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Federation Fundraiser
Fruit, Puffin, and Herring Sales will start on February 6th. Remember, to be a member in good standing, every family should be involved. Watch for your letter and sale forms in the mail on February 4th. Return sale forms to your club coordinator by February 28th. Checks payable to your club—your club can decide if they want everyone to pay at ordering time. Delivery date will be Friday, March 27th.

CWF - National
If you are interested in Citizen Washington Focus, this trip is open statewide to the first 50 youth and fills up fast. You need to be on top of this, have your payment and registration ready, almost the day it becomes available. Remember. Federation has a total of $2000 budgeted for CWF, amount per youth attending depends on number of youth going, with the maximum amount $500/youth.

BLU - February 28-March 1
We have ten youth and two adult chaperons attending. They will present a “bring it back” report at the March 23rd Federation meeting.
Cloverbud

No class in February
March 7—Water!—Great experiments!
April 11—Creepy Crawlies (change of date because of Easter)
May 2—Sun Safety

Tween Adventure

The date is set for our Drive-In Movie night!
The survey says—
It’s happening on Friday, February 13th
6:30-9 pm
Extension Office
Admission: Hat & mittens donation
Each family should bring snacks to share.
Bring your own cardboard car creation to watch the movie. Car must accommodate at least one passenger. Prize for most awesome car!

Youth Leaders 7th Grade & Older

Please watch for emails and text messages for future plans.
Any questions—contact Bill & Kim Crowley, our new youth leader coordinators

Poultry Leaders-Pigeon

Project Members

New Ulm Pigeon Show
Brown County Fairgrounds-New Ulm, MN
Saturday, February 7, 2015. Doors open at 7:00 a.m.

Large for sale area (good place to get 2015 pigeon projects)
Show Information
Concessions available by Watonwan County 4-H Poultry Patrol.

For show information, please contact Trevor Nau, 507-375-4716, or by email tdnau4716@centurylink.net.

General Livestock Meeting

Highlights
State fair load-out—discussion on load-out earlier on Wednesday for state fair. (Stay at noon load out).
Market Beef—Feb. 17th at 4:30 pm
Cost of ear tags—$1.50
Discussion on “Celebrity Premier Showmanship” (each club come up with “two celebrities”; group celebrities into teams—depending how many, and then teams can decide which celebrity will show which animal for their team. If someone is invited to participate, they can agree or buy their way out (4-H fundraiser). Still to decide—trophy or thank you gift, and work out timing.)
Horses will be having a horse show/competition at our county fair, but will be going to Brown County for their state qualifying show like last year.
Youth Rep/Species—Help manage set up and take down, fair entry, stall cards. Help younger members learn herdsmanship skills.

i. Beef—Colin & Cara
ii. Dairy—Kinzee & Lukas
iii. Goat—Alison
iv. Horse—
v. Poultry—Liana
vi. Rabbit—Emily
vii. Sheep—Kaleb
viii. Swine—Walker?

Beyond the Basics;

Intermediate Sewing-Button Class

This class is for the youth that knows their way around a sewing machine. You'll learn how to make button holes & sew buttons.

Dates: Tuesday-February 17, Monday-February 23
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Cost: $5.00

Sewing For Fair Planning Meeting

Thursday, February 26th
6:30 pm
Extension Office
Bring ideas, but no material or patterns yet!

2015 Shooting Sports Schedule

Learn safety techniques in archery & firearms. Practice shooting skills and learn sportsmanship for 4-H enrolled children in grades 3 and higher.

Place: Watonwan County Fairgrounds-Red shelter (1st shelter on left from main gate).

Cost: $10.00
Program available to children in grades 3 for BB’s and grades 4+ for BB, pellet and archery.
Call 507-375-1275 or email craig037@umn.edu to register.

Sundays - 1-3 pm
January 11, February 8, March 15

Saturdays - 9-11 am
January 17, February 14, March 21

Mondays - 6-8 pm
January 26, February 23 March 30

You MUST have your 4-H enrollment completed PRIOR to arrival.

Shooting sports program in 22’s and shotgun will be available in the spring for youth that have completed their gun safety certification.

Family Fun with Geocaching

We now have four hand-held GPS units!
Families are invited to check them out and go have fun.
A deposit of $25 is required, which will be refunded when units are returned.

Club Fun!

We have ten cameras and a colored printer in our 4-H supplies—can you think of a plan for a fun activity with your club? Cameras are reserved for the month of February.
We also have four nice portable sewing machines that can travel, or you can come to the office to have even more available to your club. Can anyone think of a fun activity for our club?
Robotics Adventure-On Hold until Spring

We are looking for volunteer to work with this group. Be sure to enroll in Robotics, if you are interested in being on a team. We will meet in the spring to plan our new year.

Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

This month several hundred youth from across the state will gather to participate in the annual 4-H Building Leadership and Understanding (BLU) youth leadership conferences. Developed and led by Minnesota 4-H State Ambassadors, these fun and exciting two-day events are held to help youth learn and practice valuable skills that they will be able to take with them and use throughout their lives. This year’s theme is “Tune into You,” which will focus on self-acceptance and acceptance of others.

Research shows that giving youth opportunities to put their voices into action, and providing them with leadership opportunities and experiences enables them to be producers of their own positive development (Lerner, 2002; Schneirla, 1957).

One of the H's in 4-H stands for “Hands,” as in, “I pledge my hands to larger service.” One of 4-H’s priorities is to help youth develop the leadership skills they need to be of service. 4-H BLU conferences help young people obtain and use leadership and citizenship skills, and find the leaders within themselves to make a positive impact in their families, homes, schools and communities.

Sincerely,

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

Access basic enrollment data in 4HOnline

Club leaders and project leaders,

Did you know that you can access basic enrollment data for the youth and adult volunteers in your club or project area(s)?

4HOnline provides authorized leaders with an additional login option, which provides searchable access to enrollment lists, phone numbers, printed reports, mailing labels, email addresses and more.

To learn more, check out the "Volunteer leader access" section of the 4HOnline page: www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline

Re-enroll now!

Youth and volunteers are encouraged to re-enroll now! Not only is active enrollment required for all youth (and adult volunteers) participating in county, regional or state 4-H events, active enrollment ensures that you’ll get
the latest and correct information from 4-H staff.

Re-enrollment is a relatively quick process because most of the enrollment information only needs to be reviewed and updated. For more information and user guides, go to [www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline). If internet access is not available, a paper based re-enrollment option is available by contacting your county Extension staff.

**Second annual 4-H celebration of Minnesota agriculture**

On **Feb. 21, 2015** at the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center, the Minnesota 4-H Foundation will host the second annual 4-H celebration of Minnesota agriculture beginning at 5 p.m. Come celebrate the impact of Minnesota 4-H and agriculture at this gathering of our statewide friends and supporters! For more information, and to RSVP, please call 612-625-2180 or visit the event website at [http://z.umn.edu/CelebrateAg](http://z.umn.edu/CelebrateAg).

**Scholarships for college-bound 4-H youth**

Are you entering college this fall? Did you know that each year the Minnesota 4-H Foundation awards over $20,000 in scholarships to college-bound 4-H’ers? Applications are due **April 15, 2015**. Visit [http://z.umn.edu/sga](http://z.umn.edu/sga) to learn more.

Direct questions to Erin Kelly-Collins ([erinkc@umn.edu](mailto:erinkc@umn.edu)/612-624-7667).

**2015 SS&W Leader Certification Trainings**

The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program Development Committee invites you to attend a 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification! The committee recommends that leaders attend the entire certification weekend every five years. Now is your chance to attend!

The training is designed for adults and youth (9th grade and older) that lead or would like to lead training in shooting sports or wildlife. Classes will be offered in the disciplines of coordinator, archery, rifle/pistol, shotgun, muzzleloading, and wildlife. This training meets the 4-H project leaders' requirements for certification and recertification. Although there is range time allocated in the schedule, the majority of the training is classroom work to become an effective instructor, not to practice your own shooting skills.

**April 25 – 26, 2015**

1. UMN and Crookston Gun Club, Crookston, Minnesota
2. SCALE Training Facility, Jordan, Minnesota (new location)

Registration materials will be available Feb. 1 and posted to: [www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/). Deadline to register is **April 10, 2015**. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early! All
volunteers MUST have successfully completed the background screening process through their county extension office before participating in the training.

Citizenship Washington Focus

Thousands of young people from across the United States come to the National 4-H Youth Conference Center every summer to participate in CWF, a citizenship and leadership program held in Washington, D.C. Through a series of speakers, committee work, field trips and social events, participants learn the importance of citizenship and social responsibility and are given the opportunity to explore, develop, and refine skills needed to be an outstanding leader on both a local and national level.

Dates:

- **June 20, 2015**: A.M. required pre-conference workshop then depart for Washington, D.C.
- **June 27, 2015**: P.M. arrive Back in Minnesota

Application:

- **Jan. 15, 2015**: All pre-application materials available online.
- **Feb. 17, 2015**: CWF full application materials available online. With a postmark date beginning **Feb. 17**, all required application materials and $700 down payment due.
- Check with your county 4-H program coordinator if there are other requirements for participation.

More information can be found at [www.4-h.umn.edu/events/](http://www.4-h.umn.edu/events/). Contact Judith A. Conway at conw0076@umn.edu with questions.

National 4-H Conference

It is never too early to start thinking about your Minnesota 4-H older youth who would be a great youth delegate for the 2016 National 4-H Conference. Check out the 2015 National 4-H Conference online at [www.4-h.umn.edu/events/national-conference/](http://www.4-h.umn.edu/events/national-conference/). (Please note that dates, age requirements, and post-conference expectations will change for 2016).

Updated material for 2016 National 4-H Conference will be on the web site beginning in September 2015. Contact Judith A. Conway at conw0076@umn.edu with any questions.
**Calendar**

**FEBRUARY**
- 1—Deadline for Bowl Teams
- 1 Helping Hands Grants due to the 4-H Foundation office
- 7 New Ulm Pigeon Show
- 8 Shooting Sports
- 13 Tween Drive-In Movie Night
- 14 Shooting Sports
- 17 Button Sewing Class
- 19-21 M4-HAVA Conference, Willmar
- 21 Minnesota 4-H Foundation's Celebration of Agriculture
- 23 Button Sewing Class
- 23 Shooting Sports
- 26 Sewing for Fair; Planning Meeting
- 28-Mar. 1 Southwest BLU, Marshall

**MARCH**
- 7 Cloverbuds
- 8 General Livestock Meeting
- 15 Shooting Sports
- 21 Shooting Sports
- 21 Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- 23 Federation
- 28 Regional Project Bowl (snow date)
- 30 Shooting Sports

**APRIL**
- 11 State Project Bowl, Sauk Rapids
- 11-16 National 4-H Conference, Washington, D.C.
- 15 Minnesota 4-H Foundation college scholarship applications due
- 25-26 SS&W Leader Certification Trainings: Crookston and Ahlman's in Morristown

**JUNE**
- 18-19 Science of Agriculture Response Challenge
- 20-27 Citizenship Washington Focus