class and showmanship
- Premiums will be released in the fair book.

Got Questions? Contact the Office!

WOODWORKING & DOG

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For those interested in the woodworking project, please call the Extension Office and we will put you in touch with our project leader. If there is enough interest, we can develop a workshop.

DOG

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DAIRY JUDGING WORKSHOP

A workshop be held **Sunday, March 11th from 1:00-3:00 pm.**

If you are interested in learning about judging cattle and improving your communication, come to the workshop and find out more. You do not have to own dairy cattle to attend. There are no costs to attend, please RSVP to the office by March 1st.

STATE CAMPS AND STATE YOUTH CONFERENCE!

CAMP AT IOWA 4-H CENTER!

Information and camp registration is available for summer camps at the Iowa 4-H Center in Madrid. Many camp options are available all summer long! Attend camp at the Iowa 4-H Center and you'll meet new friends from across the state you'll keep in touch with for a lifetime! Early Bird registration is due **April 1st** so check out the possibilities today at the Iowa 4-H Center website: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/center/.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Want to attend camp at the Iowa 4-H Center but worried about the cost? No problem, the Iowa 4-H Foundation has camp scholarships available. Hurry – camp scholarship applications are due **March 1st**! Find the application at: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/center/Campscholarships.htm

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Make plans to attend the State Youth Conference this summer in Ames! Any senior 4-Hers may attend any of the three amazing opportunities:

- State Youth Conference
- Animal Science Roundup
- CSI: Crops

Conference is scheduled for **June 26th -28th** - make plans to attend, meet youth from across Iowa and *Brighten Your World!*

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE!

The Iowa 4-H Foundation has approved funds for youth who need financial assistance to participate in an Iowa event. Applications are due to the Extension Office **April 25, 2012!**

AREA 4-H CAMPS COMING JUNE 2012!

AREA 4-H CAMPERS WANTED

It's time to think about summer, warmer temperatures and registering for our area 4-H camps at Pinebluff 4-H Camp near Decorah.

Campers will be **Unraveling the 4-H Mystery** while exploring the campgrounds, enjoying fun activities and meeting other 4-Hers! **Junior Camp** for 4th-6th graders ($65) will be held *June 7-8* or *June 13-14*. **Intermediate camp** for 7th-8th graders ($70) will be held *June 11-12*. A camp t-shirt is included with each camp. Registrations are due to the county extension office by April 16. Registration is included in this edition of the Clover Connection! Register today!

AREA 4-H CAMP COUNSELORS WANTED

High school students interested in serving as camp counselors should check their summer calendars and fill out a camp counselor application. Junior Camps will be held *June 7-8* and *13-14*. Intermediate Camp will be held *June 11-12*. All camps will have the theme **Unravel the 4-H Mystery.**

Applications are available at the Extension Office or you may request an electronic version. Applications should be returned to Joni Bruvold in Winneshiek County by April 16. You may return them to the Howard county office by April 16 and Kaitlin will send them on to Joni in Winneshiek. Camp Counselor Training is scheduled for June 5th from 9:00 am–noon.

EVENTS CALENDAR

March

1 – RSVP for Dairy Judging Workshop due
5 – First day of Dog Obedience Class
6:00 pm, NICC Cresco Center
11 – Dairy Judging Workshop
1:00-3:00 pm, Extension Office
11 – County Council Meeting
4:00 pm, Extension Office
12 – Spring Leader Meeting
6:30 pm, Extension Office
14 – 4-H Citizenship Trip, Des Moines
6:00 am, Crestwood High School
15 – 4-H Alumni Scholarship DUE
4:30 pm, Extension Office
15 – 4-H & Youth Committee Meeting
7:00 pm, Extension Office
16 – Swine Weigh-In, Riceville Vo-Ag, 4:00-6:00 pm
17 – Swine Weigh-In, Cresco Vo-Ag, 10-11:00 am
24 – New Volunteer Training, 9:30 am, Nashua
24-25 – State Horse Jamboree, Ames

April

5 – Intermediate 4-H Event, TENATIVE DATE
11 – 4-H Citizenship Meeting, 2:00 pm
11 – Alumni Scholarship Interviews, TBA
21 – Sheep & Meat Goat Weigh-In, 10 am – noon

May

5 – Spring Fair, NICC Cresco Center
15 – LIVESTOCK ID INFORMATION DUE

4-H FOOD & FITNESS TEAMS

Food & Fitness

REGION 4 FOOD & FITNESS 4-H ENROLLMENTS

4-H enrollment forms are being collected in the region for our FFI 4-H teams. Over 195 youth are enrolled as FFI 4-H'ers. These non-traditional school-based 4-H clubs follow the 4-H Equation with programming around Our Reason, Our Method, Our Mission and Our Results.

Youth are ***productive citizens*** by actively engaging in advocacy for policy change for healthy communities.

Youth are developing skills to become ***outstanding communicators*** serving as cross-age teachers, partnering with school/community groups that drive change in foods systems and active living.

Youth are serving as ***effective leaders*** by representing their generation on FFI 4-H Youth Teams, School Wellness Committees, & the FFI 4-H Regional Leadership Team all which are drivers for creating system change and policy change.

Youth have demonstrated they are ***successful learners*** by using active listening skills and creating youth-adult partnerships that support the 4-H Equation and the Northeast Iowa Food and Fitness Vision.

Northeast Iowa is a unique place where all residents and guests experience, celebrate and promote healthy locally grown foo with abundant opportunities for physical activity and play EVERY DAY. Healthier people make stronger families and vibrant communities. For more information on Northeast Iowa Food & Fitness go to www.iowafoodandfitness.org.

CITIZENSHIP GROUP

Next stop...Des Moines!

Our trip will be on **Wednesday, March 14th**. We will be traveling with the Winneshiek and Allamakee county groups.

We need a finalized list of who is going on the trip so if you missed the last meeting, please call the office ASAP to let us know if you are going. We will be *leaving* the Cresco High school parking lot **AT 6:00 a.m.** on the 14th, so be there early! Please dress in dress clothes, *no* jeans or sweatpants. Cost is $10 paid before boarding the bus, you will need to bring money for lunch on your own.

FSQA

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

All youth in grades 4th, 5th and 6th (junior 4-Hers) planning to exhibit livestock at the 2012 Howard County Fair are required to attend a training to become FSQA certified. Not sure if your FSQA is expired? You can check your record on your 4hOnline record!

The training is also open to youth in grades 7th-12th who choose not to participate in the "test-out" option. Testing appointments will be available after May 1st. The training has been scheduled for **May 23, 2012** at the **Cresco Bank & Trust** from **5:30-7:30 pm**.

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

HOWARD 4-H ALUMNI

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

The Howard County 4-H Alumni group will again be offering a $500 scholarship this year.

Applications have been mailed to graduating seniors. Additional copies are available on the Howard County 4-H website or from the Extension Office.

Scholarships are DUE **March 15, 2012** to the Extension Office. Please make sure you have included your two letters of recommendation as highlighted on the scholarship application.

You will be contact after March 15 to set up the required interview.

INNOVATIVE AG SERVICES

IAS SCHOLARSHIP

Eight $500 scholarships will be awarded in 2012. Your parent or guardian must be an active patron of Innovative Ag Services, having purchased production supplies from the co-op or sold grain to the co-op within the past year. Student must be graduating high school majoring in an agricultural related field of study.

Applications must be postmarked by **March 30, 2012** and are available in the Extension Office.

FRIEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP

IAS will also sponsor one additional $500 scholarship for an applicant showing exceptional leadership qualities.

STATE 4-H

LAST CALL TO RETURN IOWA 4-H SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS!

The 2012 Iowa 4-H scholarship application materials must be received or postmarked no later than **March 1, 2012** for consideration.

IFAA WINNER'S CIRCLE SCHOLARSHIPS

Application deadline for 2012 Winner's Circle scholarships are **May 1, 2012**. These scholarships are available to incoming freshmen enrolled in agriculture curriculum at any 4 year or 2 year university or college in Iowa. Applications are available at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/Documents/Schol12IFAAScholAppl.pdf

COUNTY FAIR & SPRING FAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOWARD COUNTY SPRING FAIR

Start planning your Clothing Selection, Fashion Revue, $15 Challenge, Working Exhibits, Educational Presentations and Share the Fun for this year's Spring Fair! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 5th**, judging begins at 8:30 a.m. A public program is again scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Leaders have sign-ups for participation, make sure to sign up!

PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE CLASS!

New for 2012 is the photography challenge class! The class will be much like the current cookie challenge. Full list of requirements were listed in the February Clover Connection and will be listed in the new fair book.

Theme: **4-Hers in Action**

COOKIE CHALLENGE RECIPE

Cookies and Cream Cookies

2 ¼ cups Flour
1 cup butter, softened
½ cup white sugar
1 tsp vanilla
2 cups white chocolate chips
1 tsp baking soda
½ cup brown sugar
2 eggs
15 Oreos, chopped
1 (4.2 oz) package of Cookies 'n Crème pudding mix

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cream butter and sugars, add pudding mix until blended. Stir in the eggs and vanilla. In a separate bowl, combine the flour and baking soda with a whisk then add it to the butter mixture. Stir in the chocolate chips and Oreo cookies. Drop cookies by rounded spoonful onto greased cookie sheet. Bake for 10 minutes in preheated oven until cookies tops barely have a touch of brown.

4-H MARKET BROILERS

We are again organizing a market broiler chick order through the Decorah Hatchery.

Minimum of 12 chicks – Maximum order of 25 / youth
Cost: $1.15 per chick
Complete registration & return to office with payment
Chick delivery date will be announced in late March

4-H MARKET BROILER ORDER FORM

NAME: _____
PHONE: _____
NUMBER OF BROILERS: _____

Include $1.15/broiler ordered – **DUE MARCH 16, 2012**
Minimum order of 12 & Maximum order of 25

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Iowa 4-H Enrollment

Animal ID Entry 4HOnline HelpSheet

SAVE!

Enter Livestock IDs Online is EASY as 1-2-3! Here's how!

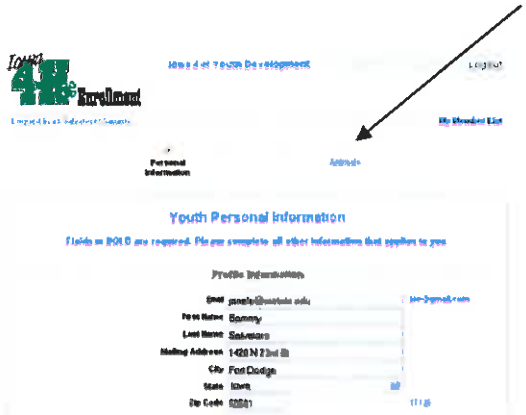
**** Please note: If you have problems logging into your 4hOnline family account, please contact the Howard County Extension Office for assistance in logging in.***

Log onto 4hOnline on your web browser at https://iowa.4honline.com:

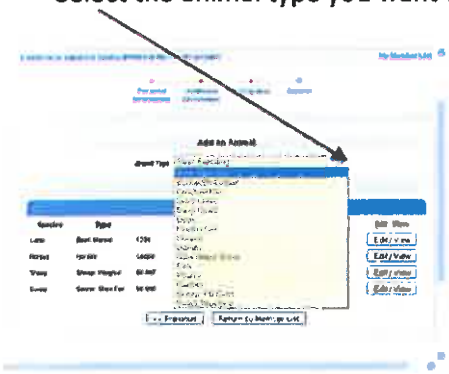
You will now see the Iowa 4-H Youth Development Log In Page.

Enter your family email address and password. This will take you to the **Member List** which includes all of your family members enrolled in 4-H: members, leaders, volunteers.

- Click "Edit" to the right of the member listed. You will then be sent to that member's Personal Information Screen.
- On this screen, there will be a 4th dot that will say Animals. Click on the word Animals to go to your Animal ID screen.



- You will then see a drop down box and any previously entered animals listed in a manner similar to the picture. Select the animal type you want to enter and click the add button (hidden in photo by drop down).



Note: Youth will not be able to enter Market weigh-in animals (beef, sheep, & swine). Please refer to the Livestock Verification Help sheet for more information on this process.

- This will take you to the corresponding entry screen for your animal. Note that in some selections will activate extra entry fields [Example: selecting *Registered* will in some cases show a *Breed* drop down box.] Please fill out all possible information about your animal, the same as you did in the past with the paper form.
- Enter information requested and **click the save button.**

ALL animal IDs must be submitted no later than May 15th 2012, 11:59 p.m.
Don't wait – ID TODAY!

Iowa 4-H Enrollment

Animal ID Entry 4HOnline HelpSheet

SAVE!

See New Horse ID Photo Feature below!

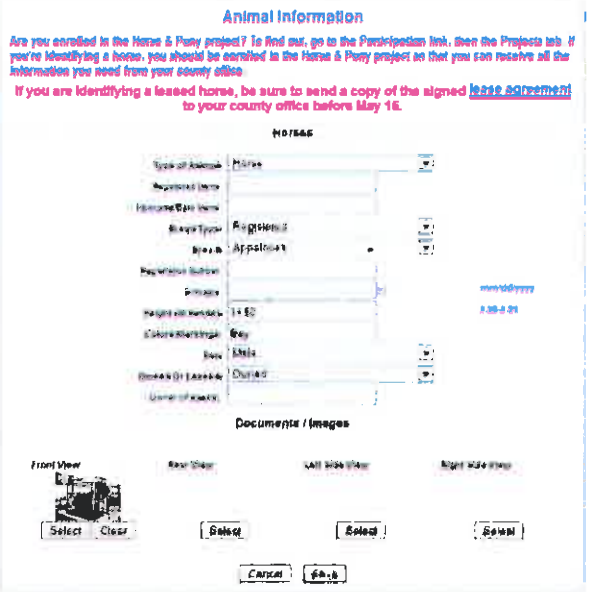
**** Please note: If you have already have entered an ID for your horse, please go back and add photos using the new JPEG upload feature. If you can't do this on your computer or your internet is too slow, please bring electronic or hard copies of your photos to the Extension Office by May 15.***

Horses (New JPEG upload feature):

At the bottom of the horse entry screen, you will see four boxes, one for each view of the horse. Clicking on the Select button will allow you to browse for the JPG image that you wish to upload. Locate it (and click Open), the file will upload fairly quickly and you will see a thumbnail at the bottom of the screen. If it is not the correct image, click Clear to remove it.

TRY TO KEEP YOUR IMAGES TO 3MB each.

JPG ~2-



Market Animal Verification:

- You will find your animal tab the same way as you would enter non-weigh-in animals
- Click the edit button to view the information for the appropriate animal
- Review all information that has been entered by Extension Staff. Compare to your hard copy ID Sheet.
- Please contact your Extension office if anything is listed incorrectly.
- If everything looks correct, click on the box next to the statement "I verify the information above is accurate".
- **Be very certain you are approving the correct information!**
- Click on the "Save" button to submit your approval. Clicking this button confirms to the Extension Office and the State 4-H Office that you verified the data entered by the county office. **If you have "verified" your information and hit save, this information can no longer be edited by your county office. Contact them immediately if you have verified wrong information!**
- ***Deadline for completing this process for swine & sheep market animals is May 15th, 11:59PM.***

If you have any problems or questions at any point while working on your Livestock ID, please contact the Extension Office and we'd be glad to help. If you would like to use our computers, please call and make an appointment today!

The new online Livestock ID feature is very easy to use, just DON'T WAIT until 10:00 on May 15th to complete! The sooner you complete, the more able we are to help you with any questions that you have!

Iowa State University Extension & Outreach

4-H In Northeast Iowa

Region 4: 4-H Summer Camps

Unravel the 4-H Mystery at Pinebluff 4-H Camp near Decorah

Registrations Due April 16th!

JUNIOR 4-H CAMPS

4th — 6th Graders
Fee: $65

This action packed two-day, one-night camp is about letting you do some things you may not have gotten to do before...and without your parents! You will have a great time exploring the camp, enjoying fun activities and meeting other 4-H members! Come spend time with old friends and new. You may even leave camp with a 4-H fair exhibit completed! Unbelievable! Come unravel the 4-H mystery with other 4-H'ers! Register through your county extension office. Camp t-shirt included!

INTERMEDIATE 4-H CAMP

7th — 8th Graders
Fee: $70

We will challenge you by unraveling the 4-H mystery! Catch up with old friends and new as you tube down the Upper Iowa River and cross the swinging bridge to the upper campground. There are plenty of activities and projects planned for you. Plus, there will be time to hang out with friends and have fun in the natural beauty at Pinebluff! The slip and slide and night hike returns by popular demand. Things only get sillier as you get older! Join the fun! Register through your county extension office. Camp t-shirt included!

Cancellation Policy: If a camper cancels his/her registration prior to the April 16th deadline, the camp registration fee will be fully refunded. If a camper cancels after the April 16th registration deadline, they will receive a refund only if another camper is available to fill the open spot.

To Register for Camp...

Complete the registration form and send it with your camp fee to your county extension office. Space is limited, and all registrations and fees are due by Monday, April 16 or until camps are full. ***After April 16 , $10 will be added to any late camper registration fee.***

For more information about the camps at Pinebluff, phone Joni Bruvold at 563-382-2949 or email jbruvold@iastate.edu.

Contact your county extension office for more information on camperships as some counties help defray camp costs and policies on reimbursement differ. Additional camp information will be sent to you after May 15.

NE IA Area 4-H Camp Registration-Due April 16th

County: _____

Camper Name:

_____

Gender: M F

Grade: 4 5 6 7 8

Parent/Guardian:

_____

Address: _____

Town, Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Camper Shirt Size:

YS YM YL Adult: S M L XL

I am registering for the following camp ("x" one):

_____ **June 7 - 8**, Junior Camp (4 - 6 Grade), all counties.

_____ **June 11 - 12** Intermediate Camp, (7- 8 Grade) all counties.

_____ **June 13 -14** Junior Camp, (4 - 6 Grade), all counties.

Registration and fee due Monday, April 16 to your county extension office.

Howard County 4-H
CSI: Crops Conference Award Application

4-H Award Trip for Howard County 4-H'ers

Return Completed Application and Essay by **March 30, 2012** to:
Howard County Extension
132 1st Ave West
Cresco, IA 52136

ELIGIBILITY RULES:

1. Applicant must be a member of the Howard County 4-H Program and submit the application form by March 30, as instructed
2. Applicants must be in 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade during the 2011-2012 school year
3. Funds awarded will pay for conference registration and bus transportation for 2012 conference on June 26-28 in Ames in junction with the Iowa Youth Conference
4. Recipient will be chosen through written application

I. General Information

Name of Applicant_____

Current Address_____ Phone Number_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Name and address of parent or legal guardian _____

_____

Years in 4-H _____

II. Activities: Please list all major activities, projects, offices and interests held in 4-H and outside of 4-H. *May submit response on additional page.*

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

III. Written Essay: Write and attach a 500-750 word typed essay answering the following question:

Why do you deserve to be chosen to attend the CSI: Crops at the 2012 Iowa Youth Conference in Ames and how do you think you would apply the knowledge gained in the future.

_____ _____

Date Applicants signature

LEADER'S CORNER

SAVE THE DATE

NEW VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION & TRAINING

For those that are new volunteers, especially within the last four years, new this year are the regional new volunteer training meetings.

The next closest training for us is **MARCH 24TH** in Nashua. Training will be from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. You do not need to be a new volunteer to attend! Registration is available online on the state volunteer page.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact the office at (563)547-3001.

LIVESTOCK IDS

Livestock IDs will be discussed at the March 12th Spring Leader meeting. Some early information is available in this issue of the Clover Connection!

WHAT'S DUE

- ✓ Club Program Books
  - Afton Aces
  - Heritage Homesteaders
  - Howard Co Hot Rods
  - Millennium Masters
  - Shooting Clovers
- ✓ Treasurer Reports
  - Afton Aces
  - Howard Co. Hot Rods
  - Shooting Clovers
  - Space Age Farmers
- ✓ 4-H ONLINE Enrollment
- ✓ 4-H Fees

  Club bills for members were sent, please pay as soon as possible with one check per club. If clubs have new club members, you will need to add them to your payment or submit a second check. For additional, re-enrolled members, please add $30 per member, for new year 1 members please add $10.

SPRING LEADER MEETING

The next Leader meeting will be held at the Extension Office on Monday, March 12th at 6:30 pm.

We will be covering Livestock IDs and Dan Lane will present some very helpful information to aid you as leaders. It is VERY beneficial to attend as you will be able to get information first hand to help your club's youth!

REMINDERS!

- Please stop and clean your club mailbox if you haven't!
- Please turn in driver's names a minimum of 3 weeks prior to scheduled events so paperwork can be sent to those transporting youth. This is to assure everyone is properly screened.
- If you are planning a club sledding, skiing or ice skating party, please make sure you check about special insurance coverage

4-H HIGHLIGHTS!

CSI: CROPS & 4-H RAFFLE!

CSI: CROPS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY!

Check out the CSI: Crops Conference Award application inserted in this issue of the Clover Connection. This new opportunity is a great way to investigate more into crop science at the 2012 Iowa Youth Conference. If you have questions, please contact Kaitlin!

Applications are due March 30, 2012!

4-H RAFFLE TICKETS

Stop by the Extension Office to pick up your pack **after March** 12th and sell, sell, sell! Each 4-H member will earn $.50 credit for each $1.00 ticket sold to offset workshop fees, 4-H program fees or camp fees. Return money and tickets to the office by **April 27, 2012!**

HERBERT HOOVER AWARD

The Herbert Hoover Uncommon Student Award is a $5,000 scholarship program for Iowa high school juniors. The program annually identifies and honors up to 15 Iowa high school juniors who propose and then accomplish a project of their own choosing and design.

Applications are due **March 31, 2012**. To apply, students must be juniors in an Iowa high school or home school program in the spring of 2012 with a high school graduation date of spring 2013. Applications are available at: http://hooverassociation.org/grants awards/uncommon_student.php

COUNTY COUNCIL

NEXT MEETING:

Our next meeting and will be held **Sunday, March 11th at 4:00 pm.** The Spring Fair and New Family/Member Night committees will meet at 3:30 pm.

We will be meeting at the Extension Office to begin preparing for Spring Fair and County Fair and summer events! Bring your ideas and be ready to plan!

FUN NIGHT COMMITTEE...

Fun Night committee will meet **March 8th** after school at the Crestwood High School. Attendance is important!

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.