Dear 4-H Families and Volunteers,

The 2016 Volunteer Appreciation Banquet theme was “Thankful for the Harvest” and it is very evident that we have so much to be thankful for as we reflect on another successful 4-H year. We have truly amazing youth and adults in our community who are consistently striving to make the Holmes County 4-H program even better. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication.

As the winter months approach, and you seek things to do, keep in mind that youth may want to get a head start on their 2017 LifeSkill projects. We have at least one copy of every book available in our office if youth would like to stop in and view a project before committing to it. The summer months can get a little hectic, so why not get a head start!

The 4-H Volunteer Standards of Behavior is a Volunteer’s pledge to:

• Serve as a positive mentor and role model by exhibiting good sportsmanship, showing respect and being courteous.
• Promote and support Extension 4-H programs.
• Responsibly perform duties including handling animals, operating machinery, vehicles and other equipment to safeguard the well-being of all 4-H members.
• Uphold the rules, policies and guidelines established by the Ohio State Extension 4-H Youth Development Program
• Provide safe and healthy programs for all club members.
• Supervise members using positive behavior management strategies in a group setting, never intentionally being one-on-one with any 4-H member.

A Volunteer’s signature on this agreement means they commit to the Ohio State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program and the guidelines and policies established. Probation, suspension and/or termination with the Ohio State University Extension Program may result, if a Volunteer violates the Standards of Behavior. Violations to this policy may be reported to 4-H Educator, Hallie Rutt, in writing.

The Standards of Behavior is to be signed each year by volunteers on their most recent enrollment form. This form allows us to collect accurate data as well as enables us to make sure you are included in all the latest mailings and updates.

Like Us On Facebook
Stay up to date with all the latest news & reminders at https://www.facebook.com/HolmesCo4H

What Are the 4-H Volunteer Standards of Behavior & Why Is Volunteer Enrollment Important?

Just like coaches sign a contract, all 4-H Volunteers must read, agree to, sign and abide by a contractual agreement during their tenure as a 4-H club advisor or Livestock Committee Member. We refer to this as the 4-H Volunteer Standards of Behavior.

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The Ohio State University, The United States Department of Agriculture, and the Holmes County Commissioners Cooperating
Apply Now: New Volunteers!

Do you know of any parents or community members who may be interested in becoming 4-H Club or Livestock Committee volunteers?

Please let us know! Now is the time to get them through the volunteer screening process so they can be ready for the 2017 4-H season.

The following must be completed to become a 4-H Volunteer:
- Submit completed application
- References returned
- Complete a background check
- Attend Interview/New Volunteer Orientation

Be A Role Model: Camp Counselors!

Are you interested in being a counselor for 4-H Junior Camp next summer? If so, you will need to complete a Camp Counselor Application and submit 2 reference forms. Both documents can be found at http://holmes.osu.edu/KnolmesCamp. Applications will be due October 26th.

- Youth must be enrolled in 4-H, and be at least 14 as of January 1st, 2017 to serve as a counselor.

Larry Hall (OSUE Knox Co. 4-H Educator) and Hallie Rutt will offer Camp Counselor training sessions in both Holmes & Knox Counties. Contact Hallie or Larry with questions & for more training opportunities.

Be A Leader: Junior Fair Board Members!

The Junior Fair Board (JFB) helps conduct the Junior Fair activities of the Holmes County Fair. Members serve as Jr. Fair Superintendents and assist the Sr. Fair Superintendents and Livestock Committees.

The JFB is designed for youth who have proven leadership abilities and are willing to take on major responsibilities including:
* Lead Jr. Fair activities, shows, and events.
* Assist in getting the fairgrounds ready for shows and events.
* Assist judges and ring officials with show ring responsibilities during the fair.
* Attend all regular meetings, special meetings, and special events of the Jr. Fairboard and Livestock Committees.

Who can be a Junior Fair Board member?
- Members of 4-H, FFA, FCCLA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Farm Bureau and Ohio Grange.
- Members must be in 8 - 12 grade as of January 1 of current year.
- The JFB is guided by Senior Fair Board Representatives and an OSU Extension staff member.

How do I get Involved?
- Complete and submit the Junior Fair Board Application by October 26th and interview process in the following weeks
- Applications have been emailed to families, and are also available in the OSUE Office and at http://holmes.osu.edu/HCJFB
- Need more information? Call the OSU Extension Office 330-674-3015.

Steer Weigh-In

Members planning to exhibit a Beef Steer or Dairy Steer at the 2017 Holmes County Fair must have their steer weighed and tagged on December 17 at Harvest Ridge. Each member may weigh in two steers, but may only show one at the Holmes County Fair. A member’s name must be given with each animal at weigh-in. One steer may serve as a “back up” for two or more siblings, but the steer will be put in one family member’s name. For your safety and those helping with the weigh-in, it is extremely important that all calves be halter broke at the time of weigh-in.

If you know of a new member or someone who did not take a steer project last year who wishes to take a steer project in 2017, please tell them about weigh-in and have them contact the OSU Extension Office at 330-674-3015.
2016 Volunteer Recognition Banquet

On Thursday, September 29th we celebrated the hard work and dedication of our volunteers at the annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet. The theme for this year’s banquet, which was planned by 4-H Committee and sponsored by the Senior Fair Board, was “Thankful for the Harvest.”

Honor Club Recipients: Buckeye, Green Acres, Doughty Valley, OH-4H, Nashville Jolly Farmers, Holmes County 4-H Shooting Sports, and Prairie Partners.

Secretary Award: Hailey Schlegel, Prairie Partners

Treasurer Award: Moranne Balder, Doughty Valley

2016 Friend of 4-H: Paul Weaver

2016 Partner of 4-H: Kerry Taylor & Millersburg Electric

2016 4-H Alumni Award: Lisa Lang

2016 Jr. Fair Board Outstanding Member: Alyx Morris, Udder Ends 4-H Club

The OSU Extension Staff would like to thank each of our 4-H volunteers, the 4-H Committee, and the Senior and Junior Fair Boards for all their help and continued support to make the past year a success.

Get A Head Start On Your Life Skill Projects!

Looking for something to do over the dreary winter months? Getting a head-start on your Life Skill projects might be a great option for you!


We have a Master Copy of each 4-H project book available in our office. If you would like to review a book before committing to the project, just let us know!

Contact The Ohio State University Extension, Holmes County at 330-674-3015 with any questions.

Herdsmen Awards

To encourage keeping the animals’ pens clean, making an attractive exhibit, maintaining orderliness of equipment, and treating the animals properly at the Holmes County Fair, 4-H and FFA clubs have the chance to do their best and be recognized daily with the Herdsman Banner. Every day a judge goes through the barns at different times to check on the condition of the pens and animals and chooses one large club that has 6 or more exhibits and one small club that has less than 6 exhibits for the honor of hanging the Herdsman Banner by their pens.


Ohio 4-H Conference 2017

The Ohio 4-H Conference will be at the Greater Columbus Convention Center on March 11, 2017. There are tracks designed for Adult Volunteers and Teen Leaders.

The 4-H Committee will once again offer scholarships for 4-H volunteers and teens to attend. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us at this great event!

Reminder for volunteers: You must obtain at least 1 Continuing Education Unit (CEU) per year and this event will meet the requirement.
Dates to Remember!
(All Are Subject to Change)

October 26 – Jr. Fair Board Applications Due
October 26 — Camp Counselor Applications Due
December 17 – Steer Weigh-in
January 7 – Junior Fair Board Convention
February 4 – 4-H Kick-Off
March 11 – 4-H Volunteer & Teen Conference
June 5-9 – 4-H Camp
July 13 - 4-H Life Skills & Foods and Nutrition Project Evaluations
July 20 - 4-H/FFA Livestock Project Evaluations and Skill-a-thon
July 26-Aug 6 – Ohio State Fair
Aug 7-12 – Holmes County Fair