Dear 4-H Families:

For those of you who are new, the newsletter will contain dates of upcoming events, important deadlines, and information on regional and state events. If you have questions, please call or email. I also post a lot of information on the Greene and Lawrence County 4-H Facebook pages, so if that is more your style look for it there as well!

Many of you had the opportunity to attend one of our two regional energizers held during January. What a great opportunity to learn and visit with others about 4-H! Several of you requested the 4-H parent’s pledge that Bob McNary shared during volunteer orientation. Here it is, courtesy of University of Illinois Extension:

I pledge my HEAD to give my child the information I can, to help him/her see things clearly, and to make wise decisions.

I pledge my HEART to encourage and support my child no matter whether he/she has successes or disappointments.

I pledge my HANDS to help my child’s club; if I cannot be a leader, I can help in many equally important ways.

I pledge my HEALTH to keep my child strong and well for a better world through 4-H, for my child’s club, our community, our country and our world.

4-H is such an amazing organization! Each family, and each member, can shape their own 4-H experience. What will your 4-H experience look like?

If you have questions about anything, please don’t hesitate to call, text or email. My goal is to help each and every member and volunteer be successful in the 4-H program.

Karla Deaver
4-H Youth Specialist

University of Missouri, Lincoln University, U.S. Department of Agriculture & Local University Extension Councils Cooperating

Equal opportunity is and shall be provided to all participants in Extension programs and activities, and for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or military organizations associated with the armed forces of the USA.”
**15th Annual 4-H Day with the St. Louis Cardinals**

Missouri and Illinois 4-H members, parents, volunteers and alumni will gather at Busch Stadium on Saturday, May 21, 2016 for the 15th annual 4-H Day with the Cardinals. The National League Central Champion Cardinals will be playing the Arizona Diamondbacks in a 1:15 p.m. game. Tickets for the game will be $25.00 each and includes a specially designed t-shirt featuring the 4-H Clover on the back and the Cardinals emblem on the front.

4-H members, leaders, alumni, and their families who purchase 4-H Day with the Cardinals tickets will have the opportunity to participate in a parade around the Busch Stadium outfield. Pre-game ceremonies will include a recitation of the 4-H pledge and ceremonial first pitches by an Illinois and Missouri 4-H member. As an added bonus the Cardinals give-away item for the game is an adult Cardinals pullover. The first 30,000 fans age 16 and older will receive this one-of-a-kind item.

Tickets for the event must be ordered on the 4-H Day with the Cardinals order form. Ticket order forms are available at the University of Missouri Extension office, or on the web at [www.modh.missouri.edu](http://www.modh.missouri.edu). Ticket orders must be postmarked by April 11, 2016. Tickets usually sell out before the order deadline so families are encouraged to order early. 4-H Clubs, counties, or groups of families who would like to be seated together must send their orders in the same envelope.

Families can also participate in the 4-H Day with the Cardinals raffle to win prizes such as throwing out the first pitch, autographed baseballs, and tickets to other Cardinal baseball games. Funds raised through the raffle support Missouri and Illinois 4-H programs. Complete information about the 4-H Day with the Cardinals raffle is on the ticket order form.

**Summers@Mizzou**

Do you have an idea you want to turn into your own business? Do you like helping people? Do you want to learn about drones? Are you interested in science? Do you want to put your coding knowledge to work? If any of these apply to you, Summers @ Mizzou is where you should be this summer. Camps will be offered the week of July 17-21 and July 24-28th.

Summers @ Mizzou offers seven different camps: Scrub-In to a Health Career, Build-a-Business, Dog Days of Summer, SENSEible Science: Dyeing to do Chemistry!, The Arts and a Portal to Science, Network Forensics for Hacker Trackers and GeoTech: Drone Camp. These camps are offered as residential or day camps. Camps are available for a wide range of ages beginning with 12 year olds; check the registration information for the age range of each camp.

Early registration is due by May 6. For registration and available scholarships see [http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/summers](http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/summers). For those without internet access call your local Extension Office or Teresa Bishop at 573-884-0554 for a brochure.

**4-H Foundation Scholarships**

College is expensive but 4-H can help! 4-H participation and involvement leads young people to explore various careers and educational options. The Missouri 4-H Foundation offers college scholarships that help 4-H members pursue their educational dreams.

In 2016 thanks to generous donor support, the Missouri 4-H Foundation will offer approximately 54 college scholarships ($500 - $2,500/scholarship). 4-Hers who are current high school seniors and former 4-Hers who are college students are eligible to apply. The scholarship guidelines and application is available on the Missouri 4-H website at [http://www.4h.missouri.edu/recognition/](http://www.4h.missouri.edu/recognition/). Check with your local Extension office for the local application due date. Applications are due in the State 4-H Office by April 1, 2016.

Check out the list of scholarships on the 4-H scholarship website and apply! The scholarship application format is almost identical to the 4-H Missouri Recognition Form (MRF) format. If you complete the MRF form, you’ve completed most of the narrative for the scholarship application, too.

**2016 Missouri Youth Grading and Judging Contest and Clinic**

Trowbridge Livestock Center, University of Missouri

March 5, 2016, 8:00 a.m.

We are pleased to announce this year’s Missouri Livestock Judging and Grading Clinic, our 28th year at the University of Missouri! This year’s events are scheduled for Saturday, March 5 and will continue the highly successful improvements initiated last year as well as the long-held traditions of Missouri judging. Co-sponsored and coordinated by the University of Missouri, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, and the Advisory Team, this is a great opportunity to support and develop Missouri’s youth involved in animal agriculture.

The contest is designed for 8th grade and older students. The clinic, designed for 8th grade and younger students, will focus on hands-on learning, working in small groups to learn more about the basics of livestock evaluation, understanding the importance of USDA grading of cattle, and even taking a field trip to Mizzou’s USDA inspected meat plant to learn about the end product.

For more information or to register for this event, please visit [http://animalsciences.missouri.edu/gradingclinic/](http://animalsciences.missouri.edu/gradingclinic/) or contact Gloria Johnson at 573-882-8336. To register: [https://www.judgingcard.com/Registration/Info.aspx?ID=5178](https://www.judgingcard.com/Registration/Info.aspx?ID=5178)
2016 Missouri 4-H Equine Tour

They’re off and running…to the horse capital of the world, Lexington, Kentucky! 4-H teens dreaming of an equine related career will want to participate in the tenth annual Missouri 4-H Equine Tour, May 23-29, 2016. The tour begins watching the pre-dawn ‘breezing’ of the race horses at the Keeneland track and spending the day at the Kentucky Horse Park, the premier international equestrian facility. Participants will explore the wide range of equine industry opportunities in the Lexington area with visits to world renowned equine medical and research facilities. The itinerary will include tours of famous Thoroughbred and Saddlebred horse farms with possible farm visits of other breeds such as Standardbreds, Arabians, Morgans, Haflingers, and Quarter Horses. Visits to higher education institutions such as the University of Kentucky, Kentucky Horseshoeing School, North American Racing Academy will be included with additional opportunities to meet nationally recognized leaders in the equine industry. And the group will most definitely have the backside tour at Churchill Downs!

Make your plans now to be in the winner’s circle! The $600 tour fee includes charter bus transportation, tours, hotels, most meals, tour t-shirt, travel bag and other associated costs. Applications are available: http://mo4h.missouri.edu/equine-tour/main. The fifty tour seats typically fill prior to the March 1 deadline. To avoid disappointment, submit complete application packet early. Questions? Debbie Davis, davisdd@missouri.edu or 816-539-3765.

Show-Me Quality Assurance Training To Be Offered

Are you signed up in a food animal project? If you are enrolled in beef, sheep, swine, dairy cattle, meat and dairy goats, rabbits or poultry, then you need to be certified in Show-Me Quality Assurance to be considered a member in good standing in that project. Were you bummed because it wasn’t offered this year at regional energizers? Well then, you are in luck! On Saturday, February 27, starting at 10 am, you can get certified in SMQA at the Bond Agriculture Center in Springfield, MO. This is the same time and location as regional horse bowl, level 3 report form and regional rep interviews. SMQA will be set up in skill-a-thon stations, so you can arrive at 10 or even later and you will be done when you complete the stations! Not sure if you need certification? Contact me at the Extension office and I can check your record. Or have you done it online, but would really prefer to do it in person? Then this is your opportunity!

Move Across Missouri 2016

4-H Move Across Missouri (MOVE) is back for 2016! And, youth and adults can register for it on 4HOnline!! Enrollment for new and re-enrollment for current MOVErs began January 1, 2016. MOVE promotes physical activity and encourages youth to engage in a broad range of activities such as walking, biking, running, swimming, dance, taekwondo, gardening and more.

There is no pre-registration required this year. Just enroll in the Move Across Missouri (MOVE) project (HF775) in 4HOnline in your profile. Enrollment in 4-H MOVE does not count as a part of county limits on projects.

Using a paper tracking system found on the 4-H website at: http://4h.missouri.edu/4hmove/moveinfo you can “log” the number of minutes accumulated throughout the year and during the competitive component of the MOVE program (scroll to the bottom of the website page and click “My Move Activity Log”). Record keeping through the paper tracking system is important because the competition period will be from February 1 to April 30. 4-Hers and adults can register for the competitive event as individuals and/or as part of a team. An individual MOVEr may also be a part of a team. A team can consist of a family or members of a 4-H club or group. Youth and families will submit their total number of minutes logged throughout the competitive period at the end in 4HOnline. The final reporting take place inside of a no cost event registration that will only be open at the end of the competition period from April 30 and May 14. MOVE awards will be provided.

For more information about 4-H MOVE visit - http://4h.missouri.edu/4hmove/main.

4-H—It’s Not All About the Fair

How many times have we heard someone say that their 4-H year was a disappointment because they didn’t do well at the county fair? While our world is very focused on competition, and that is one aspect of 4-H, that is certainly not what 4-H is all about. Each 4-H member can shape their own experience. There are opportunities to learn about service to others, leadership opportunities, life skill development, mastery and gaining confidence. 4-H helps youth find themselves and where they fit in the world. 4-H helps youth master skills and gain confidence. 4-H helps youth gain the knowledge and skills to be independent. And 4-H helps youth learn to give back to others. Each of these is just as important as the color of ribbon attached to your exhibit at the county fair.

What did you learn from the experience? If you could do it again, would you change anything? What goal did you accomplish? What skill did you improve? What is one thing you will remember? When a 4-H member reflects on their 4-H experience, it is the answers to questions like these that will shape the next part of their experience. Winning is great, but our youth can be winners even if the color of the ribbon isn’t what we wanted.
**Clover Kids Corner**

Through Clover Kids clubs, children learn how to get along, share, and work in groups, explore their interests, and build self-confidence. Each Clover Kids Corner provides an activity, information or other materials that Clover Kids leaders can use in planning and implementing experiences that introduce five to seven-year olds to the 4-H concept of learning by doing.

**Mini Heart Box**

**Supplies**
- Mini Heart Boxes (cardboard boxes can be purchased at local craft stores)
- Red Paint
- Paint Brushes
- Ribbon/Lace
- Gemstones (can be purchased at local craft stores)
- Tacky glue
- Scissors
- Child’s Photo

**Instructions**: Each child paints a box. As the boxes are drying, help each child cut a heart shaped photo of him/her to glue on the box lid. Decorate the box with ribbon, lace and gemstones. Children can fill with candy or small treasures to give to someone for Valentines Day.

*Source: Clover Kids Corner Activities, Missouri 4-H*

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Don't forget to “like” us on Facebook! We post lots of updates, deadlines, and photos as well as 4-H news! You can find Lawrence County 4-H here: [https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCounty4H](https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCounty4H)

Greene County 4-H can be found here: [https://www.facebook.com/greenecountymo4h](https://www.facebook.com/greenecountymo4h)

**Save the date for the RATT trip! April 8-9, 2016! Details coming soon!**

Highmark 4-H Club met January 26. Club members discussed Move Across Missouri and voted to make pillow case dresses and collect clothing for the First Baptist Church of Strafford’s mission trip to the Philippines. Shooting sports practice dates were shared, and a survey from county youth liaison AB Burkhart was presented for members to complete. Next meeting is set for February 16.