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County Fair Exhibit Registration Form

Due July 15

All 4-H members should complete their fair exhibit registration form and submit it to the Extension Office no later than July 15. Late forms may be submitted but penalties will be enforced. Refer to the 2015 4-H Premium List for class numbers as well as project related information.

July 22 is 4-H Family Night

What could be better than lots of fun games, delicious food and good music? If they were FREE! And that is exactly what is planned for Murray County 4-H Family Night on Wednesday, July 22 at the fairgrounds. Carnival-style games for all ages will begin at 5:00 p.m. From 6:00 to 7:00, families can enjoy delicious burgers, salads, chips, and lots of cold drinks. The sno-cone machine will be available, too. From 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. enjoy music and roast hotdogs or make s’mores at the bonfire. And the cost for this family night is ZERO! Everything is free to 4-H families! Please RSVP by July 15 so we’re sure to have plenty to eat and drink for everyone. Call 836-6927 or email: ander302@umn.edu
Murray County Fair  --
August 12-15

The Murray County Fair will be Wednesday, August 12 through Saturday, August 15 at the fairgrounds in Slayton. 4-H families can refer to their 4-H Premium List for a complete schedule of 4-H events and judging times. Consider participating in the FUN FOOD CHALLENGE on Wednesday by sharing your favorite cupcakes! Details are on page 26 of the 4-H Premium List. Don’t forget to vote for your favorite photo entry “People’s Choice Award” on Wednesday from 5-7 pm in the 4-H Building. The McAmbies will conduct numerous science experiments for elementary-age kids at the 4-H Building several times during the fair. The local papers will have details on 4-H events as well as all other county fair events for all ages. Contact the Extension Office if you have questions. Visit the Murray County Fair website for the latest fair info!

Officer Election at July Federation Meeting

The July 27 Murray County 4-H Federation meeting will include elections and photos! 4-H families are encouraged to continue bringing oral health kit and/or birthday kit items for the Food Shelf. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Courts Building meeting room. Agenda items include: election of Federation Officers, county fair details & fair superintendent sign up, campers report, exchange delegates report, CWF delegates report, and annual awards celebration discussion (host clubs: Currie Poco-Poco, Prairie Hustlers & Slayton Shooting Stars). We’ll practice photo judging skills. The Fenton Friends 4-H Club will host this meeting and serve cheese & crackers. This is your last chance to accumulate 4-H CASH before county fair.

Murray County at the State Fair

Did you notice on the calendar when Murray County 4-H'ers will attend the MN State Fair? State Fair livestock encampment is Wednesday, August 26 through Sunday, August 30. General encampment for Murray County will be Saturday, September 5 to Monday, September 7 (Labor Day weekend). 4-H members who have completed sixth grade are eligible to win state fair trips. If you’d like to go to the state fair, see Melissa or Margie at the county fair – you might be in the state fair line up! Chaperons are needed for both encampments. (Chaperons must be a screened volunteer)

4-H College Scholarships

High school grads of 2015 should consider completing an application for a Murray County 4-H Scholarship. Apps are available on our website or stop in the Extension Office. Completed apps are due in the Extension Office no later than August 3, 2015.

Another Club Donates to the 4-H Building Improvements

Special THANKS to the Fenton Friends 4-H Club for their $500 donation toward the purchase of
folding chairs in the 4-H Building. Clubs can continue to donate toward building improvements.

**Livestock Project Workshops**

Murray County 4-H will be offering two nights of Livestock Project Workshops for all area 4-H members. These project workshops will be led by area showmen who have many years of experience preparing and showing their specie. Come and join us as we listen to these knowledgeable presenters discuss daily at-home care, halter breaking techniques, clipping advice, tips on how to fit your animal for show day, showmanship pointers, and so much more! The cost to attend is $6 per individual, or $12 per family, and this cost will cover the meal that will be offered both nights starting at 5:00 and going until 5:30 before the first session begins. Please register to the Murray County Extension Office at 507-836-6927 before July 8th.

**Project Night Schedule:**
- Monday, June 13 - Meal: 5:00 – 5:30 pm
  - Swine: 5:30 – 6:30 pm
  - Beef: 6:30 – 7:30 pm
  - Dairy: 7:30 – 8:30 pm
- Monday, June 20 - Meal: 5:00 – 5:30 pm
  - Goat: 5:30 – 6:30 pm
  - Sheep: 6:30 – 7:30 pm
  - Rabbit: 7:30 – 8:30 pm

**LQA&E Information**

Remember that as you take LQA&E Certification in other counties to let the Murray County Extension Office know! We will follow up with the county that you attended training in to make sure that you receive credit for completing the certification in 4HOnline. If you attended the training in Slayton on June 11 then you do not need to let the office know.

There are just a few trainings that will be offered yet in the area – are you signed up for one of them? Remember to sign up and reserve your seat if you are planning to attend the **Level II LQA&E Tour to Northwest Iowa on Thursday, July 23**. Please email Nancy or Melissa so that we know you will be attending.

**Important LQA&E Information for Poultry Members**

By now our poultry project members should all be aware that there will not be a live poultry show at the 2015 Murray County Fair in response to the highly pathogenic Avian Influenza – all poultry project members have received notification from the State Poultry PDC in regards to the cancellation of the county and state fair poultry shows, and you have also been informed that the state is working on options for counties to still hold poultry events at the county fair in place of a live poultry show. More information about what these exhibit options will look like will be sent to all poultry project members as soon as it becomes available, but please note that even though 4-H members will not be exhibiting live birds at either the county or state fair, if you would like to earn a state fair trip for your poultry exhibit you MUST have current LQA&E certification on file!! Please share this information with your fellow poultry exhibitors so that everyone is aware that they will still need to be LQA&E certified before county fair in
order to accept a state fair Poultry trip. You will not be able to accept your state fair Poultry trip if you have either not been certified or your certification has expired.

**Message from Dorothy**

**Dear 4-H families and volunteers,**

On June 17-19, 12 teams of 4-H’ers from across the state came to the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus to share their research about important agriculture-related issues at the 4-H Science of Agriculture Challenge. The first of its kind in the country, the new program asked 4-H’ers to identify agriculture-related issues in their communities and develop science-based solutions. They worked for nine months with adult mentors and agriculture experts to identify their issues and develop their solutions using science and engineering practices. They shared their results at the event last week, which included judging presentations, interviewing and resume-building workshops, campus tours to explore agriculture and science resources at the University, and a showcase fair and recognition celebration to share their work and connect with representatives from the University and agribusiness community who are eager to meet the next generation of leaders in agriculture.

The top three teams were awarded scholarships that can be used at any accredited university, college or trade school. First place team members received $1000 each, second place received $750 each, and third place received $500 each.

- **1st place:** Meeker County 4-H Hay Waste Team: Kayla Kutzke, Ryan Peterson, Daniel Williamson. The team researched, designed, built and tested a feed bunk to reduce hay waste of beef cattle.

- **2nd place:** Washington County 4-H Insects as Food Source Team: Serenna Svanoe, Theo Svanoe, Chloe Brey. The team researched insects as a sustainable source of protein for humans and animal, and cultural attitudes, methods and barriers to production and consumption in western nations.

- **3rd place:** Le Sueur County 4-H Biodiesel Team: Brian Prchal, Anna Prchal, Tyler Fromm. The team researched and compared the efficiency and environmental impact of b10 conventional diesel, ethanol, kerosene and 100 percent biodiesel made by the team, and tested temperature, pH and particulate matter.

There is a critical need for skilled agriculture professionals, nationally and in Minnesota, and we know that hands-on experiences like the new annual 4-H Science of Agriculture Challenge are a great way to introduce and engage youth in learning about agriculture, make it fun and exciting, and expand the pipeline of youth studying agriculture and pursuing agriculture-related careers. I look forward to seeing this important new program grow in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate dean and state 4-H director

**2015 scholarship recipients announced**

Congratulations to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation’s 2015 scholarship recipients. These nine outstanding 4-H youth and alumni from across Minnesota stood out among the 87 individuals who submitted applications. To learn more, please visit our website: [http://z.umn.edu/sga](http://z.umn.edu/sga).
Kern Family Scholarship recipients:
- Anna Johnson, Wadena County & Ryan Kohlmeyer, Olmsted County

David E. Pace and Valerie Halverson Pace Leadership Scholarship recipient:
- Logan Johnson, Traverse County

Ada and Helmuth Schroeder Scholarship recipients:
- Emily Clarke, Lincoln County & Natalie Sayles, Mower County

CCI Innovation in Agriculture Scholarship recipient:
- Brian Prchal, Le Sueur County

Searles Family Scholarship recipient:
- Jake Borst, Olmsted County

4-H Adult Scholarship:
- Heidi Schaefer, Mille Lacs County & Jeanne Verhoef, Anoka County

State fair winners and families, volunteers, staff and all fairgoers interested in 4-H will find it useful. Download it from the iTunes or Google Play store.

If you don’t have a smart phone, you can receive these messages on your cell phone by texting “Follow MN4HAnnounce” to 40404. Text “STOP” when you want them to stop. These accounts are active during the state fair.

To join a conversation about 4-H, use the Twitter app and follow MN4H.

Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational Sept. 11-13

The 2015 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational will be held in Douglas County (Alexandria) Sept. 11-13. 4-H members who are involved in their county 4-H Shooting Sports and Wildlife Program will participate in a variety of events such as BB gun, archery, air rifle, air pistol, trap, .22 rifle, black powder and wildlife events. In order to participate, members must work with a certified 4-H instructor and complete 15 hours of training in a discipline and 8 hours of wildlife education.

The state 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational is a great way to demonstrate the skills learned in a safe environment. Come to the Alexandria Shooting Park (located on Interstate 94 - Alexandria exit 103) Sept. 11-13 to see the 4-H members in action. To learn more about the 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program, or to see the rules and registration information, contact your Extension office or visit the website at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-invitational/. Registrations will be due to your county Extension office on Monday, July 20 or a date pre-determined by your county.

Get the app! 4-H at the Minnesota State Fair

If you have a smart phone and you’re going to the state fair, you should download our free app! It combines all of our state fair communications into one place:

- Judging results
- Public schedule
- Interactive map
- Livestock shows and general projects announcements in real time – switch on the alerts function, and you won’t even need to open the app!
  - MN4HBeef
  - MN4HDairy
  - NEW: MN4HSheep
  - MN4HAnnounce for all other projects
4-H volunteer corner

4-H chaperone training

For adult volunteers, let’s take a walk down “memory lane” back to the days of your youth. If you had the opportunity to go on a field trip through school, a youth group or faith-based organization, the trip was mostly likely made possible because there were adults willing to serve as chaperones.

4-H chaperones play a key role in creating “learn by doing” travel experiences. For some youth the trip could be their first travel opportunity away from home without a parent or guardian. Adult chaperones have the responsibility of creating an environment that is physically and emotionally safe. In addition, chaperones recognize and manage risk and understand how youth and adult behavior expectations impact the 4-H member's travel experience. Serving as a chaperone is a rewarding experience; it also requires training.

The online training 4-H chaperone policies: A guide for 4-H adult chaperones offers valuable information to help insure a safe and enjoyable experience for the youth and the adult chaperones.

Access the training here: www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/online-training/

4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge update

The 2015 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge is off to an amazing start! To date, there are 47 teams registered from 25 counties with 279 team members, 50 adult volunteer team coaches, and 17 youth volunteer coaches!

Here’s what Rube Goldberg teams need to know about this year’s 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge:

Qualifying for state fair trip

- Teams will be awarded ribbons as part of the judging at fairs this year. (Last year, teams were awarded medals.) Teams that earn a blue (or purple) ribbon at their county fair qualify for a trip to the Minnesota State Fair to demonstrate their machine during the second day of their county's state fair encampment. All RG teams in a county that earn blue or purple ribbons qualify for trips to the state fair. (Note: As this event grows, we may not be able to allow all blue ribbon teams to attend the state fair in future years, but this year all blue ribbon teams may attend.)

State fair attendance confirmations

- All the RG teams need to tell their county 4-H program coordinators if they intend to participate at the state fair if they earn a blue or purple ribbon at the county fair by the third week of July. If your program coordinator hasn't talked to you about this by late July, please contact them.

RG machine transportation onto fair grounds

- In response to feedback from last year’s RG teams, 4-H state fair staff have arranged to provide transportation of RG machines onto and off of the Minnesota State Fair grounds at two set times on the day of judging (the second day of each encampment). The RG machines will be picked up at 7:30 a.m. at the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus and taken to the 4-H building on the fairgrounds. At 9 p.m., RG machines will be taken back to the campus drop-off location. (Teams may still choose to transport their machines from public parking lots themselves, using dollies, wagons, etc. they bring themselves.) Teams that expect to avail themselves of this option must inform their county 4-H program coordinator.
in time for program coordinators to include this information on the team intention for state fair form.

All information for teams participating in the 2015 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge can be found in the rule book. Contact Patrick Jirik at pjirik@umn.edu with any questions.

Calendar

JULY

- **1** Safety of Minors training completion deadline for all Minnesota 4-H volunteers
- **1** Summer of Fun, 8:30-10:30 am, 4-H Building
- **1** 4-H Project Night, 5-8 pm, 4-H Building
- **3** Independence Day observed -- office closed
- **6** 4-H Project Night, 5-8 pm, 4-H Building
- **7** Pizza Garden, 9-10 am, Community Garden
- **8** Summer of Fun, 8:30-10:30 am, 4-H Building
- **8** 4-H Project Night, 5-8 pm, 4-H Building
- **13** 4-H Livestock Project Night, 5-9 pm, Olsen Arena
- **14** 4-H Project Night, 5-8 pm, 4-H Building
- **15** Summer of Fun, 8:30-10:30 am, 4-H Building
- **15** 4-H Exchange Families Meeting, 7 pm, 4-H Building
- **15** 4-H Family Night RSVP Deadline
- **15** 4-H County Fair Exhibit Registration Form Due
- **20** 4-H Livestock Project Night, 5-9 pm, Olson Arena
- **21** Pizza Garden, 9-10 am, Community Garden
- **22** Final Summer of Fun, 8:30-10:30 am, 4-H Building
- **22** 4-H Family Night, 5-10 pm, 4-H Building
- **24** McAmbies Host The Escape Pool Party, 6:30-8 pm, Slaytona Beach
- **27** 4-H Federation Meeting, 7:30 pm, Courts Building
- **28** Pizza Garden, 9-10 am, Community Garden
- **29** McAmbies Fair Planning Supper, 6 pm, Courts Building
AUGUST

• 3 4-H Scholarship Applications
  Due in Office
• 4 Pizza Garden, 9-10 am,
  Community Garden
• 4 4-H Clothing/Fashion Revue
  Judging, Christ Lutheran Church
• 4 4-H Performing Arts Judging,
  3:30-5 pm, Christ Lutheran Church
• 4 4-H Fashion Revue, 7 pm,
  Christ Lutheran Church
• 6 4-H Presentations & Food
  Revue Judging, 6:30 pm, Courts
  Building
• 10 Pre-Fair Judging Day, 2-7 pm,
  4-H Building
• 11 Pizza Garden, 9-10 am,
  Community Garden
• 12-15 Murray County Fair
• 18 Pizza Garden, 9-10 am,
  Community Garden
• 26-30 Murray County at MN State
  Fair Livestock Encampment
• 27-Sept 7 Minnesota State Fair

SEPTEMBER

• 5-7 Murray County at MN State
  Fair General Encampment
• 7 Labor Day Holiday – Office
  Closed