In This Issue:

- Martin County Area Foundation ................................................................. 2
- Bellin Youth Education Barn ................................................................. 2
- Bring It Back Scholarship ........................................................................ 2-3
- 4-H Chaperones ......................................................................................... 3
- Horse Project Information ......................................................................... 3
- Container Garden Challenge/Help Needed ............................................... 4
- Fair Information ......................................................................................... 5-10
- County Opportunities ............................................................................... 11-12
- State & Regional Information ................................................................. 14-16
- Upcoming Events ...................................................................................... 16-17

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

Summer is here and with summer comes an opportunity for communities around the state to attend their county fairs and see the learning and accomplishments that 4-H'ers have achieved this year! 4-H'ers have been working hard on their projects and exploring topics they are passionate about, such as animal science, robotics, creative arts, wildlife biology, performing arts and photography. Through this hands-on learning, 4-H'ers learn 21st Century skills such as communications, problem solving, decision making and critical thinking that will support their success throughout their lives.

One of the highlights you’ll see again this year at county and state fairs is the 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge. Based on Rube Goldberg machines, teams of 4-H youth design overly complex contraptions that can do a simple task using everyday items in whimsical ways that interact in a series of chain-reactions. This year’s challenge is to design a machine that will put toothpaste on a toothbrush.

At the state fair, highlights will include great hands-on STEM activities for visitors to the 4-H Building, and presentations from the 4-H Science of Agriculture Challenge, in which we asked teams of youth to identify agronomic issues and come up with science-based solutions.
I hope that each of you embrace all that 4-H has to offer you this summer. I also hope that you encourage your friends, your family members, and your neighbors to experience 4-H too by going to your county fair so they can see how 4-H youth are making a difference in their community.

I look forward to another great summer seeing all the great projects from 4-H'ers throughout the state, and learning from them. If you see me at the state fair, please stop and say hello. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

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

Thank you, Martin County Area Foundation!

Martin County 4-H has received a grant totaling $4,999.98 from the Martin County Area Foundation, a fund of the Minnesota Community Foundation, to use towards new appliances in the 4-H Food Stand!

Thank you Martin County Area Foundation for your generosity!

Bellin Youth Agriculture Education Barn

This summer Weiss Milling, Inc., with the help of other community members and organizations, are putting up a new building at the fair to educate youth about agriculture in our area. This barn will host different pens of baby animals including: goats, lambs, calves, ponies, a sow/piglet pen, and hopefully next year, chickens and ducks. There will also be a fun corn box for kids to play in and learn about agriculture.

Bellin Youth Agriculture Education Barn Donation Request

A request of a donation from Martin County 4-H for this building project has been made and will be discussed to possibly be voted on at the June 29th Federation Meeting.

The request is $5,000, but any amount will be appreciated.

Bring It Back Scholarship Reminder!

This is a friendly reminder to those of you who have used the Bring It Back Scholarship for your registration fees to State 4-H and Martin County 4-H sponsored events that you MUST complete the “Bring It Back Report” portion of your Bring It Back Scholarship within two months of attending the event. If you do not complete the “Bring It Back Report” and submit it to the Martin County Extension
Office within two months of attending the event, you will be expected to pay the registration fee in FULL to the Martin County 4-H Federation.

Feel free to contact the Martin County 4-H Office with any questions or concerns regarding this, 507-238-3116 or email gaals001@umn.edu

Thinking about being a 4-H Chaperone?

There are several exciting 4-H events coming up that will require adult chaperones. If you are interested in being a 4-H Chaperone for any upcoming events (e.g. YELLO!, State Fair, etc.), then you must complete the necessary steps to become a screened 4-H Volunteer. If you were a screened 4-H Volunteer in the past, then you will need to re-enroll as re-enrollment is required every year. This is a painless process; however, it can take some time. Be sure you are allowing enough time to get this taken care of before your event. Thank you in advance for your willingness to be a 4-H Volunteer/Chaperone!

For more information on how to become a screened 4-H Volunteer, visit: http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-h/volunteer/

Attention 4-H Horse Project Members!

The MN State 4-H Horse Rule Book was revised in March 2015. Please make sure to read through the rule book to familiarize yourself with the changes made.

You can download the Rule Book here: http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/animal-science/horse/

2015 Martin County 4-H Horse Clinics & Open Rides

ALL WILL BE TAKING PLACE INDOORS AT KIETZER ARENA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 2</td>
<td>Season Kick-Off CLINIC</td>
<td>5:30-8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 18</td>
<td>OPEN RIDE</td>
<td>6:00 - 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 23</td>
<td>WESTERN CLINIC</td>
<td>5:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 2</td>
<td>OPEN RIDE</td>
<td>6:00 - 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 7</td>
<td>OPEN RIDE</td>
<td>6:00 - 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 14</td>
<td>ENGLISH CLINIC</td>
<td>5:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 16</td>
<td>OPEN RIDE</td>
<td>6:00 – 8:00 p.m. CANCELED!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 21</td>
<td>GAMES CLINIC</td>
<td>5:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 30</td>
<td>MENTOR RIDE</td>
<td>5:30 – 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, August 4</td>
<td>TRAIL CLINIC</td>
<td>5:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
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SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY:

From 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. at each of the clinics (except for Trail) the clinicians will be available to answer participants’ specific questions.
4-H Horse Reminder: Coggins Report Must be Up-To-Date!

This is a friendly reminder that your horse’s Coggins Report must be up-to-date in order to participate in any horse event (this includes any of the open rides, clinics or boot camps).

Remember:

- Coggins expires every 12 months from when the date it was “reported out on.” Be sure your Coggins Report is up-to-date.
- Valid Coggins Report is REQUIRED before you can participate/exhibit in any horse event.

Once you have received your valid Coggins Report, you MUST bring a copy of it to the Martin County Extension Office, so we can upload it into your horse’s ID account on 4HOnline. You MUST also present a copy of it at your Martin County 4-H Horse Clinics and Open Rides!

Martin 4-H Club Container Garden Challenge

This is a reminder that Martin County 4-H will be renewing the Club Container Garden Challenge this year!

The purpose of this contest is to encourage 4-H Clubs to help add beauty and interest to the fairgrounds during the fair. The intent is to provide an opportunity for clubs to use their creativity and gardening skills to promote 4-H projects and opportunities in a pleasing and eye-catching manner.

Every Martin County 4-H Club is challenged to design and plant THREE garden boxes to be displayed at the 2015 Martin County Fair. Garden boxes and equipment provided will remain the property of Martin County 4-H following the fair. Let the Extension Office know if you your club still needs a garden box. Happy planting!

HELP NEEDED: HyVee Day Camp - 4-H Science Fun!

Just as in years past, I will be needing help to pull off the 4-H HyVee Day Camp on June 30. I will need at least one adult volunteer and one older youth from each club to assist with this event. This will be a fun-filled day with science experiments and lunch provided by HyVee!

Please notify Kristie at gaals001@umn.edu, if you are willing to help out with this event.

2014-2015 Federation Schedule

7:00 p.m. at the Martin County Courthouse  
(unless otherwise specified)  
June 29: @ the Martin County Resource Center  Club Host: Rutland  
July 27: @ the Martin County Resource Center  Club Host: Silver Lake  
September 28: Club Host: Waverly/Westford  

PLEASE NOTE:

- 4-H Council meets at 6:30 p.m. prior to each Federation meeting, unless otherwise specified.
- Club host: give a club update & have club member(s) give a demonstration.
- If a proposed agenda is absent of action items, the scheduled meeting
may be canceled at the discretion of the Program Coordinator. Advance notice will be given in these circumstances.

Fair Registration Due July 1

You all should have received your Fair Registration Packet in the mail. These packets contain all the information you require to get your projects signed up for the fair! Please notify the Extension Office if you have not received a packet.

The following forms will not be in your packet, but will be available to download from the Martin County 4-H webpage:

- 4-H Horse Registration Form
- 4-H Fashion Revue Narrative Form
- 4-H Fashion Revue Report Form
- 4-H Exhibit Suggestions

The County Fair is approaching quickly! Hopefully, you are already working on your exhibits and are making plans to exhibit at the fair. Registration is due Wednesday, July 1.

Early Fair Registration Incentive – Winners!

This year, we had a great number of families turn in their fair registrations early, and we want to THANK YOU!! Members who turned in their forms by June 16 were entered into a drawing to win a $20 punch card to the 4-H Food Stand. Four names were drawn, and the winners are:

- Ryelynn Forsberg, Elm Creek 4-H Club
- Mason Kotewa, Silver Lake 4-H Club
- Evan Roben, Elm Creek 4-H Club
- Teya Schmidtke, Elm Creek 4-H Club

Congratulations to our winners! Your prize punch card will be available for you at the 4-H Food Stand when you get to the Fair. Thank you again to all of the families who turned their forms in early! We really appreciate it!

Project Selection Guide

Are you curious about what projects you can enroll in through 4-H and exhibit at the 2015 Martin County Fair? From Photography to Youth Leadership and Geospatial to Dogs – there is something for everyone! Check out the Project Selection Guide for more details: http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-h/projects/

Martin County Extension Office CLOSED on July 3

The Martin County Extension Office will be closed on July 3 in observance of the Fourth of July holiday.

2015 Fairground Clean Up Days

Tuesday, August 4 at 6:00 p.m.

Foodstand Clean-Up: Galena

Thursday, August 6 – Food stand Clean-Up at 6:00 p.m. and Exhibit Building at 6:00 p.m.

Foodstand Clean-Up: Elm Creek

Exhibit Building Clean-Up: Pleasant Prairie & Waverly/Westford
Tuesday, August 11 at 6:00 p.m.
Foodstand Clean-Up: Fox Lake & Rutland
Exhibit Building Clean-Up: East Chain

Monday, August 24 at 6:00 p.m.
Post-Fair Clean-Up: Silver Lake

Bring your own wash clothes, buckets, brooms, mops - any cleaning supplies you think you may need! Instructions will be provided when you get there. Thank you!

**Attention All 4-H Rabbit Project Members**

Regional 4-H/FFA Rabbit Show at the Martin County Fair
Saturday, August 22 at 12:00 p.m.

**Top awards will be given:**
Supreme Champion Rabbit - $150
Reserve Champion Rabbit - $75
Make plans now to attend the Regional 4-H/FFA Rabbit Show for another chance to show your rabbit(s), meet other area project members, and to win one of the top two awards! Rabbits must be on your identification affidavit and will be judged by an ARBA judge. All members in 4-H and FFA Rabbit Project from all counties, all states, are eligible. Please email or call for more detailed information: cjdeling@gmail.com or call/text Carmen at 507-236-1552. Detailed information will be emailed to those requesting with classes and lots.
The entry fee is $2.50 per rabbit, with all entry fees being paid back in the class premiums on a pro-rate basis according to number of entries.

This show is sponsored by the Martin County Fair and AgStar. All participants will receive a free t-shirt.
Please email or send entries by Saturday, August 15 to cjdeling@gmail.com or mail to Carmen Deling, 2103 150th Street, Fairmont MN 56031. We will also accept late entries up to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 22 at check-in.

**Three Meeting Rule Reminder**

4-H Members MUST attend at least THREE MEETINGS (either at their club or Federation). If a 4-H Member fails to attend at least three meetings, they will not receive funding from the Martin County 4-H Federation for their next 4-H State sponsored event (i.e. State Fair, State Horse Show, BLU, YELLO!, State Shoot, etc.). This consequence will only be for the next immediate 4-H State sponsored event they attend.

It is the responsibility of the Club Leaders to monitor and provide documentation indicating that members have completed the Three Meeting Rule to the Extension Office by July 15.

**Martin County Fair Volunteers**

We are putting together our County Fair Volunteer Schedules! If you know of someone who would love to be on a committee, help with herdsmanship, be a livestock superintendent, straighten up the 4-H building, or help out all around - please contact the Extension Office!
Minnesota State Fair Update

The Martin County 4-H Encampments for the Minnesota State Fair are:
Livestock: Wednesday, August 26- Sunday, August 30
General (Non-Livestock): Sunday, August 30- Tuesday, September 1

LQA&E

For those of you who still need to become LQA&E certified, here is a nearby option for you to get this taken care of:

Cottonwood County and Pipestone County 4-H LQA&E Training Tour for Level II ONLY on July 23

On Thursday, July 23 Cottonwood County and Pipestone County 4-H will be having two buses - one that will depart from Pipestone and the other will depart from Windom (with a stop in Worthington) go to Sioux Center, IA, which will include a tour of a packing facility (if you are uncomfortable with this you should not participate). Youth MUST also wear closed toe shoes.

Pre-Registration REQUIRED: If getting on the bus in Windom or Worthington, contact Crystal Reith in the Cottonwood County Extension Office at 507-831-4022 or at mohrh002@umn.edu. If getting on the bus in Pipestone, contact Melissa Runck at mkrunc@umn.edu. There is a $10 Registration Fee.

REMEMBER: Training is required every three years for anyone showing swine at the Martin County Fair as well as for anyone showing livestock 6th Grade and up. If you fit into one or both of these categories and did NOT attend training in either 2013 or 2014, you must attend training this year. It is YOUR responsibility to get your LQA&E certification!

For a complete listing of available LQA&E Trainings, visit:
http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/animal-science/lqae/

Supplemental Fair Registration Information:

Please make sure you double check ALL your registration forms! Many projects have supplemental forms in addition to your registration forms. All forms can be found online.

- Go to www.extension.umn.edu/offices/
- Click on Martin
- Click on “4-H in Martin County” (left hand side)
- Under “Downloads” click on the form needed.

If you don’t have internet access, you can pick up the supplemental forms at the Extension Office.

When I get to the fair, how do I enter my general projects?

Entry Day is Monday, August 17, from 2:00-7:00 p.m.

- Look in the 4-H premium book to find the time your club is scheduled for conference judging (pg. 4).
- Stop at the Extension Office in the 4-H area to receive your entry cards.
• Take your exhibits and entry cards to the area where the project will be judged.

• Wait in line to be conference judged.

• Be prepared to tell the judge about your exhibit and what you learned.

• The judge’s assistant will give you your ribbon, put a sticker on the entry card and display your exhibit.

Food Stand Policies and Information

The 4-H Food Stand proceeds, along with the Auction, are the MAJOR sources of income for the Federation budget. Not only are these monies used for ongoing expenses, but also to help pay registration fees for various events, such as BLU, YELLO, and State Fair Exhibitors. Everyone’s help is needed to make the Foodstand successful! You will sign up with your club leaders for the shift you would like to work. If you cannot work the shift your club was assigned, please call the Extension Office after August 5th. By then, all the clubs will have turned in their shift schedules and they should be able to give you some options.

If you do not work the shift assigned to you in its entirety, you will not receive funding from the Martin County 4-H Federation for the next 4-H State sponsored event (i.e. State Fair, State Horse Show, BLU, YELLO!, State Shoot, etc.). This consequence will only be for the next immediate 4-H State sponsored event they attend.

Our goal is to continue the Food Stand success we have seen in the recent years. Thank you for your help and support!

Fair Auction: PARENTS AND MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE!

Along with the 4-H Food Stand, the Auction held on the Friday of the Fair is our main fundraiser. Martin County 4-H is extremely grateful to the buyers who support the Auction.

To show our appreciation to our buyers, each 4-H member has the following responsibilities in order to participate in the Auction:

• Participation in the auction is a privilege.

• Each member and a parent will need to stop by the 4-H Office at the Fair by noon on Thursday, August 20 to indicate their project for the auction and sign that they agree to go through the auction with that particular project OR indicate not wanting to participate. Beef Show participants will be expected to indicate their project and sign at the 4-H Office immediately following the Beef Show. If you do not inform the office, you will not be listed in the auction program.

• Check the auction program, which will be posted by 8 a.m. on auction day, to verify your place in the auction order.

• Be in line at least 25 numbers ahead of your place in the auction order. If you miss your place, you will go to the end of the auction order.
• Appear courteous and interested at all times during the auction. No gum chewing or wearing hats. Wear appropriate clothing (no short tops, no halter tops, no t-shirts with inappropriate sayings, no soiled or dirty clothing, etc).

• An adult volunteer will instruct you on lining up and when your name is announced, smile and walk rapidly to the center of the auction ring.

• When your ribbon is sold: walk up to your buyer, smile and give them your ribbon, shake his/her hand and say, “Thank you.”

• Go to the “Thank you Note” table and write your note.

• Post the sign with your buyer's name on or near your exhibit.

• ALL Auction checks should be cashed as soon as possible!

Club Posters

Clubs are invited to make and hang posters to promote joining their club to display at the Fair. What a great publicity opportunity to let the public know why your club is the one to join!

Wanted! Martin County Chaperones for the Minnesota State Fair!

Attention parents and adult volunteers: when was the last time you attended the Minnesota State Fair? Did you know that it is the second largest state fair in the nation? Would you like to experience this great gathering this summer? If so, consider being a Martin County 4H chaperone!

Benefits of being a chaperone include:

• Transportation to and from the State fairgrounds.

• Free entrance pass to the State Fair.

• Free meal passes to eat at the 4-H Building or Livestock Barns

• A chance to see our wonderful 4H'ers in action!

The State Fair dormitory staff requires at least one male and female chaperone for each encampment. If you would like more information or are interested, please contact the Extension Office. If you are not already a screened 4-H volunteer, you will need to complete the screening process before August 1 to be eligible for this.

Cloverbud Competition Rules

The University of Minnesota Extension 4-H Cloverbud Program is to support the positive development of youth grades Kindergarten - second grade. There are particular competition rules within the Cloverbud program to ensure the safety of its K-2 participants.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE: When Cloverbuds and animals (including beef, cats, dairy, dogs, goats, horse, lama, pets, poultry, rabbit, swine and sheep) are together at a 4-H program or participating at the county fair as a 4-H member, the following rules apply:
• The responsible person must be in control of the animal at all times and never turn the control over to the Cloverbud.

• It is the expectation that the responsible person will be in control of the animal at all times of the 4-H experience including but not limited to all of the following situations: to and from the trailer, to and from the wash rack, to and from the barns, in the barns, in the stall, to and from the show arena and in the show arena.

• It is not acceptable to use more than one lead rope or halter with any animal as this turns at least some control over to the Cloverbud.

• During judging, the Cloverbud should walk next to the parent/responsible person, to be available to learn from the project leader and/or to dialog with the evaluator/judge.

Please refer to the Cloverbud Fact Sheet for Parents, Guardians, and Mentors for more information regarding competition rules, which is accessible here: http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/martin/4-h/article/cloverbud-information-and-rules

NEW! Addition to Livestock Grooming Rule

The grooming of livestock, including clipping, trimming and blocking (all species), for a 4-H exhibitor in grades 5th and under can be done by anyone as long as the 4-H’er exhibiting the animal is present and involved in the process.

4-H exhibitors in grades 6th and up must follow the guidelines of the original grooming rule as stipulated in the Premium Book (General Show Rules - Livestock #8 on page 6), which is “All grooming of livestock, including clipping, trimming and blocking (all species) must be clearly done by the exhibitor, members of the immediate family, or any other registered Minnesota 4-H member. Immediate family members are defined as being parents, step parents, legal guardians, grandparents, brothers or sisters. The 4-H’er exhibiting the animal should be present and involved in the fitting process at the county fair. Exhibitors in violation of this rule may show for ribbon only and will not be considered for championship or auction.”

Martin County 4-H is on Facebook

A Martin County 4-H Facebook page has been created to keep 4-H members, families, and volunteers with Facebook profiles up-to-date on 4-H activities and events in Martin County. Find the and “like” the page on Facebook to receive notifications on Martin County 4-H!

You can find the page by searching, “University of Minnesota Martin County 4-H,” on Facebook.

Remember, all users are to communicate with respect, representing 4-H well. If something inappropriate is posted to the wall, the administrators have the authority to delete the post and/or block the person posting, if necessary.

Please Note: No one is required to create a Facebook profile. The information provided on this Facebook page will also be distributed to 4-H members and volunteers through traditional communication means (e.g. email, mail, phone, and etc.). This is
just another way to receive information specific to Martin County 4-H.

**4-H Summer Fun!**

Martin County 4-H has a variety of summer programming available for **ALL** youth! 4-H members and non-members are invited to join in on the fun! All of our programs are either FREE or offered at a considerably low rate with scholarships available! Spread the word!

**Flag Football Adventure Club**

Sponsored by Martin County 4-H Leadership Adventures

ALL Youth who have completed grades 4–6 are invited to join the fun!

(You do not have to be a 4-H member to play)!

**PARTICIPATION IS FREE!**

Wednesdays in July
(July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29) 6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
Charlotte Park in Fairmont

To register, contact Martin County 4-H at 507-235-3341 or email gaals001@umn.edu

There is a maximum capacity of 22 players.

For **ALL** youth (4-H and non-4-H'ers) who have **completed grades K-2** (as of June 2015).

July 6, 7, & 8, 2015*
8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
Sylvania Park in Fairmont

Registration Fee is $5/camp made payable to: Martin County 4-H.

**SPECIAL RATE:** Register for all three days by June 26 and only pay $12!

**Scholarships available.**

To register, contact Martin County 4-H at 507-235-3341 or email gaals001@umn.edu

*Minimum: 10 youth per camp

**4-H Day Camp Series: Navigate Nature**

Join us for a series of fun and engaging mornings as we navigate the vast world of nature and wildlife that surrounds us through exciting experiences and hands-on learning activities!

**4-H Day Camp Series: Theatre Arts Training**

This two-day workshop series will give you the stage and acting basics you need to develop and hone your performance skills! Get ready to have fun while learning how you can take your place center stage!

July 9 & 10, 2015*
8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
Sylvania Park in Fairmont

For **ALL** youth (4-H and non-4-H'ers) who have completed grades 3-5 (as of June 2015).

Registration Fee for this series is $15 made payable to: Martin County 4-H

**SPECIAL RATE:** Register by June 26 and only pay $12!

**Scholarships available.**

To register, contact Martin County 4-H at 507-235-3341 or email gaals001@umn.edu

*Minimum: 10 youth registered
Career Development & You Workshop

Preparing for your future career begins TODAY! Did you know that the skills you are using today could lead towards your future career? At this workshop, we will discuss how these skills can be further developed to get you on a path towards your dream career! You will also be given the tools needed to get your foot-in-the-door, including resume-building, interview skills, and MORE! The road to success requires CAREER DEVELOPMENT skills and YOU! Are you ready?

Who: 4-H Members in grades 9 through one year past high school

When: Monday, July 13 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be provided.

Where: Martin County Resource Center (115 W 1st Street, Fairmont MN 56031)

Cost: This workshop is FREE!

For more information, or to register, contact the Martin County Extension Office at 507-235-3341 or at gaals001@umn.edu. You can also visit: http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/martin/4-h/article/career-development-you-workshop

SAVE THE DATE: Presentation Day!

4-H Presentation Day is on Thursday, July 23rd at Five Lakes Shopping Centre in Fairmont, MN.

The following project areas will be judged on this day:

- Clothing (Clothes You Make & Clothes You Buy)
- Fashion Revue
- Performing Arts
- Demonstration
- Food Review

PLEASE NOTE: Non-Garment projects will be judged with other General Exhibits on the Monday of the County Fair.

4-H Family Day at the Fairmont Aquatic Park

Mark your calendars! The Fairmont Aquatic Park will be hosting 4-H Family Day on July 26 and August 2 from noon to 8:00 p.m. All Martin County 4-Hers and their families will be able to enjoy a fun and relaxing day at the Fairmont Aquatic Park for only $2 per person! You must present a 4-H Family Day card when you visit the Park on July 26 and August 2 to receive this special offer. 4-H Family Day Cards are available for pick-up in the Martin County Extension Office.

The Fairmont Aquatic Park is also offering $3.00 Admission for Martin County 4-H’ers during the week of the fair (August 17-23, 2015), when they present a coupon. Coupons available for pick-up at the Martin County Extension Office.

4-H Competitive Events: Deadlines, Consequences and Exemptions

As we get into the busy time of the 4-H year, it’s important that you refresh yourself on the important deadlines coming up and the consequences
associated with missing each of these deadlines. The 4-H Competitive Events: Deadlines, Consequences, and Exemptions chart has been created to assist 4-H members, families and 4-H staff in understanding state and county 4-H individual competitive event deadlines, consequences applied to each situation/deadline, and the use of the one-time exemption to remove all consequences for a single situation/deadline.

To view the 4-H Competitive Events Chart specific to Martin County 4-H, visit: [http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/martin/4-h/article/martin-county-4-h-competitive-events-deadlines-consequences-exemptions](http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/martin/4-h/article/martin-county-4-h-competitive-events-deadlines-consequences-exemptions)

**Severe Weather Reminder**

We would like to remind you that all county 4-H meetings (as well as most club meetings) will be postponed or cancelled when there is threatening weather. We will do our best to cancel/postpone meetings at least two hours before their scheduled start time.

Announcements will be made on KSUM 1370 AM/KFMC 106.5 FM, and also by email. Remember that weather conditions do vary from one side of the county to the other, so please use your own judgment in deciding if traveling is safe for your family. We always welcome your calls if you are concerned about the weather and we will do our best to inform you well in advance of any cancellations.

Thank you for your flexibility and understanding that safety comes first!

**Email Address Updates**

Please take the time to check your email to get all pertinent information about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and 4-H updates. We utilize email to continue to use 4-H and Extension dollars wisely.

Also, please let us know if you've changed your email address recently or need to add another frequently checked email to our list. Please email mmext-martin@umn.edu with any updates.

**Are you at college?**

Would you like to receive 4-H notices and newsletters while you are at college? If so, please send us your college address (including email) and we will be happy to send your mailings to you.

**Extension Office Hours**

This is a friendly reminder to all Martin County 4-H families that the Extension Office hours are traditionally the hours held by the Extension Support Staff, while the Program Coordinator (PC) has a flexible schedule to better accommodate the schedules of 4-H families.

Because the flexible schedule allows the PC to attend evening and weekend events, the PC may not always be in the Extension Office during “regular” hours. Please be sure to call ahead if you are planning to come to the office to see the PC, to ensure she is available. Thank you for your consideration!
County 4-H Committees

All Junior and 4-H Leaders are invited to be on the following committees: Livestock-Auction, Chaperones, Finance, Food Stand, Presentation and Clothing/Performing Arts Day, Scholarships, Exhibit Building, and Policy Committee. As a member of these committees, you will assist in developing policy and programming for the 2014-2015 year! What a wonderful was to get involved!

Contact the Martin County Extension Office if you would like to join any of these committees.

Regional Livestock Judging Contest

There will be a Regional Livestock Judging Contest held at the fairgrounds in Slayton on Wednesday, July 1. Registration at 9:00 am and contest begins at 9:30 am. Cost is $10 per person to participate with lunch included. Contest includes: Classes on Beef, Swine, Sheep & Goat with 3 sets of questions and 3 sets of reasons. Information can be found at http://www3.extension.umn.edu/sites/default/files/download/2015%20SW%20Regional%20Livestock%20Judging%20Contest%20Flyer.pdf Mail entries to Cottonwood County 4-H, Livestock Judging Contest, 41385 US Hwy 71, Windom, MN 56101 or email mohrh002@umn.edu.

4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge update

The 2015 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge is off to an amazing start! To date, there are 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.

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/

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

• 28 Southwest Regional Western Heritage Competition, Al & Kelly Jones Arena, rural Pipestone
• 29 Council & Federation Meetings
• 30 4-H Science Fun/HyVee Day Camp at Sylvania Park, Fairmont

JULY

• 1 Safety of Minors training completion deadline for all Minnesota 4-H volunteers
• 1 County Fair Registrations Due
• 1  Regional General Livestock Judging Contest, registration 9 am, Murray County Fairgrounds, Slayton
• 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  Flag Football Adventure Club at Charlotte Park in Fairmont
• 2, 7, 14, 21, 30  Horse Clinics & Open Rides
• 3 Martin County Extension Office Closed
• 6, 7, 8  4-H Day Camp Series: Navigate Nature at Sylvania Park, Fairmont
• 9-10  4-H Day Camp Series: Theatre Arts Training at Sylvania Park, Fairmont
• 13  Career Development & You Workshop, 4:30-7:30 pm, Martin County Resource Center
• 20  Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational registrations due to county Extension offices
• 23  Presentation Day at Fairmont Shopping Centre
• 26  4-H Day at Fairmont Aquatic Park
• 27  Council & Federation Meetings at MCRC

AUGUST
• 2  4-H Day at Fairmont Aquatic Park
• 4  Horse Trail Clinic, 5:30-8:30 pm
• 4  Food Stand Clean-Up
• 6  Fair Clean-Up
• 11  Fair Clean-Up
• 17-23 Martin County Fair
• 22  Regional Rabbit Show at MC Fair
• 24  Post Fair Clean-Up
• 27 - Sept. 7 Minnesota State Fair

• 26 – 30 Livestock Encampment at State Fair
• 30 - September 1 General (Non-Livestock) Encampment at State Fair

SEPTEMBER
• 11-13  Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational
• 18-21  Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show
• 26-27  Minnesota 4-H State Dog Show
• 28  Council and Federation Meetings