Dear 4-H Families and Volunteers,

Great news! The OSU Extension Office has been a beehive of activity lately as we prepare to welcome a new 4-H Educator! Yeah!

Once the new educator starts, they will be working with me through the summer 4-H events (project judgings, fair, etc.). We are planning to host at least one welcome event for them this summer – so stay tuned!

Have a great summer & keep learning!

Kate

Evaluation Dates

Please plan your summer schedules with these dates in mind. Youth must attend the scheduled evaluations in order to qualify for county and state awards.

Life Skills Judging: Thursday, July 9, 4-8 pm at WHHS
Skill-a-thon/Livestock Judging: Thursday, July 16, 4-8pm at WHHS

According to State of Ohio guidelines, 4-H projects must be separate and different from those created or carried in other organizations, such as FFA, Scouts, Grange, Church or School (including Industrial Arts and Art Class, Science Fairs, and so forth).

Can’t Attend the Scheduled Judging? You MUST attend a pre-judging event!

Members who are unable to attend the County Project Evaluation events will need to call the OSU Extension Office to schedule a time for their pre-judging. Pre-judging appointments will be booked on a first-come, first-served basis.

Pre-judging Day 1, all projects – June 23, 4:00-7:00 p.m.
Pre-judging Day 2, all projects – June 29, 8, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Members who come to pre-judging without an appointment may be required to wait for an open appointment. Projects that are pre-judged will not be eligible for County awards and State Fair. For a 4-H project to be considered completed, it must be evaluated at either a pre-judging event or at the County judging event for that project.

Dress Code for Project Evaluations

Please pay close attention to the dress code below. This has been in effect since 2010. Members not meeting these guidelines at any project evaluation event (Pre-Judging, Life Skills Evaluations and Livestock Project Evaluations), WILL lose points or be marked down at least one level.

- Clean pants, skirts or dresses that fit properly. Shorts and Capri pants are not allowed. Skirts and dresses must be fingertip length or longer.
- Clean shirt or top that fits properly. Writing or images on shirts that may be considered offensive or inappropriate are not allowed. Tops, sundresses, etc. must have shoulder straps of 1-inch or wider.
- No hats worn during judging. Hats that are part of an ensemble or costume should be removed when speaking with judges.
- No flip-flops.
Market Livestock Sale Letters

Youth enrolled in Market Livestock projects should be communicating to potential buyers. This is a great way to let area businesses know who you are and what you will be selling in our market livestock sale. There is a list of last year’s Jr. Fair Buyers in the Holmes County Fair Book. Feel free to send letters to potential buyers that are not on the list.

Letters should include your name, age, club info and what projects you are taking at the fair (you can include your life skills and non-marketable projects also). Buyers like any information you feel comfortable providing about yourself and family. They also enjoy pictures of you and your animal. There will be flyers available at the Skill-a-thon with information about our market sale events. Please include these with your letters. Please send neat legible letters and remember you are representing Holmes County and 4-H.

Buyer Thank Posters

If you sold a market animal last year it is a nice gesture to hang a poster with this year’s animal and thank your 2014 buyer.

Buyers like to see that we appreciate their support, and it shows potential buyers that Holmes County exhibitors support the Market Livestock Sale buyers. Posters can be neatly handwritten or typed on 8 1/2 by 11 paper or on poster board (depending on space availability). These thank you posters should be hanging where buyers can see them (animals can’t eat them) and should be legible.

DUNF Forms

DUNF (Drug Use Notification Form). Every market and lactating animal must be drug free the day of showing, selling, and harvest. This includes rabbit fryers, broilers, market ducks, meat goats, turkeys, market lambs, dairy feeder calves, market steers, market hogs, lactating dairy cows and goats. The DUNF is a report of the medications that are prescribed by a vet or are Over the Counter (OTC) whose withdrawal time is not finished at the start of the fair. Check the labels of medications and medicated feeds for withdrawal time to make sure the market and/or lactating animal is drug free prior to the fair. DUNF Forms will be given out at the July 16 Livestock Project Evaluations. If a 4-H member is being judged prior to this, he/she must obtain the form at the OSU Extension Office.

The DUNF must be turned in at the time of unloading your animal at the fair on Sunday, August 9. Please use a pen to fill out the form completely and write with sufficient pressure that all parts of the triplicate copy are readable.

Ohio State Fair Livestock Entry Forms and Premium Book

The Ohio State Fair will be July 29 - August 9 this year. Holmes County Jr. Livestock Exhibitors will need to access the electronic entry forms and Premium Book on-line at: www.ohiostatefair.com. You may register online or print/mail the paper form. If using the paper form, please bring your completed livestock entry forms to the Extension office to be signed by the County Director (you may need to leave the forms and pick them up later). Incomplete entry forms will not be signed.

Forms must be postmarked by June 20 (metered envelopes will not be accepted). The livestock exhibitors will be responsible for sending their registration to the Ohio State Fair at:
Entry Department, Ohio State Fair
717 East 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211
Quality Assurance

LAST HOLMES COUNTY QA SESSION WILL BE THURSDAY,
JUNE 11, 7PM AT THE HOLMES COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
SHOWBARN

All 4-H and FFA members taking market or lactating livestock animals are required to meet the Quality Assurance Education Requirement set by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. There were multiple Quality Assurance (QA) opportunities in Holmes Co. this year. Youth may attend out of county QA clinics also but need to bring proof of attendance back to the OSU Extension Office.

If you or one of your 4-H/FFA members still needs to complete their QA for this year, please contact the OSU Extension Office for a list of out-of-county programs available. Please note that most out-of-county options will charge a participation fee and may require significant travel.

Members who do not meet this requirement will not be allowed to bring their animals to the Holmes County Fair.

Procedure for Livestock Project Evaluation & Skill-a-thon

Livestock Project Book Evaluation & Skill-a-thon will be held on Thursday, July 16 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at West Holmes High School. Please be aware if you have multiple projects that you need to plan plenty of time.

A first year member in a livestock project, regardless of age, may be judged as a beginner if they wish (but will not qualify for Outstanding Market Award). Please call the Extension Office if your child will be judged as a beginner, but is in the intermediate or senior age level.

4-H and FFA members will need to register as they enter West Holmes High School. Parents/relatives must remain in the waiting area (Commons) away from the evaluation rooms. Only adult volunteers who are working the skill-a-thon and interview judging stations will be allowed in those areas during this time.

Rabbit Tattooing & Fun Show

All rabbits that will be at the Holmes County Fair in August must have a number tattooed in one ear for identification purposes. The mandatory tattooing of market rabbits will be done at the Rabbit Fun Show on Friday, July 24 at the Holmes County fairgrounds for free. You may bring up to six fryers to be tattooed. All other rabbits will be tattooed at this time as well upon request.

The Rabbit Fun Show is a practice show at which rabbit owners may show their rabbits and receive remark cards to help prepare them for the show at the fair. You may bring as many rabbits as you want for the Fun Show for a small entry fee per rabbit. Sponsored by the Rabbit Committee.

Penning Assignments

The Fair Entry/Pen Assignment forms are now available to Advisors. Parents may bring in their child’s completed forms, but advisors are encouraged to bring in their members completed forms as a group.

Entries are accepted in person only at the Holmes County Jr. Fair Board Office on the following dates (mailed entries will not be accepted):

- Thursday June 11, 3:00 pm –7:00 pm
- Saturday June 20, 9:00am –Noon
- Tuesday, July 1, 3:00 pm –7:00 pm

* Late entries accepted by appointment only July 2-15 with $50.00 Late Entry Fee per animal. Call Gail Cochran at 330-674-0225 to schedule an appointment.

Fair Entry/Pen Assignment forms tell the livestock committees how many animals are coming to the fair and the classes that the junior fair exhibitor plans to participate in. It is important that complete information be given. Committee members will be on hand to answer any questions.

READ YOUR FAIR BOOK!
ALL FAIR RULES ARE PRINTED THERE!

Livestock Resource Books

Livestock resource books are a wealth of information for 4-H project members. Resource books include color photos and diagrams; chapters on selection, feeding, housing, and animal care; and breeding and disease information. Many of the livestock requirements pages refer to information in these books. We keep a limited supply of these books on hand and the prices range from about $10 to $30.
Special Needs Accommodation

It is the intent of the 4-H program to make each project evaluation a positive experience for all of its members. Parents or guardians of 4-H members who have identified learning disabilities should contact the Extension office to arrange for any special accommodations you feel necessary. Please let our office know well in advance for a successful evaluation experience.

Be advised that we do not allow parents to accompany their child back to the evaluation area. We will have Junior Fair Board members available to assist the members when needed.

Life Skills Project Requirements

The requirements for Life Skills projects have been updated for 2015 and are now posted to the Holmes County OSU Extension website.

These requirements are listed by project category, not project number. They include information about project completion, what to bring to project evaluations, state fair opportunities and what to display at the County Fair. As always, we try to be as complete and clear as possible, but if we have missed something please let us know.

Dropped Projects – Please tell us!

Even though the deadline has passed for adding a new project, members may drop projects at any time prior to project evaluation nights. If your child or one of your club members shares with you that they are not going to complete a project, please let us know! This will greatly help us in recruiting judges and volunteers for evaluation nights and prevent waiting for members who are no longer in a project.

Life Skills County and State Fair Awards

All County Award and State Fair award winners will be recognized at the Holmes County Fair on Monday, August 10 at 4:30 p.m. on the Stage on the Green. Winners will receive their plaques that evening and will be allowed to place their awards in their 4-H booth after the ceremony. State fair award winners may bring their award to the Extension Office and we will recognize them the same evening.

Safety Practices at the Fair

As clubs plan for and prepare to put up their fair booths or decorations in the livestock barns, the following safety practices will be required by local fire inspectors:

- Only UL approved extension cords with circuit breaker protection are to be used.
- Multiple extension cords are to be connected to a power strip with circuit breaker protection.
- Extension Cords used in livestock barns must be GFCI protected.
- No suspending things from the ceiling of the building. In the 4-H building, you may go only as high as the 18 inch strips above the booth.
- No stapling of electrical cords with a stapler. Insulated staples are to be used instead.

Skill-a-thon Kits

Due to the high replacement cost of a skill-a-thon kit, the following policy outlines the conditions for use:

- Individuals (non-advisors) who wish to use the skill-a-thon kits are to:
  - Schedule an appointment for when they want to use the skill-a-thon kit during Extension Office hours, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30-5:30. Kit(s) can be reviewed in the upstairs meeting room.
  - Advisors: Schedule with the Extension Office when they want to borrow a kit.
  - Borrow the kit(s) for a total of three days: one day for pickup, one day to use, one day to return or pickup on Friday and return on Monday. Advisors will need to return the kits earlier if someone else already scheduled to review it before the third day.
  - Kits are to be returned to the Extension Office by noon.

Note to Advisors: You may have a parent or member pick up the kit for you, but you must contact the office or send a note with the person who is picking up the kit(s), and please specify what kit(s) they will be picking up. The kit(s) will be signed out in your name and you are responsible for them.

SKILL-A-THON kits may NOT be borrowed after July 8 so the committees can get them ready for skill-a-thon.
Congratulations to our High School Graduates!

The following 4-H members graduated this year:
Bailey Boughman, Crisha Brenly, Bryce Burgett, Meghan Dawson, Jallyn Giauque, Morgan Hoxworth, Lexi Kinstle, Brandon Kozak, Lloyd Latsch, Grant Mast, Kennady Miller, Stacey Plank, Ciera Rose, Vincent Schlauch, Alison Sprang, Christopher Sprang, Emily Sprang, Harlie Spurlock, Nicole Strouse, Morgan Troyer, Racheal Wagers, Madalyn Wolfe, Devin Yoder, and Jaylin Yoder.

Best Wishes from the OSU Extension Staff in your future endeavors (and don’t forget about 4-H!)

Jr. Fair King/Queen Contest

All 4-H Clubs, FFA and FCCLA Chapters in Holmes County are encouraged to nominate members to represent their club/chapter in the annual Holmes County Fair King/Queen Contest.
- Members must be 16 years of age as of January 1, 2015.
- Application forms are available online at http://holmes.osu.edu.
- Nominees must complete and return applications to the Extension Office by July 1.

King/Queen interviews will be held at the OSU Extension Office on Monday, July 27 at 6:30 p.m. and all nominees must attend this interview.
Coronation of the King and Queen will be held at the Holmes County Fair on Monday, August 10 at 5:00 p.m. at the Stage on the Green.

Tasting Smorgasbord

Are you a creative cook or an adventurous eater? 4-H members, of all ages and in all project areas, are encouraged to prepare a recipe to share. Come join the fun at the Tasting Smorgasbord in the 4-H Building on Wednesday, August 12, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Food safety is very important when you are preparing and serving food for others. Please be prepared with the appropriate utensils, tongs, gloves, etc. needed to serve your recipe. As always, bring a card or tray table to serve your dish and copies of your recipe for distribution.

This event is immediately before the Kid’s Day events in the 4-H building—Come Join the Fun!

Commissioners’ Award For Outstanding 4-H Members

The Holmes County Commissioners annually sponsor four awards to recognize outstanding 4-H members in the areas of Citizenship and Leadership. Members may be nominated by parents, volunteers, or they may nominate themselves! The categories and age groups are:
- Junior Citizenship: 4-H members in grades 7-9 as of January 1
- Junior Leadership: 4-H members in grades 7-9 as of January 1
- Senior Citizenship: 4-H members in grade 10-12 as of January 1
- Senior Leadership: 4-H members in grade 10-12 as of January 1

Those selected will receive a $50 cash award and a plaque which will be presented prior to the Coronation of the King and Queen at the Holmes County Fair on Monday, August 10, at 5:00 p.m. at the Stage on the Green. Applications must be submitted to the Extension Office by July 15.

Applications are available online at http://holmes.osu.edu. We appreciate the support of our County Commissioners, Joe Miller, Rob Ault, and Ray Eyler, and thank them for sponsoring these annual awards.

4-H Booths at the Fair

Please let us know if you would like booth or riser space. Options include:
- Large booths (approx. 15 ½ ft. wide, 6 ½ ft. deep, 8 ft. high)
- Small booths ( 7 ½ ft. wide, 6 ½ ft. deep, 8 ft. high)

Display space on the 4 foot length “steps/risers”

Booth space will be assigned on a FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED basis by calling the OSU Extension Office. Call today 330-674-3015. Please sign up for a time to host in the 4-H building when you call as well.
Dairy Clinic

The Dairy Committee will be hosting a clinic for members taking dairy cows, heifers and feeders this year. The clinic will be on Tuesday, June 9th at the Fairgrounds from 7-9pm.

Goat Clinic

The Goat Clinic scheduled for Monday, June 8th has been canceled. It will be rescheduled at a later date.

Soaring to Success

Picture Placards for Market Livestock Sale
Submit Your Own Picture!

Our Market Livestock buyers appreciate receiving the placard and photo of the animal they purchased and the 4-H or FFA member who raised that animal. I see these hanging in businesses all across the county.

However, we can probably all admit that some of those pictures taken of a hot day at the fair can be a little less than flattering. You now have the opportunity to submit your own photo of you and your Market Livestock Project.

Here are the Details:

⇒ 4” x 6” color photo on photo paper
⇒ Horizontal orientation
⇒ Photo includes both the member and their Market Livestock Project
⇒ Photo should be taken near Fair time, so the size of the animal(s) is close to Fair size.
⇒ Member’s name, club/chapter and project written on the back of the photo
⇒ Turned in to the Fair Secretary’s Office by Tuesday, August 11, 2015

Fair Passes for 4-H Members & Volunteers

Tara Sheldon, Secretary of the Holmes County Senior Fair Board, will be supervising the distribution of Fair Passes. Fair passes will be plastic wristbands for youth and 1-week cards for volunteers.

To receive passes:
The Organizational Advisor/Committee Secretary MUST provide a list of all members/advisors/volunteers meeting the requirements below.

Members must:
1. Have at least one project judged at a scheduled county judging day or pre-judging prior to the county evaluation day;
2. Exhibit a project at the fair;
3. Meet the minimum attendance at club meeting requirement (at least 4 or the number required by the club’s constitution).

Volunteers must:
1. Be an approved Holmes County 4-H volunteer
2. Have been actively involved with the club this year.

If the pass is lost or destroyed, the member/volunteer must purchase a new one at his/her own cost. A youth may only receive one fair pass, even for multiple projects. Members that are currently 10 years old and younger will NOT receive a wrist band, as fair admission is free for youth 10 and younger.

The lists of members, advisors/volunteers and your club/committee name must be emailed to Tara Sheldon at taras@shearerequipment.com by Monday, July 27. Tara requests an email and no phone calls please. Leaders who do not have access to email may drop their lists off at the OSU Extension Office.
4-H Day at Cedar Point

Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27

~ Attention all 4-H Members, Advisors, Parents, and Friends ~

Visit Cedar Point and Support Erie County 4-H!

4-H Rate Ticket Prices:

Single Day 4-H Rate: $39.00
(Includes admission to Dinosaurs Alive Exhibit)

Regular gate price: $61.99 + $5.00 (Dinosaurs Alive)

Tickets are available at the 4-H window from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. both days. Please have a representative purchase tickets for a club or group.

Representatives should have a membership card or something representing 4-H membership. Individual tickets may also be purchased.

~ Proceeds benefit the Erie County 4-H Committee ~
Dates to Remember!

June
6/6-6/10—Knolmes 4-H Camp
6/9—Dairy Clinic—Cows, Heifers and Feeders
6/11, 6/20—Livestock Penning Assignment Forms Accepted
6/13—Horse PAS Show
6/20—State Fair entry forms due (postmarked)
6/23, 6/29—4-H Project Pre-judging—All projects
6/30—Horse PAS Show (PAS classes only)

July
7/1—Jr. Fair King and Queen Applications Due
7/1—Livestock Penning Assignment Forms Accepted (LAST)
7/9—4-H Life Skills Project Evaluations
7/15—Commissioners Award Applications Due
7/16—4-H/FFA Livestock Project Evaluations and Skill-a-thon
7/24—Rabbit Tattooing and Fun Show
7/27—Jr. Fair King and Queen Interviews

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity