Happy New Year! We hope your holidays were great and are enjoying the rest of winter break. A lot of opportunities are mentioned in the newsletter so check them out!

Soon you will also be receiving information to register for the Communication Contest being held Saturday, March 28. There are opportunities to practice your working exhibit and/or presentation at the communication workshop on January 18 or even at a new Ames 4-H club experience on January 19.

Are you looking for a leadership experience? We would like to team up with you to plan and implement county 4-H workshops for sewing, canning, photography editing, and more! We would be glad to partner with youth and adults!

These are great leadership, citizenship, and communication opportunities to add to your 4-H project records and experiences. Please call or email if interested. See you soon!

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Story County ISU Extension and Outreach
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**Clover Kids Page**

**Winter Workshop & Ice Skating:** Join us for some winter fun! January 11th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Ames/ISU Ice Arena and Igloo Room located at 1507 Gateway Hills Park Drive in Ames. Enjoy skating and winter themed activities. The fee for skating is $5.00. Please RSVP to Michelle Adams at mdeupree@iastate.edu or 515-382-6551. There will be a special 4-H waiver form that will need to be signed for ice skating.

**Mark your calendars for the Communications Contest: March 28, Collegiate United Methodist Church in Ames, 6 pm**

Clover Kids can make a poster on any topic related to Clover Kids. Posters should be 14” x 22” (1/2 sheet of poster board) in size.

3rd graders only - Clover Kids in third grade can give a 2-5 minute presentation or demonstration, after the poster show-and-tell. This will give you a chance to practice for next year! Try and pick a topic that you have had experience with as a Clover Kid. For example, last year your Clover Kid group learned about birdhouses.

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**Winter Crossword**

Find the spot where each word fits. Use each word only once.

**Words:**

- ICE
- COLD
- COAT
- IGLOO
- BOOTS
- HOCKEY
- ICEBERG
- ICICLES

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS
Beef Weigh-in January 3
Saturday, January 3 at Story County Fairgrounds from 8 am to 11am. Light breakfast items will be available as a fundraiser for the Story County 4-H Horse participants going to Denver for the National 4-H Horse competition in January.

4-H MEMBERSHIP FIRST!
1. Animal information collected at the weigh-in must be entered into the 4honline database by 4-H staff. In order for staff to enter this information, the 4-H’er must first be an active member (that has newly enrolled or re-enrolled if a returning member). For re-enrollment directions, see http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honline-information-families-and-leaders
2. For county fair, state fair, and AKSARBEN - animal information will be entered into the 4honline database, and members/families have until February 1 to verify the entered information is correct. If information is not verified by February 1, then the data entered will be accepted as is and cannot be changed.

COUNTY FAIR WEIGH-IN DETAILS
• Market beef animals you want eligible for exhibition at the Story County Fair need to be weighed, tagged, and identified on January 3. You will also want to identify if the animal is Story County Produce (was it born in Story County from a cow owned by a Story County resident?). When you make your county fair entry in June, then you will have the option to exhibit your animal in the Story County Produce class.
• Second year bottle bucket calves that might be exhibited in a market class at the Story County Fair also must be weighed, tagged, and identified on January 3. These calves that don’t come to the weigh-in will not be eligible for exhibition in the second year bottle bucket market class or any other market beef class at the Story County Fair.
• Those that plan to exhibit a pen of feeder cattle at the Story County Fair are able to select one feeder calf for the carcass contest. Any animal from your feeder pen that you want eligible for the carcass contest must be weighed, tagged, and identified on January 3. All feeder cattle can come to the weigh-in. 3-5 head is a pen of feeder cattle.
• No fee for county fair animals only.

STATE FAIR WEIGH-IN DETAILS
• Any market beef animals you want eligible for the IOWA STATE FAIR needs to complete the verification process on January 3. The animal will be weighed and tagged. A retinal image will be collected for state fair. The fee for each animal verified for state fair is $5.00 per head.
• Regarding breed steers for state fair: the breed must be identified in the database by February 1. Then the registration papers must be presented at the state fair check-in process. If a breed is not identified by February 1, then the animal will only be eligible to show as a crossbred.

AKSARBEN WEIGH-IN DETAILS
• Any market beef animal you want eligible for AKSARBEN needs to complete the verification process on January 3. The animal will be weighed and tagged. A DNA hair sample will be collected. The fee for each animal verified for Aksarben is $5.00 per head.

OUR VISION
A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE
**4-H Ice Skating Fun**

Come to the Ames ISU Ice Arena on Sunday, **January 11 from 2-4 pm** for ice skating and warm up in the Igloo Room while enjoying winter themed activities (currently being planned). A special 4-H permission form for ice skating will be required. Fee for skating (includes skate rental) is $5.00. For questions, contact Michelle Adams at 515-382-6551 or mdeupree@iastate.edu

**Swine Project Meeting January 11 at 5:15 pm**

Come learn more about the swine project! This information is for you, whether you are new or experienced in the 4-H swine project. Hear about the new county fair swine opportunities and the show order. After the overall swine project information, stay for the first learning session of the Understanding Pork Production class. This was a request from last year’s participants. Monthly sessions will be held in February and March. Then the skillathon and quiz will be held late May. An RSVP is helpful by January 8 to mwilkins@iastate.edu

**4-H Annual Volunteer Training**

The required annual 4-H training is set for Tuesday, **January 13 in Christy 4-H Hall and will be offered at 4 pm and again at 6 pm**. A light supper will be provided. At 5:30 pm, 4-H volunteers will hear a community building update from a committee member. There will be a gift for volunteers that attend and are current on all their trainings.

**4-H Leadership Team for Grades 7-12**

In December the 4-H Leadership Team met at Pizza Ranch for supper, then supported the Nevada Angel Tree by purchasing gift items for two angels. They also developed an idea for a regional 4-H lock-in for youth in grades 7-12. Their next meeting will be **January 18 at 2:30 pm in Ames**. 4-H’ers in grades 7-12 are welcome to become active members of this group. Please email Mary Wilkins at mwilkins@iastate.edu or call 515-382-6551 if interested or have questions.

**CPR/1st Aid Training**

Sunday, **January 18 from 1 pm – 7 pm** Michelle Adams is offering a CPR, 1st Aid, and AED certification training. To sign-up, contact Michelle Adams at 515-382-6551 or mdeupree@iastate.edu

**Regional 4-H Culinary Club; Meet Nevada Brick Builders**

1) Are you interested in learning more about food and nutrition? Would you like to join a club and meet other people with your same interests? **Join the Region 8 Culinary Club!** Field trips, food, and new friends can all be found here! We put together new ideas and activities to help you learn more about the food and nutrition topics you’re interested in and have fun while doing it! **We will be having an information session on January 18th at 4 pm at the Story County Extension Office.** If you have any questions, contact Kaitlyn Romitti at kromitti@iastate.edu or Mary Wilkins at mwilkins@iastate.edu

2) **The Nevada Brick Builders is a club all about building with Legos!** Each meeting will have a themed Lego creation assignment. Some themes are: houses, animals, Mixels, micro buildings and many more! Also discussed are the educational and emotional benefits of creating with Legos! Service projects are also being planned. Clover Kids and parents are welcome to meet with us! **Meet them January 18 at 4 pm at the Extension Office in Nevada to learn more and have fun with legos!** Or for more information, contact Stephanie Badger at 515-231-3088.

3) Any 4-H club is welcome to attend January 18 from 4-5:30 pm to promote their club. Please let Mary know right away if your club would like to participate so your club can also be promoted!
4-H Communication Workshop January 18

- What happens at the communication contest March 28? This workshop will introduce you to all the contest opportunities. You will get to see, do, and hear exhibit examples, evaluate posters, learn how to sign up, and more. The workshop will be held at the Extension office in Nevada January 18 at 6 pm. RSVP’s helpful by January 15.
- Any 4-H’er that would like to share a previous experience with extemporaneous writing or speaking, giving a presentation or working exhibit (or practice a new one) at the workshop, please let Mary Wilkins know at 515-382-6551 or mwilkins@iastate.edu. This would be a great leadership opportunity for your 4-H records!

FIRST Tech Challenge Open House January 20
The Story County 4-H FTC team 7491, Robot Corps, would like to invite everyone to their team open house on Tuesday evening, January 20th at 7 pm in Christy 4-H Hall. They look forward to demonstrating what they’ve been working on during their competition as they prepare for their league tournament on January 24th. Come join them and check out their robot, visit with team members and enjoy some refreshments.

Multi-County Beef Event
Join us, Saturday, January 24, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the beautiful Ellsworth Community College Agriculture and Renewable Energy Center, Iowa Falls. “Behind the Stethoscope” is the theme this year! Youth will learn how to take vitals on a calf to determine if they are sick; how diseases spread and what would happen if a deadly disease came to Iowa; discover how the vet learns to identify the parts of a reproductive tract by palpation; and the science behind building and creating their own tasty hamburger! You don’t have to be a beef project member to come join the fun while learning more about veterinarians. Contact Jackie for a registration form at jackied@iastate.edu or call 641-456-4811. This qualifies as FSQA certification!

Regional 4-H Lock-in (Grades 7-12) January 30
Region 8 4-H County Councils/Leadership Team and Iowa State University Collegiate 4-H will be hosting a lock-in for Boone, Hardin, Story, and Marshall Counties on January 30-31st, 2015. All 7-12th grade 4-H members may register and invite a friend. Friends will also need to register and complete a 4-H Medical/Release Information Form. Cost will be $15 for 4-H members and $20 for non 4-H members. The lock-in will be located at Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp, 3001 Riverside Road, Story City, IA 50248. Check-in time is 7:30-8 pm January 30 and check-out time is 7:30 – 8 am January 31. Youth not staying the night will need to check-out with a parent by 12 midnight. Join the fun - workshops, crafts, games, meet new friends and more! For more information, call Story County ISU Extension and Outreach at 515-382-6551. Ask for Amanda or Mary. Or email mwilkins@iastate.edu. Registration with payment is due by January 23. Forms are available at www.extension.iastate.edu/story

One Million Pillowcase Challenge in Polk County
American Patchwork & Quilting and Polk County 4-H are joining forces to host a One Million Pillowcase Challenge event in Altoona, Iowa. From 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. on Saturday, January 31, 4-H members and their families are invited to the Polk County Extension & Outreach office located at 1625 Adventureland Dr., Ste. A in Altoona, Iowa to sew pillowcases for local Des Moines charities. All supplies will be provided free and staff members will be on hand to help walk participants through the process of making a pillowcase. Contact Katie Beary at kbeary@iastate.edu or Marci Vinsand at Vinsand@iastate.edu to RSVP or for more information.

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.
2015 State 4-H Recognition Day
Are you interested in taking your 4-H experience to the next level? If so, please consider applying for a 4-H project award! You can apply for a specific project award and other state and nation-wide opportunities. See below for descriptions of each award category. Applications can be submitted online (http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/recognition-opportunities) and **must be completed by February 1st, 2015.** Interviews will be conducted on **Saturday, March 28th** at the Iowa State University campus in Ames.

**National 4-H Conference**
National 4-H Conference is a week-long trip to our nation's capital. Youth stay at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD with delegates from across the nation. The goal of the event is for youth to share their perspective on the 4-H program with national leaders, including Congressional members.

**National 4-H Congress**
This event is held over the Thanksgiving holiday each year in Atlanta, GA. The event includes dynamic keynote speakers, community service in the Atlanta area, workshops on leadership, cultural issues, and team-building. Delegates will also get a chance to tour the city of Atlanta.

**State 4-H Council**
This group of high school students works directly with Iowa 4-H Youth Development staff to represent the program across the state. They speak to local 4-H groups, represent 4-H'ers ideas to staff, and work in committees to plan the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference, 4-H'ers for 4-H campaign, and 4-H promotional ideas.

**State Project Awards Information**
4-H'ers who have focused on specific project areas during their 4-H experience can apply for recognition for their efforts through this program. Awarded a $100 tentative award, 4-H'ers who have demonstrated mastery, leadership, communication, and service in their project will be recognized as the top in the state. 4-H'ers may apply under two project areas -- only one project area per year will be awarded. See information for rules.

**State 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador Program**
The 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador Program is designed to promote 4-H and specifically 4-H Shooting Sports. Youth selected to serve as Ambassadors will receive training to become advocates for the program at county, regional, and state levels. Through the program, Ambassadors develop their skills in leadership, public presentation, citizenship, community service, public relations and team building.

As the 4-H intern at Story County Extension and Outreach I would be happy to meet with anyone interested in learning more about these opportunities. Please e-mail me at stweeten@iastate.edu with any questions or concerns you may have and we can arrange for a time to meet, if needed. This is an awesome opportunity to polish those application writing and interviewing skills that you will continue to use throughout your lifetime. Please consider applying for these awards, you’ll be glad you did!
State Volunteer Retreat February 6-7
The annual State Volunteer Retreat, held in Ames, brings together 4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members! Friday evening features hands on activities and ideas. Saturday is filled with a variety of workshops and networking opportunities. Workshops are presented by ISU faculty and staff and volunteers. The wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H members. Registration is FREE this year and limited to the first 100 people who register. Registration is filling up fast so don’t delay! Registration deadline is January 23, but register now to get your choice of workshops! [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/state-volunteer-retreat](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/state-volunteer-retreat)

2015 4-H Scholarships
The Iowa 4-H Foundation has announced applications are now available for its 4-H scholarship program. Approximately 80 scholarship opportunities valued at over $73,000 will be awarded. Information and applications for the 4-H Scholarships are now available online through the Iowa 4-H Foundation at [www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships](http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships) Application deadline is February 1.

Training For New 4-H Volunteers February 7
New 4-H volunteers complete the required new 4-H volunteer training during their first year! There are a variety of dates and locations available across Iowa. One will be held in Story County on February 7, 2015. [https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/volunteertraining](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/volunteertraining) Register at this link. Please let Mary Wilkins (mwilkins@iastate.edu) or Melissa McEnany (mmcenany@iastate.edu) know your plans to attend.

4-H Horse Project
If you are interested in learning all about horses such as conformation, health, tack, breeds and more go to your family online membership page and be sure you are enrolled in the horse project. You do not need to own a horse to participate! The 4-H Horse Jamboree (held in March at ISU in the past) has been moved to May 1, 2, and May 3, 2015 to Ellsworth College Equine Center in Iowa Falls. You can participate in Quiz Bowl on Friday, May 1, Hippology and Horseless Horse on Saturday, May 2, and Horse Judging on Sunday, May 3. Teams will start practice in the spring. You can work on art, crafts, and public speaking this winter! For more Story County 4-H horse information, please contact Deanna Collins or Claire Hall.

Calling 4-H Members and/or Former Members . . .
The Story County 4-H History Committee wants to call your attention to:

- **Nominations for the 4-H Hall of Fame.** Soon after the New Year, nominations forms will be available on line and at the Story County Extension Office. They are due April 30.
- The history committee has fair books for every year but a few. Those missing are 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1947, and 1958. Can you help us find a copy?
- Mark July 26, 2015, 2-4 pm for the 4-H Reunion. The committee plans to recognize those who showed the Grand Champion Steer over the years. Watch for more information to come.
- The 4-H Historical Committee with the Story County 4-H Fairboard will be celebrating 75 Years of the Fair by offering a 1940 Story County Fair Jackpot Photo Class. Enter them in the 4-H’ers in Action Photography classes:
  * Class 2 – 4-H’ers in Action in the Past (class for current 4-H’ers)
  * Class 5 – 4-H’ers in Action in the Past (entries submitted by adult or youth, other than 4-H’er)
- *Note: All 1940 County Fair pictures in these two classes will automatically be eligible for the 1940 County Fair Jackpot Class. The Story County Fairboard is recognizing the best picture in the Jackpot Class selected by the judges with a $75 cash prize. Watch for more information about club prize money opportunities too!
### JANUARY
3 – Beef Weigh-in, 8-11 am, Fairgrounds
5 – Fairboard Meeting
11 – 4-H Ice Skate & Activities, 2-4 pm, Ames ISU Ice Arena
13 – Annual 4-H Volunteer Training, 4 pm and 6 pm (repeat). Also 5:30 pm light supper and Community Building information
18 – 1st Aid, CPR, AED Class, Extension Office, 1-7 pm
18 – Leadership Team, 2:30 pm
18 – Culinary Club and Brick Builders, 4 pm, Nevada
18 – Communication Workshop, 6pm, Nevada
20 – FTC Open House
24 – Beef Event, 9 am, Ellsworth Community College
26 – Youth Committee Meeting
30 – Lock-in, Story City

### FEBRUARY
1 – State 4-H Award Applications and Scholarship Applications Due
1 – Market Beef Animals Verified in 4honline
6-7 – State 4-H Workshop Retreat
7 – Training for NEW Story County 4-H Volunteers, Nevada

### 2015 Important Dates
March 24 – FSQA, 6:30 pm, Ames
March 28 – Communication Contest, Ames
March 28 – State Award Interviews, Ames
April 18 – Swine Award
May 1-3 – State 4-H Horse Jamboree
May 2 – Sheep & Goat Weigh-in
May 15 – Animals Identified
June 15 – County Fair Entries Due
6/30-7/1 – State 4-H Conference
July 17–19 – Fair at the Mall
July 20 – Fair Set-Up Night
July 22 – Exhibit judging
July 23 – Inspiration Program
July 25-29 – Story County Fair
8/5-8/7 – Tri-County Junior Camp