Dear 4-H Families and Volunteers,

We are on the horizon of another 4-H year! This year, the theme for Kick-Off was “4-H Volunteers Light the Way!” Each year, volunteers step into various roles to inspire, mentor, and empower youth through the 4-H program. At this year’s event, we placed special emphasis on training and resources available to volunteers and also welcomed Miranda McCullough from Connections—Holmes County Juvenile Mentoring Program, to discuss successful approaches for adults to mentor youth. As parents and volunteers, we set the standard for acceptable behavior, and young eyes are always watching and learning. Continue serving as excellent role models for the Holmes County youth! Thank you for all that you do to provide a positive experience.

Let’s have a great year!

Hallie

Evaluation Dates—New Updates!

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 Evaluation (including Food & Nutrition Projects):** Tuesday, July 18, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at West Holmes High School (by appointment only using GenBook website. More information to come).
- Livestock Evaluation & Skillathon: Thursday, July 20, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at West Holmes High School (no appointment necessary).

Members who are unable to attend the County Project Evaluations (above) will need to schedule an appointment on one of the 2 pre-judging events offered.

- Pre-judging Day 1, all projects – July 10, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Harvest Ridge
- Pre-judging Day 2, all projects – July 13, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Harvest Ridge

4-H members planning to attend pre-judging will now be asked to schedule an appointment for project evaluation using the program GenBook. More information to come. 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.*

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.).

LifeSkill Projects—New Judging Format!

As mentioned above, LifeSkill projects (and/or) pre judging participants will now be asked to schedule an appointment for project evaluation using the program GenBook. More information will be distributed to youth taking these projects in the coming months.

The objectives of this new design:

- Minimize wait time of exhibitors for project evaluation.
- Provide a higher quality interaction between judge and youth.
- Improve communication of projects which are dropped prior to evaluation events.
**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, 2017 may be a 4-H member. Anyone who became 19 years of age before January 1, 2017 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, 2017).

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. ALL YOUTH MEMBERS AND ADULT VOLUNTEERS MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT AN ENROLLMENT FORM EACH YEAR!

Please print clearly and complete as much of the information as possible - especially telephone numbers and email addresses!

- There is an enrollment form for 4-H Members/ Cloverbuds and a separate enrollment form for Adult Volunteers.
- New members will complete a new (blank) enrollment form.
- Previous members will receive a re-enrollment form with information from the previous active year. Review the existing information and clearly print any changes/updates needed on re-enrollment forms.

Please pay special attention to these areas:

- 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 enrollment form 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.
- No hats worn during judging. Hats that are part of an ensemble or costume should be removed when speaking with judges.
- No flip-flops.

**Camping Spots for Fair 2017**

Individuals who had a camping spot at the 2016 Holmes County Fair at Harvest Ridge have been emailed contracts for 2017. Contracts and payments are due by April 30. Any contracts and payments not returned by this date may be subject to forfeiture of camping space.

Any available or additional camping sites will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. If you or someone you know is interested in a space, please email holmescountyfair@gmail.com or call 330-674-0869 to be added to the list.

Available spots are not anticipated to last long.
Teen Opportunities

Do you have an older youth in your club that has shown leadership potential? We are now accepting applications for CWF, LWF, and Leadership Camp! Applications are available online and at the extension office. They are due to the OSU Extension Office by March 15.

Consider encouraging teens to apply:
- 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.

Check Out the Ohio 4-H Project Central Website

Have you or any of the youth in your club ever wanted to preview a project book before deciding if it would be a good project to take? Well now you can do just that!

Anyone can preview the 4-H project books offered by Ohio 4-H. You can also rate projects you’ve taken in the past to let other youth and advisors know how well you liked the project and to provide feedback to Ohio State University Extension professionals who will consider your feedback in future revisions and updates to project books.

Project Central allows users to browse projects by skill level, topic area, and to search by keyword.

To access Ohio 4-H Project Central go to projectcentral.ohio4h.org. Project Central also allows you to share your project ratings and comments with your friends on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest!

New Project Books

Honor Club 2017

Are parents/adults invited to club meetings? Do the advisors provide a calendar/schedule for your club which is given to members? Do a majority of your club members give a demonstration or speech?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, your club is on its way to achieving Honor Club status. To be named to Honor Club, clubs must obtain 95 of a possible 115 points. All clubs who reach this accomplishment with receive a $25.00 premium, be honored and recognized at the fair, and will be designated in the next year’s club brochure.

The 2017 Holmes County Honor Club Award Sheet can be found at: http://holmes.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/club-information/club-forms and is due by September 1.
## Poultry Projects - Updates/Reminders

### Poultry Project book
The Poultry Resource Handbook will not be available again this year. In anticipation of this, the Poultry Committee has been working to create a handout that will provide educational resources for Poultry exhibitors. It is the objective of the committee for this resource to be provided when record books are distributed.

### Poultry Clinic
has been scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 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

### Poultry Updates & Changes for 2017:
- **Commercial Poultry Class** (project 150 CEP) is 2 pullets of same breed or variety to be judged on their value as egg producers.
- **Fancy Poultry Class** (project 150 CE) is 1 male and 1 female per division to be judged on their appearance, fitness, and overall presentation of breed standard.
- **Fancy Ducks & Geese** (project 150 DE or 150 GE) are 1 male and 1 female per division.
- Turkeys weighing less than 18 pounds will be sent home.
- Broiler exhibit must weigh no less than 12 pounds and no more than 24 pounds per pen. All pens weighing between 10—12 pounds will show in an underweight class and sell last. Pens weighing less than 10 pounds will be sent home.
- All ducks must be hatched between June 18 — June 27
- There will be a penalty for not providing feed and water sufficient to last until birds are sent to processor on Sunday afternoon.

Poultry Projects will be taken at your own risk. There is no guarantee that a ban will not be reinstated prior to Fair 2017.

## 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 1 & 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 15 through August 1
- 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: 

## Rabbit Projects - Updates

### Bunny Day Camp – Sunday, May 21, 1:30 to 4pm.
(includes Quality Assurance 1:30 to 2:30), Baker Building. Topics include housing, nutrition, selection, and showmanship.
- Age limit for fryers is 10 weeks. Does must not be bred earlier than 100 days before the show.
- Tattooing will be held for market animals July 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., and for breeding animals from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.
- Weight requirements for fryers will be 3.5 lbs.—5.5 lbs. per animal. Animals weighing 2.5 lbs.—3.49 lbs. and over 5.5 lbs. will exhibit in an over/under class. This aligns with ARBA standards.
- Participation in the single fryer class must be selected on the Pen Form in order to participate at the fair.
- All cages must have wire bottoms unless given written permission by the Rabbit Committee.

## 2017 Market Lamb Giveaway

The Holmes County Sheep Committee is excited to announce a market lamb give-away for the 2017 4-H year. The lamb will be a donation 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 Tuesday, March 21 at 5:00 pm. One winner will be selected and notified by the Sheep Committee. 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.
**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!

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**Goat Information**

Goat Tag-In will be May 20, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., at the Baker Building.

Goat Committee will be hosting a Showmanship Clinic July 11 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Harvest Ridge.

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

The Ohio Pygmy Goat Association will be hosting an NPGA show May 20-21, 2017. They will be hosting a Showmanship Clinic at 9am on Saturday, May 20.

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**Dairy Auction & Check Distributions— Updates!**

The Dairy Auction will be held at 4:00 p.m. Friday, August 12. Forty items will be sold.

Auction proceed distribution will be based on a points system based on:
- Showmanship
- Skillathon/Book judging
- Taking multiple animals
- Handing in two buyer thank you cards
- Attending the Holmes County Dairy Clinic June 15, 6:30pm, Harvest Ridge

Lactating dairy cows will be permitted to leave the grounds between 12:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. late Friday night/ early Saturday morning.

Please refer to the 2017 Fair Book for additional point updates!

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**Quality Assurance**

There will be 5 QA opportunities in 2017 in Holmes County. Many other opportunities exist including special clinics and events.

- Baker Building (March 11) at 1:00 p.m. (Sheep Clinic)
- Baker Building (March 14) at 7:00 p.m.
- Baker Building (April 18) at 7:00 p.m.
- Winesburg Fire Station (May 4) at 6:00 p.m.
- Baker Building (May 21) at 1:30 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 by appointment only.

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**DairyPalooza 2017**

April 22 — Wayne County
April 29 — Auglaize County


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

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**2017 Dog Projects – NEW**

Melissa Boughman will be coordinating, planning, and implementing all Holmes County Dog Program activities. She can be reached by phone at (330) 763-4900 or by email at nashville616b@yahoo.com. Melissa recently attended the Ohio 4-H Dog Judges Seminar and is now trained to instruct and judge obedience, showmanship, and rally at 4-H and junior fair dog shows throughout Ohio. This program is open to all Holmes County youth enrolled in a Dog project, regardless of their home club!

- Workshops every Monday evening from April 17 - June 12 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Baker Building
- Dog Clinic April 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Baker Building
- Holmes County Dog Show, Saturday, June 24 at 10:00 a.m. in the Baker Building
2017 Volunteer Status—Attention!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who attended Kick-Off, 72 volunteers to be exact! Attending Kick-Off assists our office in providing the most up to date information available while also allowing us to connect with you to determine advisor needs. We enjoy being able to spend that time with you.

As mentioned at Kick-Off, we will be following guidelines to update our active volunteer roster. The following steps need to be completed by April 15 in order to be considered an ACTIVE volunteer for 2017.

- Complete Annual Policy 1.50 Child Abuse Prevention Training (in-person or online completion accepted).
- Complete and submit a 4-H Volunteer Enrollment Form for 2017.
- Complete Fingerprinting (if due for 2017). Notification letters were mailed late 2016 if due for 2017. But, if you want to check your status, call (330) 674-3015. Submit the original receipt and signed BCI Procedure Form to the OSUE office for reimbursement.

New volunteers will also need to complete the following in addition to the above mentioned items:
- Submit a completed new volunteer application (2 references must be received).
- Attend New Volunteer Orientation & Group Interview

Failure to meet the above mentioned requirements will result in termination of volunteer status. There will be no exceptions.

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. The state 4-H office has requested Extension staff file the 990-N on behalf of all of our clubs and affiliates this year. 990-N (e-Postcard) filing must be made by May 15, 2017 for the tax year of January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. Some clubs may be asked to apply for a new EIN number, which we will be happy to assist. Please wait until further notice. The State 4-H office plans a state wide appeal to reinstate auto-revoked clubs and affiliates.

Note: There is no need to file a 990N for any club or affiliate auto-revoked last year that has applied for and received a new EIN#.

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.

Reminder - 4-H Project Book Order Process

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. Resource books can be purchased individually, but sales tax will apply.

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 Policy, if you answered yes, you need to attend Food Safety Training. This training is available as an online 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-affc.
Knolmes Co. 4-H Camp

Save the date! Our Knolmes (Knox/Holmes) Co. 4-H camp will be June 5 - 9 at 4-H Camp Ohio. Details will be sent out in April.

Brochure available online: http://holmes.osu.edu/KnolmesCamp

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.

Sea Camp
July 8-12 @ 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 20-22 @ 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

Shooting Sports Camps
Shooting Sports Camp @ Camp Peidmont - June 10-12
www.go.osu.edu/sscamp

Ohio: Operation Military Kids @ Kelleys Island
August 7-11 for kids with family in military service
Check out http://www.ohio4h.org/omk

2017 Youth Poultry Clinic

Saturday, March 25, 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 17. Cost $20, includes lunch. Go to http://go.osu.edu/yh9 for more info.

OSU Junior Swine Day

Saturday, March 25, ATI, Wooster

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

Registration due by March 19. Cost is $10. Go to http://holmes.osu.edu/events/osu-junior-swine-day to download a brochure.

2017 & 2018 4-H Values Oversees!

A trip has not been planned for summer 2017.

We are exploring possible destinations for the 2018 trip. The top 2 destinations being considered are Puerto Rico and Hawaii. An informational meeting will be held once a trip has been selected.
Dates to Remember!

March
3/1-5/31 — Quality Assurance Test Out Dates
3/5-3/11 — Ohio 4-H Week
3/11 — Market Lamb Clinic & Quality Assurance
3/14 — Quality Assurance, 7:00 p.m. @ Baker Building
3/15 — Applications for CWF, LWF, & Leadership Camp due
3/21 — Lamb Give-Away essays due
3/21 — Holmes County 4-H Advisory Committee Meeting
3/25 — OSU Junior Swine Day @ ATI, Wooster
3/25 — Bi-State Poultry Clinic @ OARDC, Wooster

April
4/1 — 4-H Enrollment Due for Honor Club Points
4/8 — Dog Clinic, 10:00 a.m. @ Baker Building
4/15 — 4-H ENROLLMENT DUE TODAY
4/18 — County Club Officer Training, 5:30 p.m. @ Baker Building
4/18 — Quality Assurance @ Baker Building
4/22 — DairyPalooza, Wayne County
4/28 — Deadline to register for Cloverbud Day Camp (5:00 p.m.)
4/29 — Dairy Palooza, Auglaize County

August 7-12, 2017 — Holmes County Fair at Harvest Ridge