

4-H Happenings!

News for 4-H families and friends

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COUNTY NEWS

COUNTY WIDE CAKE DECORATING MEETING

There will be a county wide cake decorating meeting on February 3rd at the home of Kathy Rowe at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a heart shaped cake, frosting and supplies. If you don't have a heart pan, call Kathy at 660-226-5283 in the evenings or 660-385-6441 during the day.

COUNTY WIDE HORSE MEETING

June Johnston will be holding horse meetings at her house the 3rd Tuesday of each month for anyone needing a horse project leader. The next meeting will be February 17th. For more information or to attend call June at 660-395-2893.

STEER WEIGH-IN (Date Change)

The Macon County Steer Weigh-In is scheduled for Saturday, **February 21st** at Lolli's Auction Barn from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Please remember that this is the **only** opportunity to get nose prints on any steers that you may be considering taking to the MO State Fair. Members that wish to have their steers considered for the county rate of gain must weigh their steers on this day. All calves must be tagged, and if they do not have a tag, one will be provided. Be sure and bring your social security number for nose print purposes.

A 2 hour demonstrational video will be showing throughout the morning on Clipping, fitting, and showmanship. Door prizes will be drawn after the weigh-in. If you need help with anything such as clipping contact Jody at 660-651-6506

MISSOURI SHOW ME QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING (MSQA)

All 4-H members in beef, sheep, swine, rabbits, goats, dairy, and poultry must have a valid Show Me Quality Assurance Card by June 1st to be a member in good standing and to show at the County or State Fair.

Members 8-13 must take the MSQA training two consecutive years and once again when they turn 14. Members 14 and older must take the program once. The Macon County MSQA training will be held May 6th at the Extension Office starting at 6:00 p.m. Linn County will also be holding one March 30th and Randolph County March 31st. Watch next month's newsletter for time and location if you want to attend Linn or Randolph Counties training. If you have questions about this program give the Extension Office a call.

SWINE DNA CARDS

If you are planning on showing market hogs at the Missouri State Fair please stop by the Extension Office to order your DNA cards by April 13th. Each card cost \$2.00 and is due when you order the card. You will be notified when the cards arrive at the Extension Office. Completed cards are due back to the Extension Office by May 11.

GOAT NOSE PRINTING

If you are planning on showing your market goat at the Missouri State Fair please call the Extension Office to set up a nose printing time.

CAMP T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

4-H members have the opportunity to show off their talents and a chance to win a free t-shirt by submitting an entry in the 2009 4-H Camp t-shirt design contest. The winning design will be printed on the 2009 NEMO 4-H Camp t-shirt.

Just follow these simple guidelines.

- Must be currently enrolled as a 4-H member.
- Use 8 1/2" x 11" white paper, design may be printed on the page portrait or landscape orientation.
- Any media may be used (hand-drawn design and/or computer graphics)
- Where the 4-H Clover emblem is used visit the name and emblem regulations page at : http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/emblem/4h_emblems.htm or contact your local Extension center. The 4-H Clover graphic must meet all National 4-H Council regulations.
- Please submit design in black ink. No pencil or color.
- Do not fold or bend your entry.
- Place your name, address. Phone number and county of membership on the back of design in pencil.
- All entries are due *February 27, 2009* to your local University Extension center.

The NEMO Camp Committee reserves the right to alter a design if necessary.

2009 SUMMER CAMP

4-H camp at Cuivre River State Park in Troy, MO is scheduled for **June 22-25**. Counselor camp will be held **June 14 - 16**. Watch the newsletter for registration and other information.

ATTENTION ALL MACON COUNTY 4-H HORSE MEMBERS

If you are enrolled in the Horse project a horse enrollment form **must be** completed and turned into the Extension Office by **May 1st** for each of the horses you may be riding this year in 4-H. This form also requires an up-to-date coggins test. The coggins test can be done by your vet and the results will take a few days to get back so don't wait until the May 1st deadline to do the coggins test and the enrollment form. You cannot show in 4-H shows without this form being completed and on file at the Extension Office. For a copy of the form stop by the Extension Office or go to <http://4h.missouri.edu/go/get/resources/materials/Y1440.pdf>

REGIONAL 4-H ENERGIZER

This is a good time full of games, workshops, opportunities, and Subway. The Energizer will be held March 7th at 10:00 a.m. at the Macon United Methodist Church and cost \$10.00 (lunch included) for 4-H Youth ages 12-18. Due date to sign up and money is February 20th. Money due February 20th to the Pike County Extension Office 115 W. Main Bowling Green, MO 63334. For more information call the Macon Extension Office.

4-H COUNCIL MEETING

The next 4-H Council Meeting will held at the Extension Office on March 10 at 7:00pm.

MACON COUNTY FAIR BOARD MEETING

The Macon County Fair Board's next meeting will be on **Thursday February 19** at 7:00pm, room 177, Macon Vo-Tech.

EIN'S

Club Leaders and Treasurers please bring a copy of your EIN to the Extension Office as soon as possible.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

All adult volunteers that have not completed the Orientation may do so on-line or by CD. To complete this call the Extension Office for instructions.

GENERAL AND STATE INFORMATION

MISSOURI YOUTH LIVESTOCK GRADING & JUDGING WORKSHOP

This will be an educational activity with explanation of USDA grades, traditional judging and keep/cull classes by USDA, Animal Science and Extension personnel through the use of slides and demonstration animals. The contest portion of the workshop will consist of grading slaughter cattle, feeder cattle, one class of traditional judging, and keep/cull. This event will be held at the University of Missouri in the Trowbridge Livestock Center on March 14th. The cost to attend is \$6.00 due by February 13th. Contact the Macon Extension Office for a registration form.

GOAT & SHEEP CONFERENCE

This conference will be held March 27 and 28 for 4-Hers and adults at the George Washington Carver farm in Jefferson City. Some workshops of interest include Internal Parasite Control in Small Ruminants, Raising Kiko Meat Goats for Profit, Formulation Rations for sheep and goats, Ethics of 4-H and FFA youth showing sheep and goats, Importance of feet, feeding show animals, and much much more. For more information contact the Macon County Extension Office. Registration is \$20.00 for both days or \$10.00 for one and due before March 15th.

BEEF CATTLE SHOWING AND FITTING CLINIC

Junior beef cattle exhibitors interested in learning about Beef Cattle Showing and Fitting may want to attend this Clinic held in Kirksville, Missouri on March 13-15, 2009 at the NEMO Fairgrounds. The clinic will not only cover fitting and showing but will include topics on daily care, feeding, and other important information pertinent to showing beef cattle.

The lead instructor for the clinic will be Chuck McCullough from Allerton, Iowa. Chuck is a nationally recognized beef cattle fitter. He will be assisted by others so that individual instructional help can be optimized. The clinic is co-sponsored by University of Missouri Extension and the Wahl Clipper Corporation. Clinic participants will need to bring their show calf and equipment, including blocking chute, show stick, blower, comb, brushes, adhesives, and clippers. If enrollees do not have all of this equipment there will be extra equipment available and show supplies available for purchase during the clinic.

Both the news release and flyer can be found at <http://extension.missouri.edu/adair/4h/beefclinic.shtml>

WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT STATE CONTEST

Saturday April 4, Hickory Hill Camp, Columbia, MO

All 4-Hers are eligible to participate in the state Wildlife Judging event as an individual or as a team member. Awards will be presented in two age divisions: Junior, age 8-13 and Senior, age 14-18. Senior teams compete for a chance to participate in the national contest to be held July 19-23 near Zwolle, Louisiana. This year's state contest will focus on the 16 featured wildlife species of the Eastern Deciduous Forest Region and the appropriate wildlife management practices. Because of a recent change in the national event, the Missouri information and contest is being revised to comply. Completion of the update is expected by February 15. Information regarding the state contest is available on the website at

<http://4h.missouri.edu/go/projects/wildlife/whep.htm>. Study resources –when updated– are available from your county MU Extension Center.

STATE FAIR ANIMAL ENTRY DEADLINE

Entries must be **received** by July 2 to be on time. This is a change from past years when the entries had to be post marked July 2.

STATE FAIR ANIMAL OWNERSHIP DATES

The following is the most current list of the State Fair Ownership dates for breeding and market livestock and companion animals.

Beef Cattle – Steers – 3/15
Beef Cattle – Breeding Animals – 6/1
Sheep – Breeding Animals – 7/1
Sheep – Market Lambs – 6/15
Swine – Breeding Gilts – 90 days
Swine – Breeding Boars – Since farrowing
Swine – Market Hogs – May 15
Dairy Cattle – All Dairy Cattle – 6/1
Dairy Goats – 6/1
Meat Goats – Breeding and Market – 6/15
Dogs – 4/1
Horses – 5/1
Rabbits – Breeding – 6/1
Rabbits – Meat Pen – 5 – 10 weeks prior to show
Poultry – Meat Pen – 8 – 10 weeks prior to show

SHOOTING SPORTS CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP

There will be a Shooting sports Certification Workshop March 27-29, 2009 at Camp Jo-Ota, near Clarence Missouri. Registration is due to the State Office by March 15th for more information visit <http://mo4h.missouri.edu/go/projects/shootingsports/workshop.htm> or stop by the Macon County Extension Office.

MISSOURI 4-H EQUINE TRIP

The 2009 Missouri 4-H Equine Tour is headed south May 22-28, to Oklahoma and Texas! Fifty 4-H teens, ages 14-18, with an interest in equine careers and the stock horse industry will have a fantastic opportunity to visit some of the premier horse facilities in the Southwest focusing on stock horse production and training for racing, rodeo, reining, cutting, pleasure and ranching. Some of the planned destinations are an Equine Rescue Ranch, Cowboy Hall of Fame In Oklahoma City, Fort Worth Stock Yards, American Quarter Horse Headquarters in Amarillo, Texas A & M, Canyon, TX; a major equine medical facility, and much more. Each year the trip itinerary focuses on the equine industry in a different location with the previous trips in Missouri and Kentucky. Quotes from previous participants: “I learned from this trip that there is a vast array of equine employment opportunities.” “The most important thing I learned was the importance of a good education and a ‘fall back’ plan in life.” “You have to have good people skills in the horse industry.” “This trip was awesome and I will always remember this!”

The \$500 trip fee will include all the transportation on a charter bus, hotels, most meals, and trip shirt. Applications with trip deposit are due no later than March 15 and may be obtained from your local 4-H office or at: extension.missouri.edu/clinton/ Please be advised that the 50 bus seats fill QUICKLY! The 2008 trip filled a week before the deadline and applications will be honored in the order received.

Questions? Contact 4-H Youth Specialists: Debbie Davis, 816-539-3765, davisdd@missouri.edu or Karen Branstetter, 573-775-2135, branstetterk@missouri.edu

OPERATION: MILITARY KIDS DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Visit your legislator and tour the Missouri Capitol, Feb. 16! Youth ages 13-18 are invited to this fun day in Jefferson City. Participants do not have to be from a military family to enjoy the experience. The registration form is available online at <http://mo4h.missouri.edu/go/programs/military/> or at the Extension Office and is due February 11th.

GLOBAL EDUCATION

Host families with sibling between 10-16 years of age or to host an adult chaperon are needed for the summer in-bound Japanese program from July 23 to August. There is no need to plan special events; everyday family life is preferred. **The deadline for host family is March 1 or sooner.**

For more information contact the Extension Office well before the above deadline.

MISSOURI PORK EXPO

The 2009 Missouri Pork Expo will be held February 11 and 12 at the Holiday Inn Select Executive Center. Youth that attend the "In the Show Ring" session will complete the Show Me Quality Assurance class which must be completed and up-to-date to show swine in 4-H. For more information on the Expo visit http://www.mopork.com/events_missouriporkexpo.asp

MISSOURI ACADEMY OFFERS YOUNG PEOPLE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT ST. LOUIS AGRIBUSINESSES IN JUNE 2009

The Missouri Department of Agriculture is offering high school sophomores an opportunity to experience careers in the agriculture industry through the Missouri Agribusiness Academy in June 2009.

"Students involved in the Academy have a unique opportunity to meet with industry, governmental and educational leaders, offering them a better understanding of the rewarding career paths that they can pursue in agriculture," said Don Steen, director of MDA. "Almost all of the department's Academy graduates have pursued careers in agriculture." This year, Academy members will tour St. Louis agribusiness operations June 8-12, 2009. Students are selected through a competitive written application and oral interview process. To be eligible for the Academy, students must come from a farming family or be an active 4-H or FFA member. Applications are available at your local MU Extension center or online at www.mda.mo.gov/abd/agribus_academy.htm Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 2, 2009.

MISSOURI STATE FAIR "YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE" SCHOLARSHIP NOW AVAILABLE

The application deadline for a Missouri State Fair Youth in Agriculture Scholarship has been changed to February 15, 2009. Seniors graduating in 2009 may now apply for the opportunity at the Missouri State Fair's web site www.mostatefair.com.

"These scholarships are for youth who have participated at the Fair," said Yokley. "We are very happy to be able to award these young people for all their efforts and appreciate the companies and individuals who have helped us make this possible."

To be eligible for a scholarship, an applicant must be a high school senior and be an active 4-H or FFA member; have participated in the Missouri State Fair as a 4-H or FFA exhibitor; have plans to enroll in an accredited Missouri college or university with a major in agriculture; have not sold livestock in any past Missouri State Fair Sale of Champions.

The Missouri State Fair's scholarship program is funded through the generosity of Youth in Agriculture sponsors and buyers of the livestock sold during the annual Sale of Champions. A percent of each animal's sale price is earmarked for scholarships.

The Youth in Agriculture Committee, which is responsible for administering the scholarships, will award thirty \$1,000 scholarships and one \$2,500 Supreme Scholarship sponsored by Sydenstricker John Deere of Missouri/Sydenstricker Angus Genetics.

2009 graduating seniors who have exhibited at the Missouri State Fair are eligible to apply for the scholarships. The application form is available on the State Fair's web site at the Youth in Agriculture link located on the home page.

For more information please call the Missouri State Fair at 1-800-422 FAIR (3247) or email your questions to mostatefair@mda.mo.gov.

4-H MOVE ACROSS MISSOURI Contest

4-H Move Across Missouri (MOVE) promotes physical activity! MOVE encourages youth to engage in physical activities they enjoy such as walking, biking, running, swimming, dance, taekwondo, gardening and more. Using an online system, youth and their families can "log" the number of minutes they accumulate throughout the year and during the competitive component of the MOVE program. 4-Hers can enroll in the online MOVE program as individuals or as part of a team. A team can consist of a family or members of a 4-H club or group. MOVE awards will be provided. - <http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/move/>

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.

Thank You Notes Teach A Lifelong Skill!

Have you considered helping your Clover Kids write and send handwritten thank you notes? Teaching children to write thank you notes is a simple act that goes a long way in the development of good social skills. Here are a couple of suggestions to help you get your Clover Kids going:

- Be positive. Briefly explain that the gift-giver will feel good knowing the present is appreciated. The way you talk about thank you notes will influence whether your children think of writing them as a chore or as something thoughtful they can do for someone who has done something thoughtful for them.
- Give choices and help make writing thank you notes fun. For children that don't yet write encourage them to draw pictures. Provide a variety of interesting and colorful paper, pens/pencils, crayons/markers, glitter and glue. Let them choose the ones they will use.
- Make the handwritten note a special message from the heart. Help children understand the effort they put into creating a thank you is just as valuable as the gift itself.
- Be a good example and write letters! Children learn to be courteous and responsible by watching other adults.

Ideas for Making Thank You Stationery

- Stamps and pads
- Stickers
- Decorate plain note cards

- Stencils
- Use decorative-edged scissors
- Cut thank you postcards from card stock
- Make thumbprints with washable ink pads (make balloons, flowers, patterns, people, words, or a clover)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 1 – Amy Schaefer
 February 2 – Courtney Mattingley
 February 3 – Jacob Hogsett
 February 8 – Lauren McElhaney
 February 8 – Eldonna Wieberg
 February 10 – Richard Pulliam
 February 11 – Kelley Benowitz
 February 11 – Caleb Butner
 February 14 – Carson Miller
 February 15 – Raymond Carlson
 February 15 – Dakota Gwinner
 February 15 – Leevi Walker
 February 16 – Michael Seipel
 February 16 – Donna Thomas
 February 18 – Elsie Sagaser
 February 26 – Leah Fuller
 February 28 – Callie Legan
 February 28 – Austin Rash

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF YOU FROM THE STAFF AT THE MACON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE!

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 1 – Kansas City Global Conference registration due
 February 2 – Agribusiness application due
 February 3 – County Wide Cake Decorating Meeting
 February 7 – Teen Caring For Kids- Child Care Workshop
 February 7-8 – 3, 2, 1 Action
 February 11-12 – Missouri Pork Expo
 February 13 – Missouri Livestock Grading and Judging Workshop registration due
 February 15 – Missouri State Fair Scholarship Application Due
 February 16 – Day at the Capitol
 February 16-18 – Legislative Academy
 February 17 – County Wide Horse Meeting
 February 21 – Macon County steer Weigh-In
 February 20 – Regional Energizer Registration due
 February 27 – Camp T-Shirt Design Contest Deadline
 March 7 – Regional Energizer
 March 6-8 – Youth Civic Leaders Summit
 March 10 – 4-H Council Meeting
 March 13-15 – Beef Cattle Showing and Fitting Clinic
 March 14 – Missouri Livestock Grading and Judging Workshop
 March 15 – Shooting Sports Certification Workshop registration due
 March 15 – Equine Trip Registration Due
 March 15 – Goat and Sheep Conference registration due

March 18-21 – Kansas City Global Conference
March 19 – Fair Board Meeting
March 21 – State Horse Judging Contest
March 21 – Horse Judging Workshop
March 27-28 – Goat and Sheep Conference
March 27-29 – Shooting Sports Certification Workshop
March 30 – Linn County Missouri Show Me Quality Assurance Training
March 31 – Randolph County Missouri Show Me Quality Assurance Training
April 1 – State 4-H Congress application due to Extension Office
April 4 – Wildlife Habitat Management State Contest
April 13 – Swine DNA Card Order Due to the Extension Office
May 1 – Horse Enrollment Forms Due to the Extension Office
May 6 – Macon County Missouri Show Me Quality Assurance Training
May 22-28 – Equine Trip
June 3-5 – State 4-H Congress
June 8-12 – Missouri Agribusiness Academy
June 14-16 – Counselor Camp
June 22-25 – 2009 Summer Camp
June 27- July 7 – Citizenship Washington Focus Trip
July 2 – State Fair Animal Entries Due to State Fair Office
July 5-12 – Macon County Town and Country Fair
August 13-23 – Missouri State Fair

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