**UPCOMING EVENTS**

* indicates Deadline

**JUNE**

2 Indoor Exhibit Registration
3-5 State 4-H Congress
6 Horse Show
6 & 20 Fairgrounds Work Days
13-14 Alumni Camp
14-17 Member Camp 1
17-20 Member Camp 2
20-21 Clover Kids Camp
21-25 Teen Camp

**JULY**

7 Exhibits to Newton Fair
8-11 Newton County Fair
16-18 McDonald County Fair
28 Indoor Exhibits to OEF
29 Judge OEF Exhibits
30-Aug 8 Ozark Empire Fair

**AUGUST**

3 Regional Achievement Day
8 Ozark Empire Fair Ends
13-23 Missouri State Fair

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**What are the benefits of Fair for Youth and Families?**

It is that time of year again, Fair Time! We know that the motivator to participate is the desire to have fun, with our friends, families and neighbors at County Fairs. According to the article “The Motivation for and Developmental Benefits of Youth Participation in County 4-H Fairs: A Pilot Study” in the Journal of Extension found that the greatest motivator to participation in Fair was “having fun.” Yet, each of us knows that fair is much more important than just having fun. Youth who participate in fair also, learn independence, receive feedback, mastery and gain positive relationships with caring adults.

At County Fair, a brand new community pops up each year. The same characteristics can be seen that would be in the larger world, but it is in miniature. Youth starting at a young age are able to explore this community and have responsibilities. This experience allows youth to balance their desire to have fun with their friends, ride rides and the responsibilities of preparing and caring for livestock for exhibition all under a time structure, or even working in the cook shack. It is an opportunity for youth to learn how to balance their responsibilities with their desire to have fun. Youth that go to fair with livestock projects learn how to handle the world. They know that they have deadlines they need to meet (show time), that their efforts are linked to their success (ribbon and placing), and that the world is not always fair (depending on the judge, that day). These experiences all build independence.

Throughout the year, 4-H youth are working on projects, not only livestock, but in all project areas. The County Fair provides an opportunity for each young person to receive feedback on their project. County Fair competition is not about who wins grand champion, or who gets a blue ribbon, it is about learning about how your effort and skill has paid off. This feedback is valuable. (You may have heard this before, but don’t be afraid of a red ribbon, because it will be the ribbon that you learn the most from).

The Fair provides an opportunity to demonstrate mastery. A youth starting out may not know how to prepare their animal for the show ring, and will ask another 4-H youth. This mentoring is innate to 4-H and Fair, but, each year youth will return, growing and learning the skills necessary to have a successful project, and will eventually be put in a role as the mentor, rather than the mentee. When a youth is asked to share their information, this is when youth feel that they have reached a level of mastery, that they know enough to be able to give back to their community, peers and the younger youth in their “fair community.”

Of course, there is no fun, mentoring or feedback unless there are also friends, peers, volunteers and parents helping everyone be successful. According to Tracy Lively in the “Role of Adults in Youth Development Programs” says that “Adults can play an important role in youth development programs. The impact of youth-adult relationships can last beyond the time spent in a program.” The research goes on to say non-parental adults can help provide the supports, boundaries, and expectations critical to positive youth development and called nonparent adults the most common protective factor in helping young people be resilient in
There will be work days for the McDonald County Fair, also. The Monday before the fair on July 13 we will be cleaning and setting up in the indoor exhibit area and out in the barn. On the Monday following the fair on July 20 there will be a day for clean-up and take down. Work will start early both days, 8:00 AM. We need many people, youth and adult to help these on days. Many hands make the work light, and more enjoyable, too!

Judges for McDonald County Fair
Since fair time is just around the corner, we would like for 4-H clubs to be announcing that we will need volunteer judges. We would like to see 4-6 judges for Thursday, July 16 starting at 1:00 PM. Please, e-mail me at dumondl@missouri.edu if you can be a firm yes and let me know the areas you feel most comfortable judging in. Remember, we are “Making the Best Better”! Thanks for all your hours of volunteering.

Regional News

SW Missouri 4-H Summer Camp
4-H Camp will be here before you know it! Here are the 2015 dates for 4-H Camp held at Camp Smokey at Roaring River in Cassville.
June 13-14 Alumni Camp
June 14-17 Member Camp 1
June 17-20 Member Camp 2
June 20-21 Clover Kids Camp
June 21-25 Teen Camp
Our theme this year will be ‘Super Heroes’. Camp promises to be packed with fun and adventure. It is so nice to see so many of our 4-H'ers signed up for 4-H Camp!

Ozark Empire Fair
The Ozark Empire Fair (OEF) will be held on July 3-August 8 in Springfield. For a calendar of events, rules and regulations go to: http://www.ozarkempirefair.com.

State News

4-H Camp Food and Fitness
This event is scheduled for December 5-6, 2015 on the MU campus. The primary audience for this camp is youth ages 12-14 who are enrolled in foods projects. Here is the cool stuff youth get to do:
* Learn about culinary skills and practices
* Learn about nutrition and healthy eating
* Engage in hands-on food science activities
* Increase physical activity
Future Scientists
Give your 4-H’er a chance to win $1,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C. HughesNet and 4-H are calling on future scientists to show their passion for science through short video clips using the hashtag #4HFutureScientist. Check here for more information: http://www.4-h.org/#4HFutureScientist

Sponsoring our Newsletter
We would like to thank Shelter Insurance for their generous sponsorship of our newsletter. If you would like to put your ad here, we still have six months unsponsored in 2015. Cost is $60 per month or 3 months for $150. The advertising will reach every Newton and McDonald County 4-H family and cover the cost of printing and postage.

Missouri State Fair
The 113th Annual Missouri State Fair will be held August 13-23 in Sedalia, Missouri. To register fair entries or to see what is on the calendar for the 2015 state fair go to: http://www.mostatefair.com.

Summer Build-A-Business Camp
Summers @ Missou Build-A-Business Camp is for youth entrepreneurs who are interested in earning their own income, working at something they love, or taking up a cause to make a difference. Learn all about this camp at http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/summer/buildabiz.

Show Me 4-H Wares
The 8th Annual Show Me 4-H Wares sales booth is accepting applications for young entrepreneurs to sell their 4-H products and services at the Missouri State Fair on August 13,14,15 or 16. Any member age 11-18 is eligible to apply to market or sell original products or services. Register to be a youth exhibitor at the state fair. Apply on-line between May 1 and July 1, or until all booth slots are filled. Selected youth will be notified by July 15 and invited to participate. For more information go to http://4h.missouri.edu/events/fair/showmewares.htm.

State Fashion Revue
This event is held on September 26, 2015 in Columbia and is for all members who placed first in their county contest. More information and registrations will be sent to qualifiers.

If you competed in public speaking at county achievement day and placed first in your county, you are invited to compete at the state competition in Columbia on Saturday, October 24, 2015. Public Service Announcements (PSA) has been discontinued at the state competition because of low participation. All other categories remain the same. More details and registrations will be sent to those who qualified.

4-H Energy Project
The Mission Energy, 4-H energy projects uses a closed Facebook group open to 4-H youth ages 13-18. Learn the tech way—see how it works at: 4h.missouri.edu/projects/curriculum/energy-projects-online.htm

When it comes to insurance solutions, Danita can help you put the pieces together. She has the experience and knowledge to help you make informed decisions. Call or email me to discuss your individual needs.

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Shelter Insurance
We’re your Shield. We’re your Shelter.
ShelterInsurance.com
Clover Kid Corner

I Spy Bottles

Need: Clear plastic bottles with screw on lids (single serving juice or pop bottles work well)
Uncooked white rice or dry sand
Small objects, such as, coins, sea shells, marbles, plastic toys, crayons, buttons, safety pins, paper clips...
Hot glue to seal on lid

Add rice or sand to fill 3/4 of the bottle. Add 10-12 different small objects and seal the lid on with hot glue. Have the children write a list of the objects they added to their bottle on an index card. Punch a whole on top of the card and attach it to the neck of the bottle with a ribbon. This makes a thoughtful gift for a friend, and a great travel game for long car rides.

(The Kindness Curriculum- Judith Anne Rice)