Dear 4-H Families and Volunteers,

After 4-H Kick-Off, all I can say is WOW! It is so wonderful to be surrounded by enthusiastic and passionate advisors. Each advisor plays such an important role in the growth of Holmes County youth, an impact that will be left in youth minds for years to come. I know that I left Kick-Off feeling energized and ready for the 2016 4-H year, and I hope that each of our advisors did as well.

As we prepare for this year, we know that it will be a year of change. We will do our best to keep you informed with up to date information. This year will be an adventure that we are all sure to remember!

Let's have a great year!

Hallie

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**Evaluation Dates**

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

- Life Skills Evaluation (including Food & Nutrition Projects): Thursday, July 14, 4 - 8pm at Harvest Ridge
- Livestock Evaluation & Skillathon: Thursday, July 21, 4 - 8pm at Harvest Ridge

Again this year, we will be offering 2 pre-judging events staffed by 4-H Volunteers prior to the scheduled County Project Evaluation events.

- Pre-judging Day 1, all projects – June 27, 4:00-7:00 p.m. @ Harvest Ridge
- Pre-judging Day 2, all projects – June 30, 4:00-7:00 p.m. @ Harvest Ridge

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. 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 participation.

Additionally this year, pre-judging participants who are taking an animal project will be expected to complete at least one component of Skillathon (i.e. body parts, DUNF form, etc.).

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**Great Minds Think Fit**

People who work together will win, whether it be against complex football defenses, or the problems of modern society.

~ Vince Lombardi

(1913-1970, former American football coach)
**4-H Guidelines**

The 4-H age guidelines are as follows: Any child currently in third grade and who is at least 8 years old before January 1, 2016 may be a 4-H member. Anyone who became 19 years of age before January 1, 2016 is no longer eligible to be a 4-H member, but is encouraged to become a 4-H volunteer. Cloverbud membership is open to youth in Kindergarten and at least 5 years old through second grade (as of January 1, 2016). 4-H participation in two counties is prohibited.

**4-H Membership Across County Lines**

Reminder: If your club has members that do not live in Holmes County (permanent/primary address), they must complete a Request for 4-H Membership Across County Lines form. This form can be found on our website (holmes.osu.edu) or picked up at the OSU Extension Office. Youth may only participate/exhibit as a 4-H member in one county.

The form only needs to be submitted once. Approval must be given by the Extension Educators in both the county of residence and county of request. After approval, the Across County Lines membership may continue until the youth ages out of 4-H. However, if there is no support for OSU Extension/4-H in the county of residence, then the Across County Lines Membership will terminate at the end of the current 4-H year.

**Enrollment Forms**

**PROVIDE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS YOU CAN AND WRITE CLEARLY!**

Enrollment forms are the one time each year that we collect information about members and advisors. Everyone will start from a blank form. There is an enrollment form for 4-H Members/ Cloverbuds and a separate enrollment form for Volunteers. Please print clearly and complete as much of the information as possible - especially telephone numbers and email addresses!

**PLEASE NOTE THAT NO ONE WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY RE-ENROLLED AS A MEMBER OR RENEWED AS A VOLUNTEER THIS YEAR. EVERYONE MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT AN ENROLLMENT FORM!**

Please pay special attention to these areas:

- New member or re-enrolling member
- T-shirt size
- Hispanic or non-Hispanic
- Race
- Residence (almost all should answer Farm or Town less than 10,000
- Photo Release

**Permission to Photograph**

Almost hidden on the back side of 4-H Member/Cloverbud and Volunteer enrollment forms is a little section asking about permission to photograph or video record your image. If this section is not completed, publicity about this child’s participation can not be used by Ohio State University Extension.

Ohio State University Extension would like to share the positive results of youth participation in Extension and 4-H Youth Development events. However, in some cases, parents or guardians may prefer not to permit such publicity.

*(Please select one) □ I GIVE □ I DO NOT GIVE the Ohio State University permission to publish in print, electronic, or video formats the likeness or image of my child. I release all claims against the University with respect to copyright ownership and publication including any claim for compensation related to use of the materials.*

Make sure you have answered this question on your enrollment form.

**Dress Code for Project Evaluations**

It’s never too early to start thinking about 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 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.
- 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.

**TSC Paper Clover Campaign**

It’s almost here! The Spring 2016 TSC Paper Clover Campaign will be April 13 – 24. As always, please encourage your friends, family and colleagues to stop in at TSC and purchase a Paper Clover.

Remember that 60% of the donations from our Millersburg store will be donated to the Holmes County 4-H program.

Here are some things your club could do to promote Paper Clovers:

- Host a 4-H info table and offer to carry purchases to customer’s vehicle
- Ask shoppers to purchase a Paper Clover at the check-out
- Host a “Petting Zoo” in the parking lot
Teen Opportunities

Do you have an older youth in your club that has shown leadership potential? Nominations are due to the OSU Extension Office by March 15th.

Consider nominating them to attend:
- Leadership Camp June 5-9
- Citizenship Washington Focus June 26-July 2
- Leadership Washington Focus July 11-15

Club Officer Books

The State 4-H office no longer offers hard copy officer books. Club officer books are available for download from the holmes.osu.edu website. The online books are also available through the Ohio 4-H website www.ohio4h.org under "4-H for Youth," then "Members," "Officer Resources," and then the particular officer book.

New Project Books
**Poultry Projects - Updates/Reminders**

**Poultry Project book**
All poultry projects have been combined into one project book. The Poultry Resource Handbook will not be available in 2016.

Poultry Clinic has been scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd, 10:00 a.m. at the Baker Building

**Reminders**
- All exhibitors will be required to purchase their own birds
- May purchase from hatchery of your choice
  - Turkeys - Broad Breasted Whites
  - Broilers - Cornish Rock
  - All male chicks
- Birds will be banded at fair weigh-in
- All require pullorum free certificate from hatchery or blood test prior to fair
- Exhibitors without a valid certificate/test will be turned away at fair weigh-in

**Fancies:**
- Hatcheries may also offer many breeds of fancy poultry
- Any fancy poultry hatched this year may enter the Fancy Poultry Junior class

**Market Meat Duck**
- White Pekin Ducks
- Approximately 8 week project
- **Pen of 2, weighing 8-16 pounds (change)**
- Need pullorum free certificate/test

Poultry Projects will be taken at your own risk. There is no guarantee that a ban will not be reinstated prior to Fair 2016.

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**Penning Forms & Livestock Pictures**

**Fair Pen Forms:**
- Can be completed at [http://holmes.osu.edu/penforms](http://holmes.osu.edu/penforms)
- Forms will open 12:01 am June 1st & close 11:59 pm July 1
- A paper form **will not** be available
- Please fill out a digital form for every species you plan to bring to the fair
- Can be completed on smart phone, tablet, or computer

**Market Livestock Photos:**
- **ALL** photos must be submitted by the exhibitor or advisor
- Accepted June 15th through August 1st
- Email to [HCLivestockphotos@gmail.com](mailto:HCLivestockphotos@gmail.com)
- Save photo as FullName.Animal Example: JohnSmith.Steer
- If unable to save under new name, include information in message.
- Image should be landscape. Example:  

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**Rabbit Projects - Updates**

- Bunny Day Camp – Saturday, May 21, 1-4pm. (includes Quality Assurance), Baker Building. Topics include housing, nutrition, selection, and showmanship
- Change in Fryers: Minimum weight to check into the fair is 2.5 lbs. per animal. Any animal not meeting this requirement will be sent home
- Grand & Reserve Champion Fryers will be terminal

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**2016 Market Lamb Giveaway**

The Holmes County Sheep Committee is excited to announce a market lamb give-away for the 2016 4-H year. The lamb will be a donation from the Nate Klink Family, through the Sheep Committee in an effort to promote sheep projects for the Holmes County Fair.

The give-away is open to all 1st year sheep project participants (not just 1st year 4-Hers). To enter, applicants will submit a short essay describing themselves, how they plan to care for the project animal (including housing, feeding, showing and selling). All essays must be submitted to the OSU Extension office by Monday, March 14 at 4:30 pm. One winner will be selected and notified by the Sheep Committee.

Donations from several local businesses may also be available to help other 1st year sheep project participants. Distribution method for these donations is to be determined.

For any information related to the essay or other questions with 4-H sheep projects, please contact the following Sheep Committee member Nate Klink 330-231-6457.

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Dairy Feeders—Reminder

Continuing - Mandatory Dairy Feeder Vaccination Program. At Tag-In, all dairy feeders will be given an injection of Bovi-Shield Gold One Shot™ (covers 4 major viruses & Pasteurella) administered by East Holmes Veterinary Clinic staff member. Cost for the vaccine is $5 per animal. Animals not vaccinated will NOT be able to exhibit at the Holmes Co. Fair. PLEASE COME TO DAIRY FEEDER TAG-IN PREPARED TO PAY FOR THIS VACCINATION!

DairyPalooza 2016

April 30—Trumbull County
May 7—Auglaize County


Registration form is currently available. Schedule details will be coming soon!

Goat Information

Goat Tag-In will be May 21, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., at the Baker Building.

North East Ohio Dairy Goat Association Annual Show is June 10th & 11th at Wayne County Fairgrounds. Exhibitors are encouraged to attend to observe showmanship and learn more!

Quality Assurance

There will be 4 QA opportunities in 2016 in Holmes County. Many other opportunities exist including special clinics and events. Clubs that host a QA meeting must allow other members from outside their club to attend the QA session.

⇒ Baker Building (April 5) at 7:00 p.m.
⇒ Baker Building (April 26) at 7:00 p.m.
⇒ Winesburg Fire Station (May 5) at 7:00 p.m.
⇒ Baker Building (May 21) at 1:00 p.m. (Small Animal Focus)

The Test Out option will also be offered this year. Cost remains at $5. Members ages 12-18 may take a QA test. If they pass (70% or better), they will be exempt from QA until they reach the next division level (Intermediates 12-14, Seniors 15-18). Tests will be given by appointment only. Tests are available March 1 thru May 31, at the OSU Extension Office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30am - 5:30pm.

2016 Holmes County Beef Exhibitor Expectations

The Beef Committee will not be hosting a clinic for 2016. Instead, exhibitors are expected to participate in one of the Beef Shows in the surrounding area.

- Buckeye Classic, April 3rd, at Ashland County Fairgrounds
- Wooster Spring Spectacular, April 10th, Wayne County Fairgrounds

If an exhibitor is not able to attend either of these shows, they are to notify the Beef Committee. Please contact the Beef Committee with questions or more information.

2016 Dog Projects—NEW

2016 Dog Workshops hosted by Western Holmes Co. 4-H Club

- Workshops every Monday evening from April 18—June 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Rabbit Facility at the Old Fairgrounds
- Final judging Saturday, June 25th at 10:00 a.m. in the Rabbit Facility at the Old Fairgrounds
- Youth can remain in home clubs, but participate in the workshops and judging to complete their Obedience Training for the project
- For more information call Melissa Boughman at 330-763-4900
Continuing Education Requirements for Volunteers

Starting in 2014, Holmes County instituted an annual volunteer continuing education requirement. 4-H is all about learning and we want to encourage our volunteers to continue lifelong learning as well. Simply put, each volunteer will be required to complete at least one (1) continuing education event each calendar year. Failure to fulfill this requirement by December 31 of the current year will be seen as resignation of your volunteer status.

The Ohio State University Board of Trustees recently approved significant changes to the University’s Youth Protection Policies (also known as OSU Policy 1.50). Since OSU Extension and the Ohio 4-H Youth Development program are part of The Ohio State University, 4-H staff and volunteers are subject to the University’s policies and must comply. One of the requirements established by the board of trustees is that all OSU volunteers must attend annual training on Recognizing and Reporting the Signs of Child Abuse and Neglect. Attending Child Abuse Prevention Training will count as your Continuing Education Requirement for Volunteers.

All 4-H advisors, volunteers, and committee members must attend one of these trainings to be eligible to continue as a 4-H advisor, volunteer, or committee member in 2016. Two training sessions were offered in February, and there is one remaining session this year.

- March 22, 7-8 pm, OSUE Meeting Room

(Please note that this meeting room is accessible by stairs only. If you require other accommodations, we will do our best)

Tax Exempt Update

Just a reminder - All chartered 4-H clubs and duly authorized eligible & qualified 4-H affiliated organizations must file the appropriate 990 tax form on time. 990-N (e-Postcard) filing must be made by May 15, 2016 for the Tax year of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. Filing the 990 or 990-EZ or 990-N (e-Postcard) is the club’s responsibility and the Extension Office staff cannot provide professional tax advice about filing the tax forms.

A PowerPoint tutorial to assist volunteers with reporting their 4-H club/affiliate 990 e-Postcard. It has been posted to: http://www.ohio4h.org/volunteers/volunteers/club-leaders/finances

Cloverbud Connections Newsletter

For all Cloverbud volunteers (and parents of Cloverbuds), check out the latest issue of the Cloverbud Connections Newsletter at www.go.osu.edu/cbc. This issue’s theme is Cloverbuds Building Relationships.

Also, don’t forget about our Click it, Print it, Do it! Webpage where you can find over 30 different activities that are ready to go for your next Cloverbud meeting: www.go.osu.edu/click.

Community Service Grants from CSB

Clubs that are interested in getting a mini grant to fund a community service project they are planning to do must submit their application by June 1 to the Extension office. Applications are available on our website. A report of the service project & receipts of the costs are to be submitted to CSB by September 1.

Food Safety Policy

Is your 4-H club involved in a food event? Do club advisors/parents/members ever prepare and/or serve food to others for sale or donation? According to the OSU Extension Food Preparation/Service, if you answered yes, you need to attend the Food Safety Training. This training is available as an on-line course or in-person for groups of 5 or more. Please call the OSU Extension Office for more information.

Exceptions to this policy are carry-in, covered dish, or pot-luck dinners. If your club is involved in these types of food events, it is suggested that you distribute the USDA Cooking for Groups fact sheet to encourage safe food handling. You can contact the OSU Extension office for this fact sheet or download it from http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/a424bdb3-e128-4135-afcc-

Reminder - 4-H Project Book Order Process

In an effort to keep costs down, we have reduced the book inventory we keep on hand. What does this mean to you? We will place book orders on Mondays. Typically, it will take 1-2 weeks to receive the books, if they are in stock. When your club’s book order is ready to be picked up, we will contact the Organizational Advisor. Project books will NOT be given out to individual families/members.
Save the date! Our Knolmes (Knox/Holmes) Co. 4-H camp will be June 6-10 at 4-H Camp Ohio. Details will be sent out in May.

Other Camping Opportunities

Does your 4-Her love to do go to camp? There are LOTS of cool camping opportunities through 4-H! Call the OSU Extension Office for more details.

**Teen Camp @ Kelleys Island**
June 8-9 Overnight camp for teens ages 15 to 18 looking to develop leadership skills.

**Sea Camp**
July 9-13 @ Kelly’s Island
“Get your feet wet” as you learn about one of Ohio’s most important resources: Lake Erie! You’ll be in, on, and around the water as you explore the science of the lake, learn marine-related skills, and discover the history and recreational uses of our great lake.

**Space Camp**
June 14-16 @ Marietta College
Build and fly a hot air balloon; Test some laws of physics; Try your skills at landing on the moon; Experiment with the principles of flight. Check out [http://spaceadventurecamp.cfaes.ohio-state.edu](http://spaceadventurecamp.cfaes.ohio-state.edu)

**Shooting Sports Camps**
Shooting Sports Camp @ Camp Peidmont - June 5-6
[www.go.osu.edu/sscamp](http://www.go.osu.edu/sscamp)

**Ohio: Operation Military Kids @ Kelleys Island**
August 10-14 for kids with family in military service
Check out [http://www.ohio4h.org/omk](http://www.ohio4h.org/omk)

In June 2016, Holmes County 4-H will be taking older youth to Dublin & London.

In 2017, Coshocton County & Wayne County are planning to join the adventure. Look for updates in the coming months regarding the 2017 destination!

2016 Youth Poultry Clinic

Saturday, April 2, Fisher Auditorium, OARDC Campus, Wooster.

Event is open to anyone interested in small flocks and 4-H. Program schedule was not yet available when this was written.

**Registration due by March 21. Cost $18, includes lunch. Go to [http://go.osu.edu/yh9](http://go.osu.edu/yh9) for more info.**

OSU Junior Swine Day

Saturday, March 19, ATI, Wooster

Topics to be covered include:
- Youth PQA Plus Certification
- Live Animal Evaluation
- Carcass Evaluation
- Swine Health & Biosecurity
- Swine Health & Biosecurity
- Nutrition & Weight Management for Show Pigs
- Preparing for Show Day & Swine Showmanship

**Registration due by March 11. Cost is $10.**
Go to [holmes.osu.edu](http://holmes.osu.edu) to download a brochure.
Dates to Remember!

March
3/1-5/31—Quality Assurance Test Out Dates
3/8-3/14—Ohio 4-H Week
3/14—Lamb Give-away essays due
3/15 Nominations for CWF, LWF, & Leadership Camp due
3/19—OSU Junior Swine Day @ ATI, Wooster
3/22—Child Abuse Prevention Training for 4-H Volunteers

April
4/1—4-H Enrollment Due for Honor Club Points
4/2—Poultry Clinic @ OARDC, Wooster
4/3 Buckeye Classic Beef Show @ Ashland County Fairgrounds
4/5—Quality Assurance @ Baker Building
4/10 Beef Wooster Spring Spectacular @ Wayne County Fairgrounds
4/13-4/24—TSC Spring Paper Clover Campaign
4/15—4-H ENROLLMENT DUE TODAY
4/26—Quality Assurance @ Baker Building
4/28—Deadline to register for Cloverbud Day Camp (5p.m.)
4/30—Dairy Palooza, Trumbull County

August 8-13, 2016—Holmes County Fair at Harvest Ridge