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Summer Intern

Emma Thurston is the Watonwan County 4-H program intern this summer. She is from rural Blue Earth County and is a graduate from Madelia High School class of 2012. She recently completed her junior year at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, majoring in Animal Science-Meat Animal Management and minoring in Food Science. She is set to graduate December 12th, 2015. She has been an officer in the UWRF Block & Bridle club and a member of the UWRF Livestock and Meat Evaluation Team. She is no stranger to the 4-H program; she was a Blue Earth County 4-H member from being a Cloverbud to a year out of high school. She held officer positions and was awarded the outstanding swine project award. She was interested in the intern program to inspire other young people that learning is by doing; skills that are learned now will better these young people in the future. This summer, she will be helping to coordinate the 4-H Traveling Day Camps in June, the Make and Take Day in St. James on June 18th, the Voss Park Overnight Camp July 28th and of course, many of the Watonwan County Fair 4-H events. Feel free to contact her at ethurston@umn.edu for information about upcoming 4-H events.

New Federation Officers Elected for 2015/16

Election for our Federation Officers was held at the June 22nd meeting. Those elected to hold offices in 2015/16 year are: Liana Blomgren-President, Alissa Voyles-Vice President, Cara Teigum-Secretary, Lukas Pierson-Treasurer, and Walker Regier & Kinzee Miest as Youth Representatives. Congratulations! Installation of officers will be held at the September 21, 2015 Federation meeting.
LQA&E Training

Thank you to our great LQA&E Trainers! They help certify 4-H members from six counties! They are a great team & great instructors!

4-H Family Night Get Together—June 12th

What a great night! Thank you to Nelson Wide Awake for hosting this great evening. We had families from six clubs, Cloverbud families, and Independent families taking part. There was a delicious pot luck supper, crafts, “Flower painting”, oil painting class with Sarah Brekke, games, and a softball game all happening.

Youth Leader

Which fundraiser can you work at?—Wednesday, July 15th, the foodstand at the fair for the NTPA event or Saturday and/or Sunday, August 22nd & 23rd for the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon event honoring our Military Veterans. If you have a preference call and get your space reserved.

Voss Park Overnight

“A Summer Blast Off”

Great first ‘overnight camp’ experience. Spend one night in a tent at Butterfields Voss Park having fun in the great outdoors.

Date: Tuesday, July 28 (1 pm) – Wednesday, July 29 (5 p.m.)

Cost: $10.00

Age: Grades 3-6

Registration deadline: July 19

We still need an adult volunteer to be at camp on Wednesday,

County Fair Food Stand—NEW INFORMATION

Because of numerous conversations, the consensus is that our clubs want to work together for shifts. Size of clubs will determine length of shifts. Each club and independent will have an individual shift description in their club box. Here is the schedule for this year:

A Family Affair

All 4-H members and their parents are expected to work a shift in the 4-H food stand at the county fair. If you cannot work with your club at the scheduled time, please call Sue and we will work out a time when you can take your turn.

Thursday, July 16th

11 am-5 pm Nelson Wide Awake
5 pm-closing Nelson Wide Awake & Jimmies

Friday, July 17th

11 am-5 pm Golden Gleaners, Rosendale
Skippers & Speedway Builders (1 or 2 families)
5 pm-closing Darfur North Star, Riverdale
Rockets, Hjelmers, Speedway Builders (1 or 2 families)

Saturday, July 18th

10 am-5 pm Speedway Builders
4 pm-closing Nifty Thrifty

Sunday, July 19th

10 am-7 pm Fieldon Rustlers, Schwarz family,
Nifty Thrifty (1 or 2 families)
1. Schedule of workers needed—work with other clubs to work out your shift
2. Closing on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday is 10 pm followed by cleanup.
3. Closing on Sunday is 6 pm (or earlier if we run out of food!), followed by cleanup.
   Barn cleanup is starts at 6 pm on Sunday, but split your family so we have help everywhere.

**Bingo at the Fair**

Jobs for Bingo: One caller and six workers for each shift (more workers needed, if including under 6th grade).

**Thursday, July 16th** — 6 pm-8:00 pm—Fieldon Rustlers

**Friday, July 17th** — 6 pm-8:30 pm—Speedway Builders

**Saturday, July 18th** — 5 pm-7 pm—Golden Gleaners

**Sunday, July 19th** — 1 pm-3 pm—Riverdale Rockets

Set up—watch for details—Tuesday night (July 14th)

Need at least one adult and two youth workers from each club—DNS, J, NWA, and NT.

**County Fair News**

*NEW in 2015—4-H Graduation Recognition will be held on Sunday, July 19th at 3 pm, as part of our Parade of Champions. If you know of anyone graduating out of 4-H, please remind them to RSVP.

*July 8th—Presentation Day (Clothing, Fashion Review, Food Review, Performing Arts). All judging will all take place in the morning, followed by the showcase that evening.

*Barn set up and General set-up (which includes the food stand and the exhibit building)—same night—July 9th! Everyone is needed—if you show anything at the fair including general exhibits, your family should be represented. We start at 7 pm and with enough help we can be done by 9 pm. Don't forget to do your share.

* General Exhibit Judging—Tuesday, July 14th
* General Judges—we have tried reorganizing our projects/judges so hopefully there will be smaller waiting lines in all areas.

* Wednesday—July 15th—volunteers needed to help set up the general exhibit building. Please call.

*Don't forget we need volunteers for judging assistance, livestock shows, office volunteers, display of general exhibits

*Day Care Tours at fair—Thursday, July 18th at 1:30 pm—need youth from each livestock project to help with barn tours, need youth to help with crafts.

**Species Entry**

**Show**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Entry Times</th>
<th>Show Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef</td>
<td>Wed-evening (time)</td>
<td>Friday-6 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dairy</td>
<td>Thurs evening (7-9 pm)</td>
<td>Friday-12:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goat</td>
<td>Wed (4-7 pm)</td>
<td>Thursday-1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse</td>
<td>Thursday, (8-11am)</td>
<td>Thursday-1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lama</td>
<td>Wed (4-7 pm)</td>
<td>---still open---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>Thurs am (8:30-11am)</td>
<td>Thursday-5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbit</td>
<td>Wed (4-6 pm)</td>
<td>Wed-6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>Wed (4 to 7 pm)</td>
<td>Thurs-10 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swine</td>
<td>Thurs (7:30-9 am)</td>
<td>Friday -8:30AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet Show</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday-1 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auction</td>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday-9 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Premier</td>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday11am, (followed by Celebrity Showmanship)</td>
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</tbody>
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**Parade of Champions & 4-H Graduation**

Sunday, 3 pm, in Entertainment tent, followed by state fair meetings.
Free Children’s Entertainment

- **Friday**—Free Crafts 6:30-8:00 pm
- **Saturday**—Free Crafts 6:30-8:00 pm
- **Sunday**—
  - Pedal Pull Registration—1:30 pm
  - Pedal Pull—2:00 pm
  - Crafts—3 pm
  - Medallion in Paper Hunt—4 pm

**PRE-FAIR MEGA Ride Band SPECIAL** -
Purchase a Mega Band Coupon ($35) at Pioneer Banks in Madelia or St. James, and at the St. James City Hall. Ride any ride—everyday at the fair!

Absente Judging

If you cannot be there for General Judging on Tuesday, July 15th, please contact Sue 507-375-1275 or email craig037@umn.edu as soon as possible.

**Parade of Champions**

Any youth that has completed 3rd grade and not listed as a Cloverbud is eligible for Parade of Champions.

Each judge will decide an overall Champion and Reserve Champion in each project area. You can be a purple winner in your age division, but not in the Parade of Champions. There is only one overall Champion and one overall Reserve Champion. This might be a winner from Grades 3-5, or Grades 6-8, or Grades 9+

The judges may base his/her decision on the youths enthusiasm, knowledge, or workmanship.

We have a Parade of Champion board where all winners are posted. Please check this board.

We have a special presentation for Parade of Champions where the winners receive a plaque and a disc. This award event is held on **Sunday, July 19th at 3:00 pm.** in the new entertainment tent. If you are a winner please plan on attending. Pictures will be taken of all winners. Everyone is invited to attend this awards recognition.

**4-H Graduation**

4-H will be honoring both 4-H high school graduation and those members that are now graduating from their 4-H career as a youth member. If you received an invitation, please RSVP. Everyone is invited to come and help honor these great 4-H members.

**State Fair Winners**

All youth 6th grade and older are eligible to win a trip to the state fair. After judging, please check the state fair line-up for each project area. The boards are hanging on the wall by the 4-H office in the General Exhibit Building. Please mark yes or no behind your name if you would like to exhibit at the state fair. If you have multiple choices for trips, write “yes #1” behind your 1st choice, etc. All General Exhibitors should mark the state fair board by **noon on Friday** or your trip will be given to the next in line. All livestock trips need to be marked by noon on Saturday or the trip will be given to the next one in line. If you are not on the grounds you may call Sue 507-327-7699 and ask her to mark the board.
State Fair

- Mandatory Livestock meeting for state fair participants on Wednesday, August 12th at 8 pm at the Extension office—please make sure your family is represented.
- Livestock Encampment-Wednesday, August 26th-Sunday, August 30th.
- Load truck at noon on August 26th.
- Need COOL papers from market swine & market sheep.
- General Encampment-Sunday, August 30th-Tuesday, September 1st.
- General Exhibits for state fair due at the Extension office by August 18th.

State Fair Packets

Once you know that you have a "guaranteed trip" to the state fair, please pick up your packet. You need to complete that packet and return with check by Sunday of the fair. There is a mandatory meeting for first time state fair attendees and a parent on Sunday—Livestock trip—4:00 pm and General Exhibitors—5 pm in the general exhibit building.

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 Svano, Theo Svano, 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

- 1 Safety of Minors training completion deadline for all Minnesota 4-H volunteers
- 8 Presentation Day
- 9 Fairgrounds Set Up
- 14 General Exhibit & judging
- 15-19 County Fair
- 20 Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational registrations due to county Extension offices
- 28-29 Voss Overnight Camp

AUGUST

- 12 State Fair Livestock Meeting
- 26-30 State Fair Livestock
- 27-Sept 7 Minnesota State Fair
- 30-Sept 1 State Fair General
- 11-13 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational