Looking for something to do this month? Look no further! We’ve got an exciting and busy month ahead here in Story County and we hope you can join us for a variety of workshops and events.

If you’ve stopped by our office in the last couple of months, you may have noticed some new faces. We have added three new interns from Iowa State University to our office in order to better assist us in our 4-H mission.

Amanda Strief is a senior in Child, Adult, and Family Services at Iowa State University. She is helping with volunteer training preparations along with other in-office needs. She is also working on plans for youth workshops and events.

Chanae Fitzgerald is a junior at Iowa State University is majoring in Agricultural Education. Currently, she serves as the 4-H AmeriCorps member. She is planning summer day camp experiences, will be helping implement Ricochet, and more!

Sarah Tweeten is a senior in Agricultural Communications at Iowa State University. She has organized 4-H Officer Training and will be organizing FSQA Training, a community radio workshop, and other project based workshops.

I Pledge
My Head to clearer thinking
My Heart to greater loyalty
My Hands to larger service
My Health to better living
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.
Fruit S'Mores

Here’s what you will need to make it:

- Graham crackers
- Strawberries
- Blueberries
- Cream cheese
- Knife
- Plate
- Spoon

Here’s what you have to do:

1. Check with a grown-up before you start this.
2. Take a graham cracker and break a bite-sized square onto plate.
3. Spread some cream cheese onto this first layer.
4. Then arrange sliced strawberry and some blueberries onto the cream cheese.
5. Top it off with the top of the cracker, like a fruit sandwich.
6. Eat it up!

Communication Contest:

**March 28:** Communication Contest at Collegiate United Methodist Church in Ames. Clover Kid activities begin at 6pm.

Posters: All 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. A show and tell will begin at 6:00 pm for members to share their poster.

Presentations: 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 healthy snacks. You could tell us what you learned and then show us how to make a healthy snack.

Entry forms are available at [www.extension.iastate.edu/story](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/story). Contact Melissa at the Extension Office or mmcenany@iastate.edu with questions.
4-H Horse Quiz Bowl
The Story County 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl team placed 5th overall out of 9 states at the National 4-H Horse Competition in January. Caitlin Dewell was 10th place high individual and Nicole Dewell was 6th place high individual. Ben and Hannah Lee were also on the team and contributed to the team's success.

Katie Hodge received 4th place in Public Speaking. Her "Impressive" speech was about HYPP disease in quarter horses with the Impressive bloodline.

Awards (Grades 9-12) (Application Deadline February 1)
2015 Online applications are to be submitted for consideration no later than 11:59 PM, February 1, 2015 for the opportunities of 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador, State 4-H Project Awards, National 4-H Congress, National 4-H Conference, and State 4-H Council. See information for all opportunities at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/recognition-opportunities. The 2015 4-H Recognition Day will be held Saturday, March 28 on the Iowa State University Campus. For more information on recognition opportunities and awards, please contact 4-H Recognition Day coordinator, Cayla Taylor- cayla@iastate.edu, 515-294-1877.

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 Application deadline is February 1.

Training For New 4-H Volunteers
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 Register at this link. Please let Mary Wilkins (mwilkins@iastate.edu) or Melissa McEnany (mmcenany@iastate.edu) know your plans to attend.

Horse Project Meeting
The 4-H Horse Project Meeting will be Thursday, February 26th, 6:30 PM at the Extension Office in Nevada. Meet the 2014 winning Quiz Bowl Team members and the winning Public Speaking member who want to tell you all about their competition in Denver, Colorado. You can also be a part of the Horse Quiz Bowl, Hippology, and Horse Judging teams at the contest May 1, 2, and 3 at Ellsworth College Equestrian Center so you can win a trip to Denver too! Participate in a fun "Beat the Buzzer" team competition all about horses. Bring a friend or club member who loves horses too!

Beef It UP Workshop at ISU for Region 8 4-H’ers (Grades 4-12)
4-H’ers in fourth through twelfth grade from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Region 8 (Boone, Hardin, Marshall and Story Counties) are making plans to attend a "Beef It Up" workshop that will be held in the ISU Meat Lab February 28 from 9 am until 12:30 pm. Participants will learn about quality grade and yield grade and what the difference is between prime, quality, and select and why it is important. They will have the opportunity to look at beef carcasses and identify meat cuts. The importance of Food Safety and Quality Assurance will be an important topic too. A lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the workshop. Cost per participant, adult or youth, is $10 and must be submitted with the registration form by February 18 to the Boone County ISU Extension and Outreach Office, 603 Story Street, Boone, IA 50036. For more information, contact Boone County Program Coordinator Mary Clancy at 515-432-3882.
Marion County Poultry Workshop
The Marion County Extension office is offering a FREE poultry workshop on February 28th from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Workshop includes several informational sessions including a Mini Poultry Show, Chicken 101, chicken washing, Jr. judging and more! Pre-registration is required by February 25th for the Mini Poultry Show. For more information or to get registered, please contact the Marion County Extension office at 641-842-2014.

Tri-County Junior 4-H Camp Counselor (Grades 9-12)
Are you interested in camping and using your leadership skills? If so, don’t miss this opportunity to become a camp counselor for Tri-County Junior Camp August 4 – 7, 2015. 4-H teens must be 15 or older by July 1st to be counselors. You will lead theme-based camp activities, provide a physically and emotionally safe environment for campers, be great role models, help supervise campers, have lots of FUN and gain skills to add to your 4-H record keeping and resume! Counselors will be required to attend a training session all day on August 4 at the Iowa 4-H Center. Application deadline is March 1, 2015 For questions, contact Annette Brown, ISU Extension and Outreach, Boone office at 432-3882 or annbrown@iastate.edu.

5th-8th Graders - Join the Ricochet Adventure March 16 & 17
Story County 5th through 8th graders, are you looking for a fun way to gain leadership skills? Register today for Ricochet 1: An Extreme Leadership Adventure, an exciting Iowa State University Extension and Outreach 4-H Youth leadership experience, scheduled for March 16 and March 17, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days at the Collegiate United Methodist Church 2622 Lincoln Way in Ames.

Youth will explore leadership attitudes, leadership information, communication skills, decision making skills and stress management skills through interactive games, activities, and a panel of community members. The group will use what they learn to identify a community need and develop a service project to address the need. For registration information, see http://www.extension.iastate.edu/story Registration due by March 10. For questions, contact Mary Wilkins at 515-382-6551 or mwilkins@iastate.edu or Annette Brown, ISU Extension and Outreach, Boone office at 432-3882 or annbrown@iastate.edu.

FSQA Program & Testing March 24, 6:30 pm, Christy 4-H Hall
If unable to attend March 24, contact Mary Wilkins at 515-382-6551 or email mwilkins@iastate.edu.
- Re-enrolled 4-H members can check their FSQA certification status in the 4-H online database. Exhibitors with swine, beef, sheep, dairy cattle, bottle bucket calves, poultry, rabbits or goats (dairy or meat) must be FSQA certified. These animals may be exhibited in a market or breeding class. In either case, FSQA certification is required. FSQA certification is required for county fair and state fair.
- FSQA IS NOT FOR CLOVER KIDS.
- GRADES 4-6 – Must attend the annual FSQA Program, no test out option
- GRADES 7-9 – Attend program annually or test out. GRADES 9-12 – Attend program annually or test out (swine producers turning 18 will need to complete the National Pork Board Adult PQA). Tests are 20 or 30 questions (multiple choice and true/false). 70% is passing. Tests may be taken up to three times that evening. Tests may also be taken at the Extension office by scheduling an appointment. FSQA books are only available online at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/FSQA.htm

Take Pictures for the SCC Partners Annual Photo Contest
Contest Photos May be Submitted March 9 – 27, 2015
Amateur photographers are reminded to get outside and take pictures of nature and recreational activities! Images from the contest are used to enhance Story County Conservation\'s photo library and encourage people to visit SCC areas year-round. Photographers retain all rights to their images except for use by Story County Conservation. The following categories are judged:
- A: Landscape (may include structures) – must be taken in Story County Conservation areas.
- B: Flora and Fungi (photographs of specific plants or fungi – micro or macro)
Nominations for the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame
A Story County person or couple will be taken into the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame at the 2015 Iowa State Fair. There is a form along with information to help people complete a nomination. It is available on the Story County Extension website on the 4-H page. Or you may pick up a paper copy at the office. Nominations are due at the office April 30, 2015. The honoree will be presented at the 4-H Reunion on Sunday of the 2015 County Fair.

4-H’ers in Action Jackpot Class
The 4-H Historical Committee with the Story County 4-H Fair board will be celebrating 75 Years of the Fair. The 4-H Historical Committee is searching for pictures from the 1940 Story County Fair. If you (family member, etc.) has pictures from that year, please enter them in the following 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 Fair board is recognizing the best picture in the Jackpot Class selected by the judges with a $75 cash prize. Watch future newsletters for information about club prize money opportunities too!

Iowa State University Agronomy Club’s 4-H Experience Agronomy Event
The Iowa State University Agronomy Club is excited to announce a new and educational opportunity for middle school 4-Hers grades 4-8 who are interested in agriculture and agronomy. Together with the staff and professors of the Iowa State University Agronomy Department, the club will be hosting a fun-filled interactive day full of demonstrations by world renowned ISU Agronomy faculty and teaching assistants, a career fair with companies in agricultural industries, a lunch, and a raffle. The day will focus on many important areas such as weeds, seeds, crops, weather, and soil. This event will take place on Saturday, April 11 2015 in Ames at Agronomy Hall. We are asking for $5 per attendee to help cover the cost of lunch and one t-shirt per person. Please e-mail Emily Putze at erputze@iastate.edu with questions or to register for this event.

2015 4-H Shooting Sports State Match
Mark your calendars: the 2015 4-H Shooting Sports State Match will be held at Big Springs Range on September 26, 2015. More information will be available in the coming months. To be eligible to participate, youth must be enrolled for the current 4-H 2014-2015 year in 4-H Online and be certified in the discipline(s) for which they register. Updated health information will be required as part of the online registration process when it’s available sometime in the spring.

SESS Instructor Training, Iowa 4-H Center
Online registration is now available for the State 4-H Shooting Sports Certification Workshop! It will be held at the Iowa 4-H Center on May 1-3, 2015. All volunteers MUST have successfully completed the background screening process through their county extension office before participating in the training. Early Bird Registration ends March 31, 2015 and will cost $250. http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/shootingsports/training
**Dressage and Jumping Clinics**
Sunday, May 31st and Saturday, June 20th: Save these dates so you can bring your horse to the Story County Fairgrounds to practice dressage using our fair book pattern and jumping cross poles and hunter hack. More information will be coming so be sure you are officially enrolled in 4-H and the Horse Project.

**Summer staff positions at the Iowa 4-H Center**
Positions supporting educational programs at the Iowa 4-H Center this coming summer include lifeguards, health aides, and programming specialists working with adventure/challenge programs, creativity and the arts programs, nature and science programs, outdoor skills, and shooting sports. Applicants need to be at least 18 years of age; at least one year of college or other relevant post-high school experience is preferred. Positions will be filled as applications are received. http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/content/now-hiring-summer-camp-program-staff
For more information, contact Bill Beckley, Youth Program Specialist, Camping (wbeckley@iastate.edu).

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**STORY COUNTY 4-H COMMUNICATIONS EVENT**

Entry forms due on or before March 2nd. Forms and complete information can be found at

[www.extension.iastate.edu/story](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/story)

**Event Date:** March 28th 8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. (entries are due March 2nd)
**Location:** Collegiate United Methodist Church, Ames

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70020</td>
<td><strong>Clover Kid Poster</strong> - make a poster on any topic related to Clover Kids. Posters should be 14&quot; x 22&quot; (1/2 sheet of poster board) in size. A 4-H clover emblem may be included on your poster.</td>
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<tr>
<td>70021</td>
<td><strong>3rd Grade Presentation</strong> - give a 2-5 minute presentation or demonstration, after the clover kid poster show-and-tell. Pick a topic that you have had experience with as a Clover Kid. Maybe your Clover Kid group learned about birdhouses. You could give a presentation about how you make a birdhouse. You may bring props and do the presentation with one friend who is also a Clover Kid.</td>
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**Class No.**
**Description** Up to 6 entries may be selected by the judge for exhibition at the Iowa State Fair.

11101  Junior Educational Presentation
11102  Intermediate/Senior Presentation

**Educational Presentation** - Give a talk or speech with illustrations or posters that communicates knowledge, information or a process about a particular subject. Typically, the audience is involved visually, mentally, emotionally or through hearing. Topic selection should be appropriate and should be an outgrowth of the presenter’s 4-H experience. Junior level 4-H’ers (grades 4-6) with presentations have a maximum time length of 15 minutes. Intermediate and senior level 4-H’ers (grades 7-12) with presentations have a maximum length of 20 minutes. Set-up must be done by exhibitor only (like state fair). Internet connections will not be available. If unable to give your presentation at the communication contest, the presentation may be video-taped and submitted for non-conference judging, but it will not be eligible for state fair selection.

**Class No.**
**Description** Up to 4 entries may be selected by the judge for exhibition at the Iowa State Fair.

11201  Junior Working Exhibit
11202  Intermediate/Senior Working Exhibit

**Working Exhibit** - The Working Exhibit is an interactive communication activity with an audience. The intent is to teach a process, transmit knowledge and develop skills. Typically, the audience is involved physically, mentally, and through senses. Topic selection should be appropriate and should be an outgrowth of the presenter’s 4-H experience. Use of sanitary and safe procedures and methods is always important, particularly if food samples are available to the audience. All processes used should be safe for involvement by audiences of all ages. All working exhibits at the county communication contest will be scheduled to be in progress for 20 minutes. Set-up must be done by exhibitor only (like state fair). Your presence at the contest is a must to enter this class. Entries selected for the Iowa State Fair will have different time lengths scheduled at the Iowa State Fair.

**Class No.**
**Description** Up to 2 entries may be selected by the judge to be entered at the Iowa State Fair.

10503  **4-H Posters** - Posters provide a way for 4-H’ers to non-verbally communicate to the public.

Rules for this contest include:
• Only one poster per 4-H'er. Conference judging time for posters will be scheduled and communicated in the exhibitor letter that will be mailed the week of March 16.

• Choose one of the following poster themes:
  a. **4-H is . . .** (Open to 4-H'ers interpretation)
  b. **Join 4-H**
  c. **Dare to Discover** (The 2015 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference theme)
  d. **Nothing Compares** (The 2015 Iowa State Fair theme)

• The 2015 Poster Exhibit Entry Form should be attached to the back of the poster. This form will be mailed to you the week of March 16.

• All posters must be designed on or affixed to, standard poster board or foam core board – size minimum of 14” x 20” or maximum of 15” x 22”. Posters may be vertical or horizontal and completed with any medium: watercolor, ink, crayon, acrylic, charcoal, oils, collage, etc. They **cannot** be 3-dimensional and materials used to make the poster **cannot** extend more than 1/8 inch above the poster or foam core board.

• The poster may include the 4-H emblem/clover. Do not print on or cover the emblem; however, because it is a copyright logo. Posters **cannot** incorporate copyright materials or exact copies of other promotional designs, such as the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference theme logo.

**Class No. 11401**

**Description** - Up to 2 entries may be selected by the judge for exhibition at the Iowa State Fair.

Extemporaneous Speaking - This contest is designed to encourage the development of the communication life-skill by enhancing the ability to think, organize, speak, and answer questions readily before an audience. Rules include:

• **This contest is open to 4-H'ers in grades 4-12, but only 4-H'ers in grades 9 – 12 are eligible for advancement to the Iowa State Fair.**

• At the beginning of the assigned 30 preparation time in the preparation room, the contestant will **draw three 4-H topics** and select one to prepare a speech on. The selected topic will not be available to the other contestants. The other two topics may again be drawn by other contestants.

• The 4-H'er will have the rest of the 30 minutes in the preparation room to **prepare a speech 4 minutes (minimum) to 6 minutes (maximum) in length without help from other 4-H'ers or adults.** The contestant may not leave the preparation room when the 30 minute preparation time begins, until it is time to give his/her speech in the audience room.

• Plain note cards and some 4-H reference materials will be available in the preparation room for the contestant’s use. The contestant may also bring their own printed reference materials (books, magazines, web pieces, etc) but no written notes or outlines. Only notes made during the preparation period may be used for the speech.

• In the audience room, a person timing the speech will show cue cards for each minute (1, 2, 3, 4, 5). The contestant will be asked to stop at six minutes. Questions may follow.

• Props, posters, or visuals of any sort are **not allowed** in the audience room.

• Evaluation criteria includes: content related to topic, knowledge of the subject, organization of material, power of expression, voice, stage presence, general effect, and response to questions.

**Class No. 11402**

**Description** - Entries in this Communication Contest Class **CANNOT** be selected for Iowa State Fair exhibition.

Extemporaneous Writing - The opportunity is available for 4-H'ers to enter an extemporaneous writing contest. Being able to collect your thoughts and write them legibly on paper in a way that communicates your ideas well and in a logical order is an essential skill to develop. **This contest is open to 4-H'ers in grades 4-12.** Additional rules:

• A 4-H topic will be communicated with the 4-H'er in the writing room.

• In the writing room, the 4-H'er will then have a limited time to write about the topic. **Junior 4-H'ers will have 20 minutes, Intermediates 25 minutes, and Senior 4-H'ers will have 30 minutes to write about their topic.** The room monitor will track the minutes available to contestant. If done writing early, the contestant may leave the writing room, but will be unable to re-enter this room. Paper and some 4-H reference materials will be provided in the room for the contestant’s use. The contestant may also bring their own printed reference materials (books, magazines, web pieces, etc), but no written notes or outlines.

• Evaluation criteria includes: content related to topic, organization of information, conciseness in wording, and neatness of writing

• A time for a conference between the 4-H'er and the judge will also be scheduled.
# Story County 4-H Calendar

## 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
- 26- 4-H Horse Project Meeting
- 28- Beef Workshop
- 28- Marion Co. Poultry Workshop

## MARCH

1- Registration due for Tri-County Junior 4-H Camp
16-17- Richochet, Ames
24 – FSQA, 6:30 pm
28 – Communication Contest, Ames
28- State Award Interviews, Ames

## 2015 Important Dates

April 18 – Swine Weigh-in
May 1-3 – State 4-H Horse Jamboree
May 2 – Sheep & Goat Weigh-in
May 15 – Animals Identified
June 15 – County Fair Entries Due
June 30- July 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
August 5-7 – Tri-County Junior Camp