State 4-H Conference Develops Local Young Leaders

COLUMBIA, Mo. – Alley Milsap and Libby Endicott, of the Knee-Hi 4H club, were among the 350 people attending the 2014 state 4-H Teen Conference, March 22-23, at the Holiday Inn Executive Center and the University of Missouri campus. The delegates, ages 11-13, attended workshops to develop belonging, generosity and mastery of new skills, three of the 4-H program’s four “essential elements.” The fourth is independence, and for many delegates Teen Conference is the first big overnight trip away from home. “The beds were comfy,” said one 13 year-old delegate of her hotel room, “and I felt so grown up!”

Teen Conference is led by the State 4-H Council, a group of older teens elected annually by their peers, who work for months to plan this annual event and represent 4-H. “Planners and attendees booth develop leadership skills through this experience,” said Becky Simpson, Daviess County 4-H Youth Development Specialist for MU Extension. “The older teens planning this event build as many leadership skills as the younger ones who attend.”

Delegates learned about ecology, engineering, robotics, leadership, tips for making friends, and the importance of accepting oneself.

Pictured with Alley and Libby is Jensen Mayes, Northwest Missouri State 4-H Council Regional Representative from Clinton County.

Knee-Hi members attend clinic

March 22, 2014, 63 youth from 15 north central Missouri counties including two Knee-Hi 4-H club members attended the Milan Showstock clinic hosted by the University of Missouri Extension at the North Missouri Livestock Auction-Milan. Speakers covered meat goats, market lambs, market swine, beef and bucket calves. Topics included: Selection, Showmanship, Nutrition, housing, handling, health concerns and show ring ethics.

Pictured at left are Lane Dowell and Alex Endicott.
UP AND COMING
State Poultry Day, June 7

MU Extension 4-H State Poultry Day will begin at 8:00 a.m. on June 7 at MU and will include informational presentations, an evaluation clinic, judging contests and a quiz bowl. Registration is $15 youth and adult. Official 4-H Poultry Day T-shirts are available for $10; include order and payment with registration. For more information contact Jesse Lyons at lyonsj@missouri.edu or (573) 882-0247. The deadline for registration is May 1. Registration info: http://4h.missouri.edu/events/livestock/docs/poultrydayappl.pdf

A Doorstep Garden

Turn an old boot into a stylish planter.

Materials

- Old boot (Lace-up type works best or child's size cowboy boot.)
- Pebbles or aquarium gravel
- Potting soil or loam
- Small bunch of annual flowers

What you do:

1. Remove the lace from the boot or loosen it enough to allow tongue to be pulled forward. Or if using a cowboy boot you will need to smash down the shaft of the boot.
2. Fill the bottom of the boot with a layer of pebbles or aquarium gravel to provide drainage.
3. Pack in a 2-inch layer of potting soil or loam.
4. Fit in the root base of annual flowers (pansies, marigolds, or impatiens work well).
5. Gently pack more soil around and on the top of the roots.

Tips:

Remember to water the flowers regularly because, unlike those that are planted in the ground, these blooms cannot draw moisture from the surrounding soil.

http://familyfun.go.com/crafts
Two Opportunities to Increase Shooting Skills

Gerry Snapp

Both of these shooting camps are open to 4-H members, but are not sponsored by 4-H. Take and look, it might be worth the time and money, if a 4-H member is interested in increasing their shooting skills.

NRA Junior Rifle Camp
- June 19-22
- July 10-13

Mizzou Trap Academy
- Limited to 20 youth

Apply by April 30

http://4h.missouri.edu/go/projects/shootingsports/contests.htm

2014 4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING ACADEMY

Patty Fisher and Kathy Bondy

The 4-H Public Speaking Academy is preparing for its year! Extension staff, along with former 4-H volunteers and college professors will provide educational workshops to help youth build their skills and comfort with public speaking. Participants will be guided through the basics and finer points of writing and delivering a speech. Youth will receive individual assistance. The camp is open to all youth ages 11-13 years of age interested in learning more about public speaking.

The Academy will be held June 17-18, 2014 and registration is due on May 16. Lodging will be provided on the campus of Central Methodist University in Fayette, MO, with activities that include swimming, team building and games. Applications due May 16th.

For more information, contact Patty Fisher at fisherp@missouri.edu or 573-324-5464 or Kathy Bondy at bondyk@missouri.edu or 660-584-3658 and be sure to download the brochure on the Missouri 4-H page at:

http://4h.missouri.edu/go/events/publicspeaking/index.htm

State Public Speaking will be held

Saturday, October 4, 2014 in Columbia.
LEADER LOOKOUT

April club leader tips

As you prepare for spring events, keep these suggestions in mind:

1. Keep members informed of upcoming events and the importance of participation
2. Remind members again of requirements for completion and eligibility for exhibiting at fairs and shows.
3. Inform members about application deadlines for camps, State 4-H Congress, state spring contests, Missouri Citizen Youth Forum, etc. Youth are our best recruiters, so have them share experiences and recruit others to engage in these events and opportunities.
4. Will your club provide some financial help to members who attend events such as, camps, State 4-H Congress, state spring contests, Missouri Citizen Youth Forum, etc.? Work with members on making families aware of assistance that your club or county provides.
5. Remind horse project members that horse enrollment form is due to the MU Extension center by May 1. You may want to encourage the horse project leaders to offer time to answer specific questions concerning this enrollment.
6. Work with officer team and program planning committee about planning and scheduling a local club achievement day prior to county achievement day. This will encourage project leaders and members to complete their projects earlier.
7. Make sure new family mentors are helping new families understand how these contests and events fit into the 4-H Club and what they need to do to participate.

Project Leader Tips: Prepare for achievement day and fairs

Many projects are in full swing as we prepare members for achievement day or the county fair. The project may be almost complete, but is the 4-H member ready? If your county provides a conference judging experience at your fair or achievement day, how can you help your members prepare for this experience? Reflection at the end of each project meeting is a sure way to prepare them for questions a judge may ask them. Also, do you ask them how they will use what they have learned at your project meetings?

Your club leader or the club officer team may have asked for help in providing hands-on activities at the county achievement day or club meeting. Don’t forget that there are resources at your fingertips for coordinating skill-a-thon stations, judging classes, demonstrations ideas, speech topics, etc. Many of these great resources can be found in your project curriculum or on the University of Missouri Extension 4-H Web site at www.4h.missouri.edu.

Show Me 4-H Wares at the Missouri State Fair

The 7th Annual Show Me 4-H Wares booth is accepting applications beginning May 1, 2014 for young entrepreneurs to sell their 4-H products and services at the Missouri State Fair on August 7, 8, 9 and 10, 2014.

Any 4-H member, pair of 4-H members, or group of up to three 4-H members from the same club, is eligible to apply to market or sell original products or services.

Youth enrolled in the 4-H entrepreneurship project (and/or participating in county fair booths) are especially encouraged to apply (not required for eligibility).

Upon selection, youth will sign up for a 4-hour time slot at the booth. Youth exhibitors will receive a packet of information and participate in a conference call to help them prepare for their appearance at the Show Me 4-H Wares booth.

Applications require:

1. A thorough description of the product or service
2. A recommendation from an unrelated adult
3. A sample item or quality photo of the item
4. Approval of the 4-H youth specialist or YPA for the county
5. $20 youth exhibitor registration fee, payable to University of Missouri

Youth exhibitors will be selected to fill sixteen booth spaces and time slots over the four days.

Applications are due in the state 4-H office between May 1-July 1. For more info: Steve Henness (573) 884-6618
2014 Camp Opportunities for NWMO 4-H Youth

This summer 4-H youth of Northwest Missouri will have several opportunities to join their friends at camp.

- **Camp Crowder**
  - June 2-5 & 9-12
  - Trenton, MO
  - Cost- $110
  - Deadline– May 9, 2014

- **Clover Kid Overnight Camp**
  - Camp Crowder
  - June 6 & 7
  - Cost-$45
  - Deadline– May 15

- **Camp Mozingo**
  - June 24-26
  - Maryville, MO
  - Contact Annette Deering for more information.
  - 660-582-8101

- **Summers at Mizzou**
  - MU Campus, Columbia
  - July 13-17 &  20-24
  - Cost varies by camp:
  - Scholarships are available
  - Contact: Teresa Bishop
  - 573-884-0554 or bishopta@missouri.edu

Community Improvement Grants Available for 4-H and FFA Youth

Developing a thriving rural Missouri is important to FCS Financial. The Shaping Rural Missouri grant program offers Missouri 4-H and FFA organizations $500 grants to implement projects that will benefit their rural communities and youth development.

“Providing opportunities for rural community development is important to FCS Financial because our employees and customers live in these same areas,” said Scott Gardner, Vice President, Sales & Marketing. “These grants not only strengthen our rural communities but allow our youth to work as a team to accomplish a goal.”

Funds are awarded to assist club or chapter members in bringing positive change by establishing projects that make their local communities better places to live. FCS Financial encourages applicants to collaborate with other community organizations to develop and complete their improvement project.

Last year, FCS Financial funded 17 projects across Missouri. Projects improved local communities by building picnic tables, planting trees and landscaping school grounds.

Applications are due April 15, 2014. An application and more information on the Shaping Rural Missouri grant program can be found at [www.myfcsfinancial.com](http://www.myfcsfinancial.com) or by calling 1-800-369-3276 ext. 1173.

The Missouri 4-H Coloring Book is now available for download at: [http://4h.missouri.edu/go/getinvolved/council/docs/2014-204-H%20Coloring%20Book.pdf](http://4h.missouri.edu/go/getinvolved/council/docs/2014-204-H%20Coloring%20Book.pdf)

Local club members have contributed to the coloring book.
State Shooting Sports Information
Gerry Snapp

Aug 23 – Trap Shoot
Aug 23-24 Basic Archery NFAA 300 round – all age divisions
Sept 20 – All events not specifically listed on other dates
Sept 21 – Sporting Clays OR 3D Archery, and Muzzleloading

NEW THIS YEAR:
• Shooters must provide their own ammunition for all events – none will be provided.
• NFAA 300 Archery – is only offered on weekend of August 23-24
• All team awards will be based on top 3 scores (not 4) from a single county…except TRAP which will remain squad/team of 5.
• We will pilot test Online Registration and Scheduling for Aug 23-24 events. This means members register on the computer over the internet. Shooters will select/schedule their own shooting time. Look for more details at a future date.

2014 State Shoot Rules are on the web page at: http://4h.missouri.edu/go/projects/shootingsports/contests.htm PLEASE READ the new rules. There are not many changes, but there are a few. Instructors especially, should read the rules and be aware of any changes. Kind of embarrassing to show up at the State Shoot and not know the rules (but it happens every year). Don’t be that guy!