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Fair Registration Deadline

July 8 is the final date for ALL Pipestone County Fair entries to be in the Extension Office. This includes the number of cattle, swine, cookies photographs and whatever else you are bringing to the fair. All registration forms were sent out to families in June. If you have questions about what category an item should be placed in, how to fill out your entry forms, etc. please contact Extension Staff for help.

Potluck and Swim Party – Mark your calendars!

The Pipestone County 4-H potluck, election of officers and swim party will be held Sunday, July 12, beginning at 6:30 pm with a potluck supper, leader's council meeting, then free swim for all 4-H families and friends from 8:00 – 10:00 pm.

Anyone interested in running for office for 2015-2016 should contact the Extension Office as soon as possible. Officer positions include: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Also at this meeting we will be voting on the 4-H Hall of Fame Award. This is a great meeting to attend and a fun thing for all 4-Hers and their families.
Important Livestock Check-in

Information

At the 2015 Pipestone County Fair livestock will be required to go through a check in process. It will be a simple process, where superintendents from each specie check in your animals, including checking tattoos and ear tags. All livestock check in (including breeding beef, dairy, does, ewes and rabbits) will have check in on Wednesday, August 5th from 10 am until 12 pm. Someone from your family must be at your stall at this time to check in your livestock. If you know you will not be there ahead of time please make arrangements with the Extension Office.

Livestock weigh-ins will still take place at the schedule times below.
Swine Weigh-In: Tues, Aug. 4 - 5:00-6:30 pm
Beef Weigh-In: Wed, Aug. 5 – 10:00-11:00am
Sheep/Goat Weigh-In: Wed, Aug. 5 – 11:00-noon

Click! Snap! Flash! Get those Pictures Taken!

Attention Photography Project members! Sue Haupert from Triple "A" Framing will host a framing/matting clinic to help get your projects ready to be judged. She will hold the clinic at So-Jo’s on July 22nd, 5-8 p.m. Please mark your calendar! It will be an “open house” so you may bring your photography projects in to get framed and matted and then you’ll be all set for judging on the 26th. Cost will be based on materials needed for each project. Call the Extension Office at 825-6715 or Sue Haupert at 820-0615 if you have questions!

4-H Hall Of Fame Nominee

Now is the time to start letting club leaders know of someone you would like to nominate for the Pipestone County 4-H Hall of Fame. This person or persons can be living or deceased, it can be an individual, group or company that has really made a difference in Pipestone County 4-H in past years. We will vote on the Hall of Fame nominee at the Leaders Council potluck, election of officers and swim party on July 12th.

Interstate Exchange Update

The interstate exchange members will be traveling to Tompkins County, New York June 29 - July 7th. They will be doing a variety of different things including family visits, visiting NYC as well as Niagara Falls. Also, the 2016-2017 Exchange has been set. We will be exchanging with Doniphan County, Kansas. If you’re interested in participating in the exchange please let Brandi know.

Keep in mind that the Interstate Exchange group will be having their annual sweet corn fundraiser again this year. This will be the 6th year the interstate exchange program has offered this as a fundraiser for their travels. Thanks again to the Randy and Sue Carlson family for their time and commitment to the 4-H program and for planting, caring and providing the sweet corn.
Food Stand Update

Food stand schedules are out and we NEED you to sign up for a spot as soon as possible! This is 1 of only 2 fundraisers Pipestone County 4-H does all year; it’s very important to participate! Schedules need to be turned into the Extension Office by Friday, July 10th. Food Stand managers this year will be Diane Johnson and Shelly Bobendrier.

*Food stand attire: It is very important you are dressed properly!*
- No Flip Flops – only closed toed shoes are acceptable
- No tank tops, muscle shirts or shirts with sleeves cut – please wear an appropriate t-shirt.
- Everyone must wear something on their head!

County Fair Judging Assistants

Would you like to be a judge’s assistant for general project judging? How about announce or hand out ribbons at a livestock show. If this is for you please contact the Extension Office at 825-6715.

*A judge’s assistant:*
- Places the correct ribbon awarded on the project
- Places the project in the designated area.
- Arranges all projects for best viewing
- Keep track of placing and exhibitors

*Livestock Assistant:*
- Announces program in the ring
- Calls upcoming classes from the barn
- Hands out ribbons

August 1: Entry Day for Non-Livestock Projects

All non- livestock exhibits except for food and flower gardening must be brought to Christ the King Lutheran Church for judging on Saturday, August 1st. Exhibits will be judged beginning at 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Make sure you have checked your item in by 4:00 pm.

July 20th - State Shoot forms are due to the Extension Office!!!!!

This year the Minnesota 4-H State Shoot will be held in Douglas County (Alexandria, MN) September 11-13. The shoot will be held at the Alexandria Shooting Park (located on Interstate 94 – Alexandria Exit 103). State Shoot forms will be due to the Extension Office on July 20th.

Dorms for State Fair

Planning on staying in the dorms during encampment? Please help us find some volunteers that would be willing to chaperone. Each year Pipestone County 4-H has youth living in the dorms on the State Fairgrounds, this requires us to have screened volunteer chaperones accompanying our young 4-H'ers both during livestock encampment (Aug. 27 – Aug. 31) and general encampment (Sept. 5 – Sept. 7). If you or someone you know would be interested please contact the Extension office to complete the procedure. Please consider becoming a chaperone today!
2015 Pipestone County Fair

Schedule

July 29 – Quonset and Food Stand: Sweet Strivers
July 29 – Barn Setup: Troy Toilers & Trosky Peppy Pebbles
July 29 – Livestock Demonstrations
August 1 – General Project Judging (Christ the King Lutheran Church)
August 5-8 – Pipestone County Fair
August 9 – After Fair Quonset and Food Stand Cleanup: Prairie Grangers
August 9 – After Fair Cleanup: All 4-Hers

Premium Books

2015 Pipestone County Premium Books are now available. Club leaders distributed them at the May meeting. If you have not received your premium book, please contact the Extension Office. If you would like to view the premium book online, the link is below.

4-H Day Camp

The 4-H Ambassadors will be holding their annual 4-H Day Camp on Wednesday, July 15th at Split Rock Creek State Park, with this year's theme being CSI: Pipestone. Youth who have completed first through fourth grade are invited for an exciting day of learning and fun while getting to know our 4-H Ambassadors. The day will include learning sessions, detective work and swimming. Transportation will be provided to and from Harmon Park. Registration forms are now available both online as well as at the Extension Office. If you're interested in participating or have questions please contact the Extension Office.

Ambassadors at Relay for Life

The Pipestone County 4-H Ambassadors will again be having a team for our local Relay for Life on July 17th on Main Street of Pipestone. The Ambassador team will be selling glow in the dark necklaces and bracelets as well as having a couple of games to get people involved and excited about the relay. The Ambassadors will be taking donations and will have luminary bags and other products for families to buy in honor/memory of loved ones. Please consider supporting the team.

Attention Poultry Exhibitors

While plans for poultry exhibits at the county fair are still in the works, want to make sure that poultry exhibitors know that if you wish to participate at the state fair you need to be up to date on your LQA&E certification. This training is required for all 4-Hers that plan to exhibit livestock at the state fair and those swine exhibitors for the county fair, and it is good for three years. If you have questions please contact the Extension Office.
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 resumé-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.

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

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

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.

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
Radio Spot – Prairie Grangers

• 1 Safety of Minors training completion deadline for all Minnesota 4-H volunteers
• 1 Regional Livestock Judging Contest
• 1 Horse Practice
• 6 Livestock Judging Practice
• 7 Interstate Exchange Return
• 8 Fair Registration Due
• 8 Horse Practice
• 8 Day Camp Registration Due
• 12 4-H Potluck & Swim Party
• 13 Livestock Judging Practice
• 15 4-H Day Camp
• 15 Registration for LQA&E Level 2 Due
• 15 Horse Practice
• 17 Pipestone Livestock Judging Contest
• 17 Relay for Life – Ambassadors
• 20 State Shoot Registration Forms Due
• 20 Livestock Judging Practice
• 22 Horse Practice
• 23 LQA&E Level 2 Animal Science Road Trip
• 27 Jackson County Livestock Judging Contest
• 29 Quonset & Food Stand Setup
• 29 Barn Setup
• 29 Livestock Demonstrations
• 29 Horse Practice
• 30-31, 2015 — Shooting Sports & Wildlife Camp

AUGUST
Radio Spot – Trosky Peppy Pebbles

• 1 General Project Judging
• 5 County Fair
• 6 County Fair
• 7 County Fair
• 8 County Fair
• 9 After Fair Cleanup
• 9 After Fair Quonset & Food Stand Clean up
• 10 Last Day to Complete Volunteer Screening for State Fair Chaperones
• 27 MN State Fair Begins

SEPTEMBER
Radio Spot – Troy Toilers

• 7 MN State Fair Ends
• 11 – 13 State Shoot
• 24 – 27 AK-SAR-BEN
• 28 Leaders Council Meeting