Dear 4-H Families,

I recently had the chance to participate with one of my Program Assistants in hosting a Career Fair at the Alternative High School in Neosho. There I had the chance to reiterate some of the things I’m wanting to incorporate into a Career Fair this fall for our 4H Teens. To summarize a couple of these things:

One of the things I learned and have put into practice for myself is that Life is TOO short to work at something you don’t “like” doing. Combined with this is the knowledge I’ve learned that there are LOTS of ways to get paid for doing a job. Applying this lesson, I want to work with our Teens this fall in some career assessments to help them begin to identify, things they’re passionate about, things that they’re good at doing, and how much training they’re willing to commit to get to where they want to be.

In conjunction with this, I want to share with you, that there are 3 maybe 4 things you can do which will really put you ahead of the curve on becoming a valuable employee. If you will do these things, it will put you easily into the 80+ percentile of workers that employers are looking for. They are:

SHOW UP FOR WORK WHEN YOUR SCHEDULED TO BE THERE.
By far the largest complaint that employers give about their employees is that they “just don’t show up for work”. If you will learn this habit now, when you’re going to school and apply it to your job, your employers will almost be guaranteed to love you.

BE ON TIME. This means that if you’re scheduled to begin working at 8 am, you don’t come in the door at that time, but at whatever time ahead of that so that you’re in uniform, have gone to the bathroom, put your lunch away, or anything else so that your actually ready to work at the assigned time.

SHOW SOME INITIATIVE. If you will ask for what needs to be done, rather than wait to be told everything you ought to be doing, or once you’ve learned the ways of the company to even do something without having to be told, WOW your boss will love you.

LEARN TO GET ALONG WITH PEOPLE YOU MAY NOT LIKE. Right now, you go to school, church, 4-H with someone that you would never invite to your home for a meal or sleep over. Practice right now learning to get along, even if you disagree, and put that skill to work in your job setting, and you will stand out like a beacon of light.

None of these are rocket science, and the first 3 aren’t even hard to do, but if you can put these to work in your personal and professional life, I guarantee you that you will almost never have to worry about having a job. These simple skills are what companies are yearning after. Remember that right now, you’re building the foundation that will shape and influence the rest of your life. Go to work right now in school, home and 4-H to master these things, and they will serve you well all the years of your life.

Mike Coffey
4-H Youth Specialist
The Cornerstone 4-H Club met on March 6, 2016 at the Southwest City Library. The meeting was called to order by Brandie Keith. There were nine members, two leaders and nine others present. Callie led the American pledge and Sydney led the 4-H pledge. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer’s report was read and approved. In old business the members turned in their money from the doughnut sales fund raiser. The Sew-a-Thon, Archery project, and flower sales were also discussed. In new business, Taylor was made Vice President and the Cardinals ball-game on May 21 was discussed. Our next meeting will be April 4. Tyler will bring snacks and Macy will bring drinks. The meeting was adjourned and the members made St. Patrick’s Day crafts.

Macy Reece, Reporter

ATTENTION: Club Reporters:
Send your 4-H Club news to:
Lynda DuMond at dumondl@missouri.edu
Or mail to: P.O. Box 336– Pineville, MO 64856

COUNTY NEWS

County Achievement Day
McDonald /Newton County Achievement Day was held on Saturday, April 30. We had a nice turn out. A special thank you to the parents and volunteers who worked as judges, serving food and helping with set up and clean up. We appreciate your efforts.

YCLS Float Trip
Our Youth Civic Leaders Team is planning a community service float trip on Elk River in McDonald County on Wednesday, July 13. If you would enjoy spending a day floating with other teens down a beautiful river, come join us for this event. The team will feed you lunch and provide drinks throughout the day. Cost is free, we only require you to work along the float, picking up trash and debris. This event will be open to the whole state for 4-H youth ages 14 and over. Younger members can attend but must be with an adult. We need you to call 417-223-4775, to save a spot so we can plan how many canoes we need and purchase enough food and beverages. Deadline to register is July 8.

McDonald County Fair
The fair will be here before you know it! I am looking forward to seeing your projects, livestock as well as, indoor exhibits. Let’s make it a goal to fill our 4-H area! See you at the McDonald County Fair– July 21-23. Remember, there will be a set up day the Monday before the fair on July 18 and a clean up on Monday after the fair on July 25.

REGIONAL NEWS

4-H Camp
It will be here before you know it! SW Region 4-H Camp at Camp Smokey at Roaring River, Cassville, MO. Dates confirmed for camp are as follows:

- Alumni Camp: June 11-12
- Member’s Camp 1: June 12-15
- Member’s Camp 2: June 15-18
- CK Camp: June 18-19
- Teen Camp: June 19-23

Camp is always a highlight of the summer for 4-H members. Hold the date and plan to attend. Deadline for camp applications is May 15. Please get these turned in as soon as possible. Remember, if you are a member in good standing you only pay half of the camp fee. Hope to see YOU at Camp Smokey!

Ozark Empire Fair
Ozark Empire Fair in Springfield will be held on July 28 to August 6. Blue ribbon quality indoor exhibits from our county will be transported to Springfield on July 26 and judged on July 27. If you would like to volunteer as a judge at OEF please call the extension office.

Youth Poultry and Rabbit Show
The Southwest Missouri Poultry and Rabbit Show will be held on May 21 at the Carthage Fairgrounds. Registrations are due May 13. For
Exchange Host Families
Would you be willing to host an exchange student? For our Japanese exchange students, there are still one 12 year old male and two 12 year old females to place. They will arrive July 23 and depart August 18. Also, other host families are needed for High School age students. For more details contact Joyce Taylor at TaylorJL@missouri.edu or call 573-882-6393.

Meeting Ideas for Club Leaders
A document of meeting ideas for club leaders can be accessed at http://4h.missouri.edu/resources-and-forms/.

Project Leader Resources
Project Leaders and 4-H members, you might want to check out the project resource on the Missouri website at http://4H.missouri.edu/programsprojects.aspx.

Save the Monarch
Missouri 4-H is joining other agencies and organizations in an effort to save the Monarch butterfly from extinction. Did you know the current Monarch population is only 10% of what it was in 1990. Missouri 4-H wants to join the fight to bring back the Monarchs, and that means we need 4-H Clubs, project groups, families or individuals to lend a helping hand. Planting habitat plots can contribute to this effort. The 4-H Save the Monarch program is in its initial stages. As educational materials, grant opportunities and activities develop, they will be posted to this webpage: http://4h.missouri.edu/monarchs/main.

4-H Canine Camp
This camp is designed for the dog lovers at heart. Bring your dog to camp and be ready to train it to greater heights all while enjoying the camp traditions such as swimming, canoeing, and campfire. Canine Camp will be June 16-18 at lake of the Ozarks State Park. This camp is designed for youth ages 10-18. Register online at https://mo.4honline.com. Thirty spots are available, registration is open NOW!
Clover Kids Corner

Seed Sprouts: Does Light Make a Difference?

Materials: Sandwich bags, paper towels, navy beans, permanent marker, sprayer or mist bottle with water.

Directions: Give each child two bags, two paper towels, and six to 8 navy beans. Help them label on one bag “with light” and the other bag “without light”. Fold the paper towel to fit inside each bag. Spray with water until the paper towels are saturated. Place several seeds in each bag. Seal the bags.

Ask the children to take the bags home, tape the ‘with light’ bag to a window and put the other in a closet or somewhere with no light. Keep the paper towels damp. Check on the seeds daily. What happens? Tell them to report back what they learn at the next 4-H meeting.

Check out our county webpage at: http://extension.missouri.edu/mcdonald

State webpage at: http://4h.missouri.edu