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Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

Due to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health’s ban on live birds at public events to help limit the spread of avian flu, 4-H had to adjust its 4-H Poultry Project events and activities at county and state fairs this summer. Our state poultry committee leapt into action, got creative and came up with plans that made it possible for our 4-H Poultry Project youth to participate in fairs this summer and share their learning.

One adjustment was to use photos of poultry or plush stuffed birds for showmanship judging, so youth would have something in place of their live birds to help facilitate their conversations with judges. We also gave youth an option to create and bring a poultry exhibit in the areas of biosecurity, animal health, nutrition, production, and careers, which gave them an opportunity to dig deeper and learn more about a specific topic related to the poultry industry. Some county fairs also offered a chicken BBQ contest, carcass judging and other poultry-related learning events. And at the Minnesota State Fair, we held a Science of Poultry ½ day learning event, where 4-H poultry youth could hear from a panel of experts from Jennie-O, Cargill, Rembrandt Enterprises, Minnesota Turkey, Midwest Poultry Federation, Minnesota Chicken and Egg, and Extension; work in roundtables with the experts learning about an issue; and apply their new knowledge by creating a poster on the topic and presenting it to the group.
Though some of our 4-H’ers were disappointed they could not bring the birds they spent months raising and caring for to fairs, they rose to the occasion and had wonderful learning experiences as a result.

I’d like to congratulate all of our 4-H poultry youth, and poultry families and volunteers for all of your extra effort this summer, and making 4-H poultry experiences at the fair rich and rewarding!

Sincerely,

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

We Need your VOTE to approve the NEW Jackson County 4-H Federation Constitution/By-Law Changes!

When: September 28th, 2015
Where: Lakefield MPB
Time: 7:30 PM

All Minnesota 4-H Organizations are covered under a federal Group Exemption Number (GEN) that was granted to the Regents of the University of Minnesota by the IRS in August 2013. This group exemption status allows Minnesota 4-H federations/councils who have been successfully chartered the authority to use the 4-H name and emblem and to operate as a tax exempt organization which can accept donations and carry out fundraising activities as a non-profit. As a part of the commitment Minnesota 4-H made to secure the GEN, all 4-H Federations/Councils must, by law, adopt and operate under this model constitution/by-laws.

A sub-committee consisting of youth and adult volunteers from Jackson county have been working diligently to make the new changes. All of the changes have met the guidelines laid out by Minnesota 4-H and it is time for the new documents to be presented and voted on for approval by the Jackson County 4-H Federation.

We are asking all eligible voting members to attend the meeting on September 28th as they will be presented at this time. Eligible voting members include all current 4-H members, any parent, project leader, guardian, and adult leader are entitled to one vote. In order for the new constitution/by-laws to be approved we must have a quorum. A quorum in Jackson County is a minimum of 1 adult and 1 youth member present from one more than half of the 9 traditional 4-H clubs. Of these, at least 4 must be Advisory Board Members.

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A copy of the “New” constitution/by-laws is posted on the county website http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/jackson/4-h/article/jackson-cty-4-h-federation-constitution-laws-changes-meeting-september-28th-new-date for your review before the meeting. If you would like to request a printed copy or have any questions, please contact Sarah Jacobs, Jackson County 4-H Program Coordinator at 507-662-5293 or sljacobs@umn.edu.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Advisory Board and Federation Meetings

Our next Advisory Board meeting will be on Monday, September 28th at 6:30 PM in the Multi-Purpose Building in Lakefield. A federation meeting will follow at 7:30 PM. There will be a lot going on at this meeting, including installation of new officers, voting on our new constitution and by-laws, and much more! PLEASE NOTE that this is the 4th Monday – due to a training Sarah MUST attend, we will be moving this Federation meeting a week later!
Fair Checks

Premium checks, auction checks, etc are being worked on by the Jackson County Extension staff. Thank you for your patience during this busy time of the year!

Fair Evaluations

Send back your fair evaluations as soon as possible. The evaluations help us know if there are changes or improvements that would be beneficial in the future.

Recognition Banquet

The 2015 Recognition Banquet will be held in November. Watch future newsletters for more details about this exciting event. Invitations will be sent a bit later, and we appreciate RSVPs so we can plan for the meal.

All 4-H families are invited to attend the Banquet and help recognize the achievements of 4-Hers, leaders and supporters during the 4-H year. If someone from your family is receiving recognition, it is stated on your invitation so please make plans to attend. The Banquet is a great place to learn about all the opportunities available in 4-H.

National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week window displays will need to be in place October 4-10, and are a great way to promote 4-H and show people what 4-H is all about. Please continue the creative tradition and include that as part of your club’s yearly plan.

We would also ask that each club begin discussions about a recruitment activity to help promote 4-H during 4-H Week.

County Fair Thank You’s

Last week, we mailed out Thank You notes that still needed to be completed. They are due back to the office on August 27th. Just a reminder, if you don’t write a thank you and turn it back in to the office, you WILL NOT receive your plates! KWOA Auction thank you information will be sent out after state fair is done.

Secretary and Treasurer Books

County Award Applications and Charters

It’s time to start thinking about club charters. Watch for future Clover Updates for this deadline. Secretary, Treasurer books and County Award applications are due to the Extension Office by Friday, September 25th.

Corn Cob Open

THANK YOU to everyone who helped at Corn Cob Open! Jackson County 4-H appreciates your time and effort. I want to also thank Melonie and Kate for stepping up to work for me since I was back in my walking boot and could not stand/walk/put weight on my injured foot, and I look forward to helping with my first Corn Cob Open next year! While we appreciate the help, time and effort of those individuals, I also heard many comments about our lack of participation this year. Please attend the September Federation meeting as we will be discussing how we can improve participation across all clubs in the future. This fundraiser goes toward our general 4-H account and helps ALL of us across 4-H, not just specific individuals.

Livestock Judging Jackets

If anyone has any suit jackets they have borrowed from the Extension Office in the past, please bring them back ASAP! We are currently
trying to get all of our current livestock judging members ready for the state contest. Also, if anyone has any suit jackets in decent condition they want to get rid of when you are cleaning out closets, the Extension office is more than willing to take them off your hands!

SOAR Challenge

Are you interested in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and how it relates to Agriculture in Jackson County, Minnesota, and the World? If you are going to be in 6th grade or above, you can join the SOAR Team! The SOAR Challenge stands for Science of Agriculture Response Challenge. What does that mean? You can work with area 4-H members and community leaders to identify an Agricultural issue in Jackson County and work to find a solution. Interested? Contact the Extension Office for more information! Club leaders - contact the Extension Office if you would like a representative present at your next club meeting!

Social Media Reminder

Have you checked us out on Facebook and Twitter? Like us on Facebook at "Jackson County, MN 4-H" and follow us on Twitter @4HJacksonCounty! Also, if you haven’t signed up for Remind (text message reminders) on your cell phone, text @jcou to 81010 and follow the directions that are sent to you.

Records

Now that fair is over, it is time to start thinking about records! Record keeping is a very important skill that will be used through adulthood, so it is important for our youth to learn those skills now. Here is the link for the records: http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/youth-records/. This year as an incentive, we will be providing a PIZZA PARTY to the club with the highest percentage of records turned in to the office! As club leaders, you are responsible for getting records to our office by Friday, September 25th. NOTE: If you would like to use the older style of records that is fine. Contact the office for more information!

Record Judging

Record Judging will take place on Monday, September 28th from 8:00 AM until the Federation Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Each club is responsible for having an adult(s) there for FOUR HOURS that day/evening. This means you can have one adult work for four hours, two adults work for two hours each, or four adults that work for one hour each – it is up to you! Record judging will take place at the conference room at the Extension Office. Refreshments will be provided!

Minnesota 4-H club chartering process

It is hard to believe it is time for clubs to renew their annual charter! The chartering documents are now up on the Minnesota 4-H website (www.4-H.umn.edu/leading-a-club/) and have a whole new face lift. The forms have been streamlined to make the process easier for clubs to complete.

New in 2015 is a club chartering training video that can also be found on the Minnesota 4-H website. This video is approximately 19 minutes in length and gives step by step directions on how to fill in each form, and the purpose of annual club chartering.

Clubs/leaders can watch this video on their own, or the program coordinator can bring leaders together to watch the video as a group and answer questions.

Remember all club charters must be in the county Extension office on or before Oct. 30, 2015.
Get the free 4-H at the Minnesota State Fair app

If you have a smart phone and you’re going to the state fair – or you know a 4-H’er who will be showing a project -- download our free app before you leave home! It combines all this:

- Judging results
- Public schedule linked to an interactive map
- For exhibitors – switch on the alerts so you’ll know where to be and when
  - New: Stalling announcements for beef exhibitors on Tuesday night!
- 4-H live cam 12 hours a day
- Photo sharing
- More!

Download it now:
For iphone:  
http://www.z.umn.edu/4hstatefairiapp
For android:  
http://www.z.umn.edu/4hstatefairaapp

If you already have this app from last year, be sure to update it for new features.

Online enrollment for 4-H families

Enrollment for the new 4-H year opens up on Sept. 16 and Minnesota 4-H families are reminded and encouraged to visit mn.4HOnline.com to enroll/re-enroll both youth members and adult volunteers. The process is quick and easy; even families with multiple youth should be done in 10 minutes or less. Re-enrolling early ensures that critical communications will be received, especially as it relates to deadlines and project specific information. Detailed information about online enrollment and re-enrollment is available at www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline.

As part of enrolling or re-enrolling, youth, their parents and adult volunteers will all be agreeing to the Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct, which is available for review in its entirety, along with other policy and authorization statements at www.4-H.umn.edu/policy or by contacting your local Extension office (www.extension.umn.edu/county/).

If you are not yet an adult volunteer but are willing to share your time and talents to make a difference, 4-H needs you! The first step to becoming an adult 4-H volunteer is to complete the volunteer application process. Learn more at www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/#application.

Celebrate Ag & Food Day

4-H families and alumni are invited to join a celebration of Minnesota agriculture and food at a special University of Minnesota Gopher football game on Sept. 19. Discounted tickets can be purchased at z.umn.edu/umafd2015. Join us before the game from 9 - 11 a.m. for activities outside the stadium including a tailgate party featuring Minnesota brats and cheese. To RSVP or with questions, contact Erin Kelly-Collins at erinkc@umn.edu.

Safety of Minors Training: A big thank you!

On behalf of the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development, please accept our sincere gratitude for your timely completion of the University-sponsored “Safety of Minors” training and compliance with the policy. Getting 7,000 adult volunteers through training in two months is no small task, but we are proud to share that we accomplished this task due to the timeliness and commitment of our volunteers and the diligence of our staff. We greatly appreciate your service to Minnesota 4-H and dedication to ensuring that all Minnesota youth are engaged in safe, fun, and positive experiential learning.
2015 Fall Volunteer Training: All Together, Yet Not All the Same

We are excited to announce this year's topic for our annual fall volunteer training: cultural competency and inclusion. The training, titled “All Together, Yet Not All the Same,” is designed to help prepare 4-H volunteers to build youths’ global citizenship skills and give them the tools needed to ensure that 4-H is a program where youth from all backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and abilities feel welcome and safe. It is our responsibility to young people to prepare them for global citizenship and to work constructively across areas of difference. As we strive in Minnesota 4-H Youth Development to make our programs relevant and accessible to all youth, we must consider areas where we might encounter different values, backgrounds, beliefs, abilities, and goals. By preparing adult volunteers who are essential to 4-H program delivery to be aware of and respectful of these differences, we will not only create an environment where all individuals feel safe and welcome, but also ensure that we model valuable 21st century global citizenship skills to youth that will prove critical now and in their future. Activities are designed to be hands-on and encourage active discussion. Participants will be given at least one activity to take back to their clubs as well as have access to the WeConnect curriculum from their county library of available curricula. All 4-H volunteers are encouraged to attend the annual training in their county. Activities are also appropriate for youth who are interested in this topic.

New online version of the Consumer Decision-Making Project

How do you decide which entrée to order? What shoes to buy? What vacation to plan? It’s a tough job, but someone needs to make the decision! And pay the bills. The media, peer pressure, the need to fit in – all these factors play major roles in the decisions that youth make.

Minnesota 4-H is recruiting members interested in learning to make wise consumer decisions in a new online version of our Consumer Decision-Making Project. The online nature of this project means you can work review challenges, post your decisions and share with other youth from anywhere and at any time, through the convenience of your mobile device or home internet connection.

How does it work? Each week for up to 1 to 2 hours for a 12 week period, youth will learn about finances and consumerism, review a scenario, and compare products to make informed decisions. Youth post their decision process and decisions while also reflecting on their values and giving feedback to their peers. Volunteer mentors respond to questions and provide feedback.

If you are interested in learning more about this online opportunity in becoming savvy consumers and building financial intelligence, contact Carrie Olson (320-589-1711, olson166@umn.edu) today.

Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show

Mark your calendar: The annual Minnesota 4-H Horse Show will be held Sept. 18-21, 2015. Watch the Minnesota 4-H horse website for more information at www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/horse.

Minnesota 4-H Dog Show

Mark your calendar: The Minnesota 4-H Dog Show will be held Sept. 26-27, 2015. Watch the Minnesota 4-H dog website for more details at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/state-dog-show.html.
SS&W Ambassador Program seeking applications for new Ambassadors!

The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Ambassador Program is a leadership opportunity for youth leaders, grades 9-13, to promote and enhance Minnesota 4-H shooting sports. Ambassadors positively represent the Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program at state, regional, and local levels. Youth must be starting grade 9-13 in the fall and be able to attend the Oct. 3-4 training in Perham.

Program information, application, and reference forms can be found at:
4-H.umn.edu/projects/shooting-sports/shooting-sports/

Fall 2015 Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification Training

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 (grade nine 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.

The training will take place Oct. 3-4, 2015 at the Perham Middle School and Fort Thunder Gun Club in Perham.

Registration materials are available at 4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/. The deadline to register is September 18, 2015. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early!

4-H volunteer corner

Managing 4-H clubs: A guide for club leaders

October marks the beginning of a new 4-H year and a new volunteer opportunity for individuals who are moving into a club leadership position. 4-H volunteers who are taking on club leadership responsibilities have several important roles. A leader is a mentor, a motivator for young people, an organizer and coordinator with other adults in the club, and a liaison with the larger 4-H organization in your area. An excellent training resource and online learning module for new and existing 4-H club leaders is Managing 4-H Clubs: A guide for club leaders. Extension staff designed this module to help with some of the typical management issues in 4-H clubs and bring all these pieces together to build an environment where young people thrive and grow. Take advantage of the resource to get your 4-H club off to a great start this fall. To view this training module and other 4-H online training opportunities visit www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/online-training/.

5 Young Shepherd’s Scholarships to be awarded

The Minnesota Hampshire Sheep Association will award five $200 - Young Shepherd’s Scholarships to Minnesota youth interested in beginning or expanding a sheep project.
The scholarships are to be applied toward the purchase of a registered Hampshire breeding ewe or ewe lamb at the Minnesota Bred Ewe Sale at Rochester, MN, Saturday, November 28, 2015.

Any interested youth between 6 to 18 years of age may apply for a $200 scholarship by sending a one-page entry that contains the following information:

1. Name,
2. Address,
3. Age,
4. Phone Number.

Written answers to the following questions:
5. Tell about yourself and why you want to raise a Hampshire sheep.
6. How will you take care of your Hampshire sheep.
7. What will you do to improve and promote Hampshire sheep and help the sheep industry?

Applications are due on or before October 15, 2015. Applicants will be notified by awards committee.

Send completed application to Awards Committee Chairman

By mail or by e-mail to:
Tom Bobendrier
1351 U.S. Hwy 75
Pipestone, MN  56164
e-mail to: tom.pgc@svtv.com

For additional information contact:
Tom Bobendrier (H)507-825-2364, (C)507-215-0334 e-mail: tom.pgc@svtv.com or Art Frame
507-376-4928, e-mail: aframe@nobleswildblue.com

Calendar

AUGUST
• 26-30 State Livestock Encampment
• 27 - Sept. 7 Minnesota State Fair

SEPTEMBER
• 26 - Sept. 7 Live-streaming of 4-H State Arts-In performance

SEPTEMBER
• 2 Live-streaming of the 4-H Lama Costume Competition
• 5-7 State Fair General Encampment
• 8 Foodstand Committee Meeting @ 5 PM, Extension Office
• 11-13 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational
• 16 Online enrollment for the new 4-H year begins
• 18-21 Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show
• 19 Celebrate Ag & Food Day at the Minnesota Gopher football game
• 25 Records due to Office
• 26-27 Minnesota 4-H State Dog Show
• 28 Record Judging
• 28 Advisory Board @ 6:30 PM, Federation @ 7:30 PM, Lakefield MPB

OCTOBER
• 3-4 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Ambassador training, Perham
• 30 Club charters due to county Extension offices