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March Federation Meeting Reminder

March 28th Federation Host Clubs:
- Wright Explorers
- Roaming Buffalo
- Albion Aces

March 28th Showcase Club:
- Chatham Climbers

April 18th Federation Host Clubs:
- Woodland Woodettes
- Chatham Climbers
- Lucky Loons

April 18th Showcase Club:
- Albion Aces

Horse PDC Meetings

March 3rd, 7:00 PM (Leadership team 6:15 p.m.)
Wright Government Center Room 120

All horse project members and their families can attend Wright County horse project meetings. These meetings are a chance for families to give their input on and make decisions about our great horse project. At this March meeting, we will be discussing point calculations and handbook changes! Hope to see you there!

Cloverbud Day

March 13th at Zion Lutheran Church; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Cloverbud Day is an event offered each year for youth under 3rd grade. It’s hosted by the Wright County Ambassadors who are planning tons of fun crafts, games, and activities targeted for our Cloverbuds. Look for more information in the Clover Fourcast or signup online at http://z.umn.edu/cloverbudsee.

Science & Engineering Exploration (SEE) Day – The Science of Star Wars

March 13th at Zion Lutheran Church; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Do you like science? Do you want to learn how an Engineer thinks & designs? Join us for Science & Engineering Exploration Day (SEE). Youth 3rd – 6th grade will have an opportunity to have hands-on fun with science, engineering, technology & math. SEE Day will be held Sunday, March 13 at Zion Church in Buffalo from 1-4pm. This year's theme is the Science of Star Wars. Learn about robots, electromagnets, floating vehicles and much more. Sessions will be led by 4-H youth and adult volunteers on the STEM Team. Come and SEE what the fun is all about; register online at: http://z.umn.edu/cloverbudsee.

M4-HAVA 2016 Annual Conference

Please consider attending the 31st annual Minnesota 4-H Adult Volunteer Association Conference being held March 17-19 at the Bigwood Event Center/Best Western Inn in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. This year's theme is Keen, Green, and Lean in 2016.

The M4-HAVA Conference is a great place for volunteers to learn about what is happening throughout the state and new trends going on in 4-H. You will meet other volunteers who are really excited about 4-H, leave with an arsenal of new activities and ideas from the 32 workshops offered to take back and share with your clubs and counties, and recognize outstanding volunteers and clubs during the annual banquet.

For more information on registration for the 2016 M4-HAVA Conference, Blue Ribbon Awards, and Membership visit www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/m4-hava/.
Federation Meeting

March 28, Wright County Gov’t Center, Room 120, 7:00 p.m. (6:15 p.m. Advisory Council)

What do you know about 4-H on the county level? Do you know the regional and state events coming up? What are other clubs in the county doing? Come to a Federation meeting!

All parents, leaders and youth leaders are invited to attend the 4-H Federation meeting as voting members. The Federation generally meets on the fourth Monday of the month. Policies and financial decisions which affect county programs are determined by the Federation. Some clubs even assign 4-H members to attend and report back to the club. Most Federation meetings begin at 7 p.m. in Wright County Government Center Room 120. The Advisory Council meets at 6:15 p.m.

Wright-Hennepin Annual Meeting Fundraiser

March 31 3:00 PM – 7:30 PM, Wright-Hennepin Building

6800 Electric Drive, Rockford, MN 55373

Wright County 4-H has been invited to host the Wright-Hennepin shareholders’ annual dinner. This is a great fundraiser for our 4-H Exchange and Federation, and we need your help! Remember: All 4-H’ers involved in State Fair, Citizenship Washington Focus, or Exchange should participate in this fundraiser. Please head to: http://z.umn.edu/wrighthennepin to sign up for a time to volunteer!

“Like” us on Facebook!

Did you know that Wright County 4-H has a Facebook page? We post all kinds of great information about upcoming events, as well as pictures and information following events, so it's a great place to get information about all you can be a part of in 4-H.

Check it out at:

http://z.umn.edu/wrightcounty (DOES NOT REQUIRE A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO VIEW)

Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

Over the last few years, you may have heard or read about how youth need “social-emotional” or "soft" skills to succeed in learning, school, work and life. More and more, the value of these skills - including confidence, self-control, caring, and problem solving - is being examined to understand how they are acquired, and where and how they are being taught.

Youth learn these skills in a variety of environments – at school, in youth programs and at home.

The Search Institute recently released a study called, “Don't Forget the Families,” which highlights the power of family relationships as a critical, but often neglected, factor in developing these skills. A key finding is that parent-child relationships are 10 times more powerful than race, ethnicity, family composition, and family income in predicting whether children are developing these skills.

The Search Institute has created a useful booklet called “Bringing Developmental Relationships Home: Tips and Relationship Builders for Families,” with activities and tips that families can use to help youth develop these important skills and strengths: http://www.search-institute.org/downloadable/SearchInstitute-DontForgetFamilies-Activities-10-13-2015.pdf.

I encourage families to explore how you can help youth develop social emotional skills that will prepare them to succeed.

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate dean and state 4-H director
2016 SS&W Spring Leader Certification Trainings: Two sites!

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

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

**April 23-24, 2016**

St. Mary's Church and Kanabec County Gun Club, Mora

**April 23-24, 2016**

Worthington Regional Office, Worthington

Registration materials will be available online Feb. 1 at [www.4-h.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/](http://www.4-h.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/). Deadline to register is **April 8, 2016**. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early!

Scholarships for college-bound 4-H youth

Are you entering college this fall? Did you know that each year the Minnesota 4-H Foundation awards over $20,000 in scholarships to college-bound 4-H’ers? Applications are due **April 15, 2016**. Visit the [Minnesota 4-H Foundation website](http://z.umn.edu/sga) to learn more. Direct questions to Erin Kelly-Collins (erinkc@umn.edu/612-624-7667)

Minnesota Alliance with Youth Red Wagon Awards: Due April 1

The Red Wagon Awards honor young people in grades 6-12 in Minnesota that have shown resilience and overcome obstacles to achieve academic gains, give back to their community and grow to become leaders among their peers.

In 2016, the Alliance will be honoring three Minnesota youth and one youth-led community service club, each nominated by caring adults, peers or partners in their local community. Each individual winner will receive a $500 education scholarship, and the winning youth service group will receive $500 to support the work of their group. Any young person or youth-led service group in grades 6-12 in Minnesota is eligible for nomination.

The nomination form is available online through **April 1**.

The award winners will be honored at the 2016 Alliance fundraiser and Red Wagon Awards celebration event on June 23 at Macalester College. For nomination criteria and additional information about the Red Wagon Awards, visit [mnyouth.net/work/red-wagon-awards/](http://mnyouth.net/work/red-wagon-awards/).

Youth Day at the Capitol with Minnesota 4-H!

Enrolled Minnesota 4-H members are invited to attend a Youth Day at the Capitol (YDAC) event with the Minnesota Alliance with Youth from 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. on **Tuesday, March 29, 2016**! The YDAC will provide both training and engagement opportunities for youth in grades 6-12 to participate in the legislative process. Screened volunteer chaperones will also be needed. The application process will open on **Feb. 18**, and the deadline to apply is **March 11**. Additional details are available at [4-h.umn.edu/events/youth-day-at-the-capitol](http://4-h.umn.edu/events/youth-day-at-the-capitol).
Presidential Inauguration Focus

Minnesota 4-H will be selecting a group of 50 youth from across the state to attend the 2017 presidential inauguration in January. The application material will be posted in early March and will be due in mid-April, with selection occurring in May. This will be a competitive application process, and open to Minnesota 4-H members in grades 9 through one year past high school, as of January 2017. More information will be posted Mar. 1 at http://z.umn.edu/cwfinauguration.

Calendar

MARCH
• 3 Horse Project Committee Meeting, Gov’t Center, Room 120, 7:00 PM
• 5 Regional Project Bowl, Foley
• 7 Ambassador Meeting, Corinna Township Hall, 5:00 – 7:00 PM
• 11 Youth Day at the Capitol application deadline
• 12 Regional Project Bowl, Hastings
• 13 Cloverbud Day, Zion Lutheran Church, 1:00-4:00 PM
• 13 Science & Engineering Day, Zion Lutheran Church, 1:00-4:00 PM
• 17-19 M4-HAVA 2016 Annual Conference, Fergus Falls
• 19 Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
• 19 Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
• 20 Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
• 28 Advisory & Federation Meeting, Gov’t Center Rm 120, 7:00 PM (Advisory at 6:15 PM)

• 29 Youth Day at the Capitol
• 31 Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser
• TBAShooting Sports & Wildlife Program Kick-Off

APRIL
• 1 Minnesota Alliance with Youth Red Wagon Award nomination deadline
• 2 Regional Project Bowl, Snow date
• 3 Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
• 7 County livestock PDC training webinar
• 9 Regional Residence Camp Counselor Training
• 9-14 National 4-H Conference, Washington, D.C.
• 10 Ambassador Meeting, Parkview Care Center, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
• 15 Minnesota 4-H Foundation college scholarship applications due
• 16 State Project Bowl, Sauk Rapids
• 17 County livestock PDC training webinar
• 17 Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
• 18 Rube Goldberg Kick-Off Meeting, Gov’t Center, 5:00 – 7:00 PM
• 18 Advisory & Federation Meeting, Gov’t Center Rm 120, 7:00 PM (Advisory at 6:15 PM)
• 18 Foodstand Committee Meeting, following Federation meeting
• 23-24 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification training, Mora and Worthington

• 30 Communication Contest, Zion Lutheran Church, Buffalo, 10:00 – 4:00 PM

• TBADog Training & Vaccination Clinic

MAY

• 1 Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting, 3:30 – 5:30 PM

• 1 Ambassador Meeting, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

• 6 4-5-6 Night, Salem Lutheran Church, Greenfield, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

• 12 Horse Project Committee Meeting, Gov’t Center, 7:00 PM

• 15 2016 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge registration due

• 15 Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting, 3:30 – 5:30 PM

• 16 Animal ID Deadline, Extension Office, 4:30 PM

• 16 New Member & Club Dues Deadline, Extension Office, 4:30 PM

• 16 New 4-H Family Night, Wright County Fairgrounds, Howard Lake, MN, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

• 30 Extension Office Closed – Memorial Day

• TBALQA&E Training

• TBAWildlife Day

JUNE

• 2 Livestock PDC Meeting, Gov’t Center Rm 120, 6:30 PM

• 3-4 Tentative Overnight Residence Camp Counselor Training, Lake Ann Day Camp

• 16 Ambassador Meeting, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

• 19-24 Wright County Residence Camp, Lake Ann Day Camp

• 27 Advisory & Federation Meeting, Gov’t Center, 7:00 PM (Advisory meets at 6:15 PM)

• 28-30 Science Camp, Gov’t Center, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

• TBAFoodstand Meeting

• TBAHorse, Rabbit, Dog Project Clinics

JULY

• 1 County Fair and State Shoot Registration Deadline

• 2-9 Citizenship Washington Focus

• 4 Extension Office Closed – Independence Day

• 15 Participation Summaries Due to Key Leaders

• 18 Advisory & Federation Meeting, Fairgrounds, 7:00 PM (Advisory meets at 6:15 PM)

• 18 Foodstand Meeting, following the Federation meeting

• 19 Ambassador Meeting, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

• 26 Wright County Fair Entry Day

• 27-31 Wright County Fair

AUGUST

• 14 Year End Ambassador Party, 1:00 PM