4-H Lock-In

Where: Chillicothe YMCA
When: Friday, March 20 to Saturday, March 21 10:30 pm—6 am
Registration: $10 by 3/18, $15 after 3/18 or at the door
Who: Area 4-H members grade 6 and up
What to bring: athletic clothes, appropriate swim-suit, games, movies.
Come for a night of games, sports, movies, leadership and fun! This event will feature many activities sponsored by the Livingston County 4-H Council.

Application online at: http://extension.missouri.edu/livingston/events.aspx
NOTE: Youth will need to print 4honline health form & authorization form
**Please let April know
For more information call 660/646-0811 (660)973-3444 on the day of event) or email: murphyse@missouri.edu

Ravenwood Shooting Sports Contest
Saturday, May 2
Will start at 9:00am, at Noel Miller’s in Ravenwood
Details and pre-registration (required) will be sent out soon.
Deadline for registration will be April 24

Shooting Sports 740 Safety Class
Shooting Sports Safety—all shooters must complete this one time safety training. Livingston County’s training is:

March 14 from 9 am—3 pm (meal provided)
437 Locust St., RSVP by February 27
Register by calling 646-0811 or email murphyse@missouri.edu
If you cannot attend, you must make alternate arrangements or youth will not be allowed to shoot.
Alternate Training: March 1 in Linn County, 1 pm—7 pm
4-H Move Across Missouri

Sign up today!

4-H Move Across Missouri (MOVE) promotes physical activity by encouraging youths and families to engage in physical activities they enjoy such as walking, biking, running, swimming, dance, taekwondo, gardening and more. YOUTH WILL GET A FREE PRIZE!

Using a PAPER TRACKING SYSTEM this year, youth and their families can “log” the number of minutes they accumulate throughout the year. Sign up as an individual or as part of a team. Sign up on the 4-H website at http://www.4h.missouri.edu/programs/move/

Welcome to CAMP

4-H Camp apps.— DUE May 6

Camp #1 dates are during the week of June 1-4. Camp #2 dates are during the week of June 8-11. Cost will be $110. Applications are online, or in your local office.

Happy March Birthdays!

12 Cutler Epperson
14 Kale Batson
27 Cade Claycomb
28 Grace Myers
31 Kidridge Griffin

Contest Day Workshop, March 3rd in Princeton—5 pm to 6 pm

Contest Day is coming up—have you wondered what Contest Day is all about? Come to Hal England in Princeton to learn how to:

- Excel at Public Speaking
- Make demonstrations “pop”
- Learn about collections, table settings, photo contest, and other categories you may not know about
- Learn about the many other categories in demonstrations and public speaking

If you want to make it to state in demonstrations or public speaking, or just grow as a 4-H member and leader—this is the event for you!

Come for a good time and FREE FOOD!

(SMQA to follow at 6 pm)

4-H Volunteer Registration

Missouri 4-H volunteers are required to take a one-time volunteer orientation. Once requirements are met, volunteers receive an approval notice, and may begin working with youth.

1) Register online at http://mo.4honline.com
2) Fill out paper Volunteer Application annually
3) Complete 1-time volunteer orientation

Multiple Options for Volunteer Orientation

Volunteer Application
http://4h.missouri.edu/resources/materials/docs/LG636FILL.pdf
Or, you may contact the Extension Center for a form.

Online
Begin Here:
http://4h.missouri.edu/getinvolved/volunteer/

Print/Audio Version
Contact the office. We can assist by providing or mailing.
STATE CONGRESS

June 3-5; registration DUE April 15. Ages 14 and older

For more information and to register online, go to:

http://4h.missouri.edu/events/congress/

What You’ll Do at State 4-H Congress

- Learn the life skills of a super leader, connecting with experts in quality workshops and learning opportunities!
- Experience campus living – residence halls, cafeterias, classrooms, you name it!
- Elect your representatives on the State 4-H Council!
- Get to know other 4-H youth from across Missouri…and HAVE FUN

Wildlife Habitat Education Program

Information about the training clinic for 4-H volunteers and teens for the Wildlife Habitat Education Program – Training Clinic is now available on the web http://4h.missouri.edu/go/projects/wildlife/whep.htm and registration through 4-H Online is now possible at www.Mo.4honline.com

WHEP Training Clinic
March 14, Columbia, MO 9am – 1pm

This event is targeted for 4-H leaders that will work with 4-H members in preparation for the WHEP contest. Older teens (14 & older) may attend if they come with an adult leader.

Missouri Sheep Producers to Offer Another Round of Starter Flock Grants

In an effort to promote the sheep industry to Missouri’s youth, MSP has initiated a starter flock grant program. This year marks the seventh year MSP has offered this program with nine grants being awarded. The deadline of May 1 is fast approaching for submittal of the 2015 applications. This year MSP has teamed up with FCS Financial to offer up to three $600 starter flock grants to 4H or FFA youth to purchase ewes.

Applicants must not currently own sheep, be involved with Missouri 4H and/or FFA, work with a current MSP members in a mentorship program and submit a completed application to include a letter of recommendation from their mentor. The successful applicants must purchase their ewes from a current MSP members by September 1, coordinate with their mentor on a breeding program for the ewes to lamb the following spring, maintain possession of the ewes for at least one year, and maintain records of income vs expenses to be presented at the annual MSP membership meeting the fall of 2016. These youth’s presentations are always a highlight of the annual meeting.

Grant eligibility, requirements and applications can be view and downloaded from the MSP webpage at www.missourisheep.com. Questions can be directed to Scott Kaden at rollakadens@embarqmail.com or 573-578-9801. Applications must be postmarked by May 1 and mailed to:

Scott Kaden
15850 CR 7200
Rolla, MO 65401
April 7 Ballot—Sustainable Funding Issue for Mercer 4-H and Extension

The Mercer County Extension Council has formed a “district” and will place a property tax levy on the April 7th ballot. This measure is designed to support 4-H and Extension programming. University Extension is funded by a partnership between county, state and federal government. Due to county funding cuts, Mercer County Extension does not have enough funds to house a full time specialist based in Mercer County.

What will the Extension District do with the funds?

- Provide support to bring a full-time Extension Specialist based in Mercer County
- Provide funding to keep the office open 40 hours/week (currently open 12 hours/week due to county funding cuts)
- Support 4-H and Extension programming so that more great programs can be offered to Mercer County Citizens

Historical Funding in Mercer County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Princeton</th>
<th>Mercer</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$5000</td>
<td>$0</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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</table>

(City of Princeton-2004-11 avg. of $4771/year)

Local Funding in 2010—$23,500/year

Local Funding in 2015—$6500/year

If you have questions about the issue, please contact us or a Mercer County Extension Council member.

MIZZOU TRAP ACADEMY 2015

Download Application Online

www.cafrn.missouri.edu/summer-academies/trap
MISSOURI SHOW ME QUALITY ASSURANCE (SMQA)

By June 1st, all 4-H members enrolled in food animal projects (including beef, sheep, swine, dairy cattle, meat and dairy goats, rabbits, and poultry) must complete the appropriate level of SMQA certification to be considered in good standing. Youth must attend 2 consecutive years between the ages 8-13 and once after age 14. So How Do I Complete SMQA?

Upcoming Trainings:
3/2 Princeton, Hal England; 6—7:30 pm
3/5 Chillicothe Litton Center; 7—8:30 pm
- we will hold another training in April or May in Livingston County due to the large number needing this.

If unable to attend, youth may also complete online certification at: http://agebb.missouri.edu/smqa/

4-H/FFA OWNERSHIP OF ANIMALS

One of the objectives in owning an animal is to learn new skills in animal breeding, feeding, management and health. To accomplish this, the member should secure the animal as early in the year as possible. Livestock shows and exhibitions set up minimum dates for length of ownership necessary for exhibiting.

**Beef Cattle**
- Steers 3/1
- Breeding Animals 6/1

**Sheep**
- Breeding Animals 7/1
- Market Lambs 6/1

**Swine**
- Breeding Gilts 90 days

**Breeding Boars**
- Since farrowing
- Market Hogs 5/1

**Goats**
- Dairy Goats - 6/1
- Meat Goats - 6/1

**Dogs**
- 4/1

**Horses**
- 5/1

**Rabbits**
- 6/1
- Meat pen 5-10 weeks prior to show

**Poultry**
- 6/1
- Meat pen 8-10 weeks prior to show

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4-H Contest Day
April 10th
Mercer County
April 24th
Grundy County

Interest-Free Funding Available for 4-H and FFA projects

FCS Financial is launching a new agricultural youth funding program to assist Missouri 4-H and FFA members with their agricultural projects. The agreement provides interest-free funding for qualifying projects, is available to all 4-H and FFA members in the association’s lending service area and is repayable within one year.

“Missouri is home to more than 105,000 4-H members and supports 324 FFA chapters consisting of 25,000 students,” says Scott Gardner, FCS Financial Marketing and Sales Vice President. “There is no better way to prepare these future farmers and ranchers for their career in agriculture than providing financial assistance and education at this point in their lives.”

FCS Financial will require a detailed projected cash flow as part of the application process. If approved for funding, the applicant must keep accurate records available for FCS Financial to review throughout the term of the agreement.

Available funding is based on FCS Financial’s capital and, in 2014, $300,000 has been reserved for the program. Funds are available for one project per year, per student. For more details or to apply, visit www.myfcsfinancial or contact your local FCS Financial office.
4-H MO Foundation Scholarship

Available on line:
http://4h.missouri.edu/recognition/scholarships/
Due in the County Office March 26.

Check out the county web page:
http://extension.missouri.edu/
Mercer or Grundy
For the newsletter, entry forms, and other 4-H information.