



Clover Connection



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<http://hancock.osu.edu>

Dear 4-H Families & Volunteers:

Welcome to the 2010 4-H family! We are off to a great start with enrollment information almost completely entered into our data base. We are utilizing a new enrollment program and are working diligently to make sure we can get reports to advisors for review. This should be completed within the next few weeks.

We have had great attendance at 4-H events. Almost 200 members, parents and advisors attended the LEAD Conference and close to 250 participated in the first Quality Assurance session for the year. This tells me that we have an enthusiastic group that is ready to get the year going.

Our 4-H Camp Counselor staff is working to create the best camp experience ever in 2010. They would like to fill the camp this year. We just returned from a weekend at 4-H Camp Ohio where CIT's were trained in food allergies, customer service, handling homesickness, and more. It was cold, but worthwhile.

If addresses, e-mail addresses, or any information submitted to the office changes throughout the year, please notify us so we can make sure you do not miss out receiving important information.

As the school year comes to a close, many of you are busy with spring sports, graduations, planning trips and more. Remember that young people benefit most from the 4-H experience if they attend club meetings, complete project work, attend county events and have fun.

Valuable life skills will be gained so please make 4-H a priority as you go through this year.

This office staff is here to support volunteers and answer any questions that you might have. Feel free to call 419-422-3851 or e-mail russell.388@osu.edu concerning the 4-H program.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Russell

Susan E. Russell

Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development
Hancock Co., Maumee Valley EERA

Opportunities

Sea Camp

Sea Camp will be held at Kelleys 4-H Camp on Kelleys Island, July 11 – 15, 2010. Registration forms will be available at the Extension Office, and registration information should be out soon.

You may also visit the website at <http://woostercenter.osu.edu/sea-camp/ohio-4-h-sea-camp>

Ohio 4-H Sea Camp is statewide to teen youth ages 13-18. It will be conducted by Ohio State University Extension. The goal is to acquaint teens with one of Ohio's most important resources: Lake Erie!!



4-H Age Requirements

Eligibility for 4-H membership begins when a child has reached 5 and is enrolled in kindergarten as of January 1 of the current year (Cloverbuds); membership to the 4-H club program begins when a child is at least 8 and enrolled in 3rd grade as of January 1 of the current year. Ohio 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year that an individual attains the age of 19.

Children may enroll in 4-H at any time. The final date to enroll and exhibit project work at the fair is June 1. However, we do not want to exclude any new children moving into the area. 4-H is a great way to meet other children throughout the summer.

Judges' Lunches

We are looking for clubs that would like to prepare lunches for our judges and volunteers. This can be done as a service project. As your club meets in the next couple months, think about taking this on as a club project.

The dates of the judging events are:

- Communications Day at the Ag Service Center on June 11, 2010 (15 people)
- Food & Nutrition at the Ag Service Center on July 13, 2010 (15 people)
- Clothing Judging at Central Church of Christ on July 20, 2010 (15 people)
- Livestock Interviews on July 26, 2010 (35 people for beverages and snacks only)
- Make Up Judging at the Ag Service Center on August 3, 2010 (20 people)
- Monetary donations for Judges' Lunch on July 15 at Owens Community College will be accepted

If your club would be willing to serve one of these lunches please call us at the Extension Office, 419-422-3851, as soon as possible.

Ohio 4-H Shooting Education Camp

The Ohio 4-H Shooting Sports Education Camp is a fun-filled learning experience for boys and girls, ages 9-18. Shooting instruction is led by trained, experienced 4-H Shooting Sports Instructors. Each camper selects one shooting discipline as a specialty for the week. Registration Forms are available on the 4-H Shooting Sports web site. The cost is \$275 and the deadline for registration is June 20. Dates of the senior camp are July 25-30, and Jr. Camp for ages 9-12 will be July 16-18. A camp fee of \$180 is due June 15 for the Jr. Shooting Sports Education Camp.

Advisor Enrollment Forms

There is always confusion regarding the Advisor Enrollment Forms. Advisors are required to complete an enrollment form each year. The information is needed for our records each year. If an enrollment form is not returned, it will be assumed that you are no longer an advisor. Please help us in keeping accurate records!

4-H Camp

We are now planning for "Challenge of the Knights" as we head back into medieval times. Camp dates are June 29-July 3, and the cost is \$140.00. Camp CD's are available for \$5.00. All 4-H members who were 8 years old (and in the third grade) through 14 years old (as of January 1, 2010) are invited to attend. Camp registrations are in the Family Handbook, and have been mailed. Extra camp registration forms are available at the Extension Office. The Camp Staff has been training hard and has exciting activities planned for each day. Camp is open to all non-members also, so invite your friends. Registrations will be accepted May 17 – June 1, or until the camp is full. Health Forms and Adventure Forms should be submitted with the registration. Those interested in the scuba session should also complete the Scuba form.

4-H Advisory Council plans to provide one bus for those that would like to take advantage of that opportunity. Forms are available for those that would like to travel by bus.



Pumpkin & Sunflower Contests

Pure Country Greenhouse and the Men & Women's Garden Club of Findlay are co-sponsoring contests for children ages 5-8 to grow sunflowers and pumpkins.

Pure Country Greenhouse supplies the seeds which are available at the greenhouse located at 6625 TR 34, Rawson and will be available mid-May at the 4-H Office at OSU Extension, 7868 CR 140, Suite B. With the seed packets, children will receive instructions about growing the plants. They will have the opportunity to display their sunflowers and pumpkins in the Youth Building at the Hancock County Junior Fair in September. For more information, contact Monica vonStein at 419-326-6525 or Ann Brickner at 419-387-7230.

We want to thank the vonSteins for supplying all the seeds. We appreciate this major donation for children in Hancock County.

News Reporters

News Reporters have been asked to send written reports of club meetings to the Extension Office immediately following their meetings. Reports may be submitted on paper, or email. We would also like for reporters to include names of club officers, as well as future meeting dates and times. Emails may be sent directly to meents.1@osu.edu Reports may also be faxed to 419-422-3866.

All Club News is posted to our web-site.

Important Items & Events

Trip Winners Orientation

If you have been awarded a State Trip, you are required to attend a trip orientation. A parent should plan on attending the session with the member. The orientation for May 12 has been cancelled due to track meets. The orientation for Citizenship Washington Focus will be on May 25th at 6:00 at the Ag Service Center.

State Leadership Camp will be held on Wednesday, June 9 at 4:00 p.m. at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center.

Summer Contests

Summer is full of exciting activities for members of all ages. Please encourage members to actively participate. June 11 is the Demonstration Contest at the Agricultural Service Center starting at 10:00 a.m. Guidelines and score sheet are available at our office.

If you have a Health & Safety speech prepared, you will compete in Lima on a date that has not been announced.

A Health & Safety Team Skit or Talk is another category for the competition. This team may be from one club or a combination of clubs. Guidelines may be picked up at our office, and please check back for date and time.

June 15 is the Livestock Judging Contest, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Animal Sciences Building at the University of Findlay Horse Farm. (You may enter this contest even if you do not have a livestock project) You will have the opportunity to judge livestock from several large animal project areas. You may enter as an individual and/or team.



Cloverbuds

May 20th is our next Cloverbud meeting with Joann Rider, who is an audiologist. What's that??? I think it has something to do with hearing – she has an evening planned full of activities about noise, what causes the different sounds and a lot more. So if you are kindergarten through second grade and would like to see if Cloverbuds might be right for you... plan on spending Thursday, May 20, 2010 from 6:15-7:15 here at the Agricultural Service Center. Please RSVP by May 19th by calling 419-422-3851 or emailing mcdougall.1@osu.edu

Jr. Leadership Club

The Jr. Leadership Club met on Tuesday, April 20. Our program for the evening was "Public Speaking & Communication." Members are ready to provide leadership at the county-wide 4-H events. If you would like Jr. Leaders to come to your club meeting, please call the Extension Office to schedule visits. They will be happy to lead recreation or provide any program that you request.

Our next meeting is May 18th 7:30-9:00, and the program will be stress management.

All Jr. Leaders should be registered for a leadership project and signed up to work at three events throughout the year. Susan has that list if you did not get your name signed for an event.

Web-site

Each month, the 4-H Newsletter is posted on our web-site. The web-site is located at <http://hancock.osu.edu>

Information concerning the total 4-H program can be found at this site. Schedule of events, deadlines, pictures of 4-H events, winners, etc. are located at this site. Information regarding livestock opportunities in other counties may also be found. Most forms may also be downloaded from our site. Please check us out.

Questions concerning the 4-H web site may be directed to russell.388@osu.edu or meents.1@osu.edu

Across County Line Membership

Please remember that all members living in another county must have papers on file at the Extension Office. Forms must be completed, and then signed by the 4-H Educator in the county of residence. Papers only need completed once. If in doubt, please call the Extension Office, and we'll check our files.



Project Information

Shooting Sports Projects

A member may enroll in a shooting sports project through any club. However, a member must work with a certified shooting sports instructor in their project area.

The county shooting sports instructors are available on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at the Mt. Blanchard Gun Club starting at 6:00 for rifle & pistol, and 7:00 for shotgun. Archery instructors will be available on the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month at the Dept. of Natural Resources on Lima Avenue. This group meets at 6:30.

If a member is enrolled in Living History, they will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday at 6:30.

You are not required to attend all sessions. You may work that out with the instructors. However, if you are enrolled in a shooting sports project and do not meet with the certified instructors, you are not eligible for State Fair competition.

Please call Don Stine at 419-326-5951 or Karen at 419-422-3851 if you have additional questions.

Rabbit Clinic

A rabbit clinic has been scheduled for May 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hancock County Fairground. Presenter for the evening will be Jeff Dick, 4-H Educator from Williams County. He is very well-known for his work in the rabbit area. The committee has worked to put together an outstanding clinic for all members. We encourage all members to attend this event since the QA requirement was dropped. This session will pertain to rabbit projects only. Additional questions may be addressed to Bev Welty.

Goat Clinic

A goat Clinic has been scheduled for all 4-H members enrolled in a goat project on July 14 at 6:00 at the farm of Jamie & Teresa Siferd. They will cover basic knowledge for caring for goats and demonstrate showmanship of goats and information needed to exhibit at the Hancock County fair. All members are encouraged to attend this event if enrolled in a goat project.

Dog Fun Match Scheduled

K-9 Best Friends are conducting a 4-H Fun Match on June 26 at the Hancock County Fairground. Registration is 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. with Showmanship classes starting at 9:30. Registration form is included with this newsletter. Questions may be addressed to Betty Flinn.

Market Livestock Projects

Most livestock project books are designed to be used for 3-5 years. All members taking a livestock project for the first time will need to purchase the project book. Resource books for each project area are also recommended. If planning to attend the state fair, please understand that a new project and record book must be purchased each year. Record pages are available at our website, and may be inserted in project books being reused for those competing at county level only. It is recommended that each member use a three-ring binder to compile all information to demonstrate growth in the project over years. Each member must bring a completed project book to Livestock Interviews on the 26th of July. A committee compiled information to assist members to prepare for interviews. Handouts are available at Quality Assurance Training and at our office.

General Livestock Quality Assurance

All members taking a livestock project must attend a general livestock quality assurance session. Members only need to attend once, and the remaining scheduled session is May 20 at Van Buren. All 4-H and FFA members participating in livestock projects must attend one of the scheduled Quality Assurance Sessions, regardless of age or number of years in a project. Parents are encouraged to attend with first and second year members. Opportunities in surrounding counties may be found on our web site. A test-out option was also offered in April.

Please call Susan with any questions regarding Quality Assurance Requirements.

Project Workshops



The following workshops will be offered at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center. You may attend these workshops even if you are not enrolled in the project.

June 8th

2:00 p.m. Money Management Projects

2:00 p.m. Self-Determined Projects

Additional workshops will be added as needed. Workshops are listed on our web site in surrounding counties for food & nutrition, photography, scrapbooking and sewing. Go to the 4-H web site, look in the column to the right of the page, and click on "4-H Activities in Maumee Valley EERA".

Self-Determined Projects

Many members have enrolled in self-determined projects. These projects are designed to help members with goal setting skills. If you are enrolled in project 365, please call the Extension Office to let us know the area of interest for your project. If you are currently enrolled in one of the idea starter projects such as 365.1, 365.2, 365.3, 365.4, etc. you do not need to call. This will be a help when trying to schedule judging of the projects. Please call or email by May 15, 2010.

Special Requirements for Members Enrolled in Horse Projects

Do you have a horse project? Horse ID Cards are due to the Extension Office by June 1, 2010 at 4:30. These cards must be submitted for members to show at the Hancock County Fair. If members lease a horse for their project, lease agreements must also be on file at the Extension Office. These, too, are due on June 1. All members taking horse projects are required to sign a liability waiver, and first year members must read the Horse & Safety Book with parents. A signature is required in the back of this book. All advisors should make sure their members get these materials in plenty of time to complete them. It would also be helpful if advisors assisted members in writing their lease agreements. Information is available through Horse Council Members. If we have no ID Card, liability waiver, horse safety signatures, or lease agreement on file, the member will NOT show at the Hancock County Fair. First year members must also view two videos as part of their horse safety & ethics requirements. This is scheduled for May 12 at 6:30 at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center.

State Fair Livestock Entry Deadline

The Ohio State Fair entry deadline for all junior fair livestock is June 20, 2010. The 2010 Ohio State Fair will be held July 28 - August 8. The Ohio State Fair Book is online. You may also download the entry form. If you do not have access, we have forms available at the office. However, we are unable to copy pages of the book for you.

The web site is <http://www.ohiostatefair.com>

Dog and small companion animal entry forms are due on July 11.

Poultry Meeting

All turkeys need to be banded no later than July 21, and a clinic will be held at the fairgrounds on that date. Additional information concerning clinics will be posted on the web site as it is received.

Make Up Judging

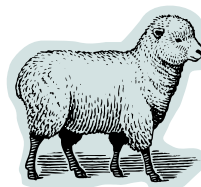
Make-Up Judging for all projects including livestock projects has been scheduled for August 3, 2010 at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center. If you are unable to attend your regularly scheduled judging, we would encourage you to attend the Make-Up Judging. Please call the Extension Office at 419-422-3851 to schedule a time. The Judging Schedule Booklet will be sent to 4-H families in June.

Weigh-In Dates

Market goat weigh-in will take place June 9, 2010, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Hancock County Fairgrounds.



Market Lamb Weigh-in will take place on June 17, 2010, (notice the change in date) at the Hancock County Fairgrounds. Sheep shearing will be offered at this time. Drenching and spraying for parasites will also be offered by the Sheep Improvement Association for a \$5.00 fee.



Quality Assurance Test-Out Option

Congratulations to the following 4-H and FFA members that are now exempt from Quality Assurance Training after passing the QA test with 75% or higher: Kaitlin Smith, Jake Biery, David Cunningham, Lucas Recker, Tyler Horn, Luke Fox, Jimmy Graham, Caleb Quiroga and Josh Luke. The test was offered to all members 15 and older.

Jr. Fair

Jr. Fair Royalty

At the current time, royalty applications are available at the Extension Office for Jr. Fair King & Queen, Rabbit and Horse. We will have others available in the front of the office as coordinators submit them. Keep checking with us!

Jr. Fair Theme

The theme for the 2010 Jr. Fair is “Mixing It Up, Country Style.” Clubs will want to get started brainstorming ideas for the booth. Advisors should let Susan know the size of booth needed for their club as soon as possible. Small booth is 6 ft., large booth is 12 ft., and a 1 ½ size booth is also available for larger clubs. Have a good time with the theme!

Livestock Entry Forms

Please mark your calendars! The Livestock Entry Form deadline is July 26, 2010. These forms are available from the Extension Office, Jr. Fair Office, in your 4-H Family Handbook and on our web site. Livestock entry forms must be completed by all members that plan to exhibit their livestock project at the county fair. This also includes dogs, which take their animals in for one day. These forms may be turned into The Jr. Fair Office during the Livestock Interview or anytime prior to July 26th by the club advisors. Forms should be submitted as an entire club to make record keeping easier for Nicole.

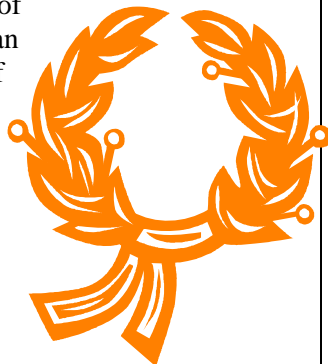
It is the combined responsibility of the member, parent and advisor to make sure information is completed, and delivered to the **Jr. Fair Office** by that date. (Members should return the entry form to club advisors so they have time to get it to the Jr. Fair Office) Questions should be addressed to the Jr. Fair Office. Nicole's hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 – 4:00. The office is closed on Saturday. Phone number is 419-423-1373 for Jr. Fair Office and 419-429-7344 for the Sr. Fair Office.

Awards & Recognition

Academic Scholarships

Congratulations to Andrea Mitchell and Alexandra McGrain upon receiving \$500 College Scholarships through our 4-H Endowment Fund. Andrea is the daughter of Dave and Denise Mitchell and a 4-H alumnus of K-9 Best Friends 4-H Club. She attends the University of Toledo.

Alexandra is the daughter of Denny & Kathy McGrain of Van Buren and a 10-year member of Millstream Farmers 4-H Club. Alex plans to attend Tiffin University. Congratulations to both!



Special Endowment Contribution

Thank you to William and Nancy Recker for a \$10,000 contribution to the Hancock County Endowment in memory of Paul & Orlefa Loyer (Nancy's parents). What a wonderful investment in the young people of Hancock County. Orlefa was a 4-H Advisor in Allen County and both brought horses to the Hancock County Fair.

Two 4-H Camp Scholarships will be awarded each year in memory Paul & Orlefa.

Easter Rose Sale

If you collected for the handicapped society, please let us know. A total of \$1,159.56 was collected by 4-H Clubs. We've included a list of how much was collected by each club that was recorded.

Thank you for giving your time to collect money for the handicapped!

Barn Stormers	\$258.70
Blue Ribbon Stock	\$61.60
Clever Clovers	\$49.25
Country Bumpkins	\$57.00
Country Critters	\$51.95
Dirt Don't Hurt	\$83.63
Flight & Fancy	\$90.56
His Kids	\$23.00
Jolly Jacksons	\$126.00
Lakeland Leaders	\$85.75
Lucky Stars	\$92.00
Milk-E-Whey	\$81.64
Millstream Farmer	\$16.89
Northwest Stars	\$81.59
Total	\$1159.56

If we missed your club, we apologize. Please call in and let us know. Thanks!

Spring Clean-Up

Thanks to all the 4-H members that assisted with the Spring Clean Up. This is a community service project that is greatly appreciated.

Once again, those participating were treated to pizza on Saturday, April 24 at Litzenberg. Unused trash bags may be returned to the Extension Office for use another year.



4-H Endowment Fund

Thank you to all of those that made the 4-H Endowment Dinner/Auction a huge success this year. Over \$13,000 was collected during this 4-H/Endowment Fundraiser. We appreciate the clubs that donated items, the Jr. Leaders that worked at the event, the committee that spent lots of time soliciting and planning, and our buyers. Committee members included April Holland, Betsy Conrad, Bev Welty, Chuck Welty, Rolland Russell, Vicki Lininger, Alex McGrain, Molly Sampson, Isaac Sampson, and Susan Russell. We receive the interest from the Hancock County 4-H Endowment Fund each September. Your gifts will live on permanently through Hancock County 4-H. Thanks again!

Cole Memorials

Hancock County 4-H Endowment recently received \$555 in memorial contributions for Ron Cole. Ron was a long-time supporter of 4-H and agriculture. Our sympathy goes out to Stephanie, 4-H volunteer and daughter of Ron.

State Achievement Award Winners

Congratulations to all the teens that submitted State Achievement Records this year.

The following is a list of State Award winners from Hancock County:

Clothing

1st Alternate Alexis Moser

Garden & Horticulture

Winner Benjamin Finsel

1st Alternate Aubry vonStein

Rabbits

Winner Susan Rader

Veterinary Science

Winner Morgan Woodward

State 4-H Ambassador

Selected Member Ali Mowrey

State 4-H Teen Council

Selected Member Mikayla Brown

Benjamin, Susan and Morgan will have the opportunity to attend the National Trip to Atlanta, Georgia in November. Congratulations!

Ali Mowrey was selected as State 4-H Ambassador and Mikayla Brown was chosen to serve on State 4-H Teen Council. Congratulations!

Welcome New Advisors

The following volunteers have completed all the requirements to become new Advisors in the 4-H program. Please welcome them, and offer assistance to them throughout the year.

Freedom Reins Christine Schultz
Bruce Depinet
Jayne Bowling
Crystal Buess

SoHanCo Livestockers Melissa Crowe

Gold Star Brooke Woodward

Jolly Jacksons Colleen Wilson

Shooting Sports Les Talmadge

Key Leader for Lucky Star Amanda Jones

We appreciate the efforts made by all of these volunteers to follow the state guidelines for 4-H Volunteers. Hopefully, we can submit these names to the state very soon. Thanks to all, and we look forward to seeing all of these new and/or familiar faces at the county events.

Frozen Food Sale Earn Camp Credits

Congratulations to all that participated in the County-wide Frozen Food Sale. Our county had over \$14,000 in sales. Our top sales person was Randi Bowser with sales totaling \$1,340.40. Second highest sales went to Bailey Parke with \$1,053.90. Both of these members will receive a full camp scholarship. Their names, along with others that sold frozen food, will be in a drawing for a DVD player. The drawing will take place during the next 4-H Advisory Council meeting.

The following earned Camp Credits:

\$140 Randi Bowser Bailey Parke	\$85 Danielle Powell Nathan Russell
\$30 Marissa Benson Dylan Miles Jaron Welty Rebekah White	\$15 Ashton Beach Jenna Bernhardt Brittany Boehm Schenia Johnson Sarah Knight Ellis Sampson Nathan Zuercher

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This statement is in accordance with United States Civil Rights Laws and the USDA.

Keith L. Smith, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, Ohio State University Extension

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