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Fall Kick—Off

Don’t forget to start planning your fall 4-H kick-off and promotion for the 2015-16 4-H year. Every club should have plans for either September or October. You are the key to growing and maintaining 4-H in Watonwan County.

Farm and Home Safety Day

Friday, September 11th
Sponsored by 4-H and Farm Bureau
All Watonwan County 4th Grade Students are invited

State Fair Exhibits

Will be back to the Extension Office by Thursday, September 10th — please pick them up as soon as possible.

Family Fun with Geocaching

We now have 4 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.
MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE
WATONWAN COUNTY | SEPTEMBER 2015
507-375-1275 | www.4-H.umn.edu

Celebrity & Premier Showman

Please take time to look over the pictures of these champions. Congratulate the kids in Premier—they are top showman as seen on page 1! Thanks to the good sports who participated in the Celebrity Showman contest — send a thank you from your club to your representative, and congratulations if one of your celebrities won!

Livestock Meeting

Sunday, September 20th
7:30 p.m.
Extension Office
County Fair & State Fair
Plans for the new year.

Federation Annual Meeting—Date Correction Monday, September 28th

6:30 p.m.—Budget meeting—Advisory Board & officers (Please RSVP)

Advisory Board: if there is a vacancy in your club—please contact your leaders or the office and volunteer. Duties—attend Federation meetings 5 times a year.

DSN—Sherry Regier

FR—Jen Hagen
GG—Salome Sargent
J—Jackie Nielsen
NWA—need new
NT—Matt Durheim
RR—need new
RS—need new
SB—Jody Lepp

7:30 p.m.—Federation

Installation of Officers 2015-16

Liana Blomgren -President
Alissa Voyles—Vice President
Cara Teigum—Secretary
Lukas Pierson—Treasurer

Youth Representatives—Walker Regier, Kinzee Miest

Extension Committee Youth Representative—Alissa Voyles, Lukas Pierson

By Laws & Constitution
Review Budgets
Banquet Plans
Club Packets—award applications

Please make sure your club is represented

Club Treasurer

End of the year financial report is due to the office by October 15th for fiscal year October 1, 2014—September 30, 2015. Remember books need to be audited. Forms will be sent to club adult treasurer. Completed club charters will be due by October 30th. See page 5 for details.
State Shoot
September 11-13 in Alexandria
Please wish these members good luck.
Archery—Karsan Davis, Clay Winrich, Michael Nett, Cara Teigum, Alissa Voyles
22—Gabby Nett
Trap Shooting—Race & Walker Regier

State Horse
September 17-21
Please wish these members good luck
Alissa Voyles & Lilly Maul

Looking Ahead—Mark your calendars

Banquet News—80th Annual Banquet
Save the Date—Sunday, October 25th
Place—TBD
“Happy Birthday” Awards Program—4 pm
Followed by Supper
See awards information on following pages.—Remember you must apply for awards.

Cloverbud Kick Off
Youth Grades K-2
Saturday, October 3rd
10am-noon
Extension Office
“Fun with 4-H”

Cloverbuds schedule for 2015-16—November 7, December 5, January 9, March 5, April 2, May 7. No February class.

Tween Club Kick Off
Youth Grades 3-7th—invite your friends
Sunday, October 11th
7:00 pm
Memorial Park (St.James by the lake-blue shelter)
Hot Dogs & smores
Halloween Decorations for Pleasant View
Bring your calendars to plan Service Learning Projects, discuss project exploration, and fun events.

Fall Leader Training
Mark your calendars, and start recruiting youth leaders and adults to represent your club.
Monday, November 23rd—6:00pm—plus a short Federation meeting.
Each club needs at least 1 adult, plus any youth leaders that would like to attend.
Prize for club with most adult and youth leaders attending!

Robotics Adventure-
Looking for volunteers to work with this group.
Need to get organized—order kits.
Group usually meets September-tournament time in December or January. If interested this group could move into the “Rube Goldberg Challenge” after tournament time.
Shooting Sports

Be sure to sign up for Shooting Sports when you re-enroll. Post cards will be mailed to those enrolled.

3rd grade—BB’s

4th grade & Older—Pellet & Archery

Shotgun—for youth with Gun Safety Certification.

Award Application & Recognition forms

Are available at the office.

Award applications are due October 1st. Don’t forget to apply for the following awards if eligible. So many do so much for our program, please nominate them!

Key Award — Any youth leader, age 16 & over, is eligible to receive the Key Award if you have completed the following requirement:
1. Be at least 16 years of age as of September 1, 2014
2. Be a 4-H member for at least five years
3. Have at least three year of active 4-H leadership.

Yvonne Williams Adult & Youth Leaders
Award — (family packet) This award is for an outstanding adult & youth leader in memory of a long time adult volunteer.

Youth Leadership Award — (family packet) This award may be awarded to any 4-H member 7th grade or older who plays a key leadership role in their club or county.

Tween Member Award—(family packet) check this award out if you were an active tween member last year.

3 & 4 Generation Families — (family packet) Current 4-H members whose parent(s), grandparent(s) and/or great-grandparent(s) were 4-H members (in any county or state) can be recognized as 3 & 4 generation families.

Clover Award (family packet) (This is not a “Cloverbud” award – The Clover Award is a special award for 4-H members who have completed their first, second, third or fourth year of 4-H club work including Cloverbuds. Minimum requirements are:
1. Completed their first, second, third or fourth year of 4-H
2. Attended at least six club meetings and/or Cloverbud meetings
3. Exhibited at least two projects at County Fair
4. Completed a participation record and project record

Achievement Award — (family packet) These awards are presented in project areas listed on the application. This award recognizes 4-H’ers who have done outstanding work in that project. Please pick 1 or 2 project areas where you think you have excelled this year.

Golden Award — (family packet) Did someone you know go the extra mile this year, either at the fair, or for Watonwan County 4-H? Nominate them for a Golden Award

I Dare You Leadership — (leader packet) This is a Leadership Award & club leaders are welcome to nominate 4-H’ers.

Club of the year—(leader packet) every club does good work—please take the time to fill out this application.

Club Officer Recognition —(leader packet) REMEMBER…Awards will not be given unless applications are turned in!

RE-enrollment

September means wrapping up the old 4-H year, and start organizing the new year. Watch for re-enrollment information. We will be enrolling on 4honline.com again this year. Clubs when you start your new year planning come up with ideas to help get everyone enrolled. Call the office if you need help. When re-enrolling make sure you update your projects and activities please.
Message from Dorothy

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

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, 2105.

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:
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 - 11a.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

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST
•  26-30  State Fair Livestock
•  26 - Sept. 7 Live-streaming of 4-H State Arts-In performance
•  27-Sept 7  Minnesota State Fair
•  30-Sept 1 State Fair General

SEPTEMBER
•  2  Live-streaming of the 4-H Lama Costume Competition
•  10  Pick Up state fair exhibits at Extension Office
•  11—Farm and Home Safety Day
•  11-13 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational
•  16  Online enrollment for the new 4-H year begins
•  18-21 State Horse
•  19  Celebrate Ag & Food Day at the Minnesota Gopher football game
•  20—Livestock meeting

•  26-27 Minnesota 4-H Dog Show
•  28—Budget meeting
•  28  Federation—Installation of officers
•  30  End of 4-H Year

OCTOBER
•  3  Cloverbuds
•  3-4 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Ambassador training, Perham
•  11—Tween Club Kick off
•  15—Club Treasurer annual reports due
•  25—Banquet

NOVEMBER
•  7—Cloverbuds
•  23—Leader Training
•  23—Federation