

eClover: Darke County 4-H News

December 22, 2017

Dear Friend in 4-H,

Reminder: the Extension Office will be closed Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26 in observance of the Christmas holiday. Enjoy your upcoming holiday celebrations with friends and family!

This will be the last eClover for 2017. Due to the holiday week, no edition will be posted on Friday, December 29. eClover will return on Friday, January 5, 2018.

Hands Across the Darke will hold their first meeting of 2018 on Tuesday, January 2, 7pm, Extension Office. All youth in grades 5-12 are invited to attend. We will be planning our events for the coming year. Join us!

This week's edition is long and contains lots of information. Please read it carefully.

1. **Support us when you shop online.** Go to smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1056844 and Amazon donates to Darke County 4-H Committee.
2. **2018 Darke County 4-H Youth Development Calendar:** now available online https://darke.osu.edu/sites/darke/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/2018%20calendar_0.pdf
3. **Volunteer Rescreening:** If you received a letter in September telling you it is time for your fingerprint rescreening, you have until December 31, 2017 to complete this task. The State 4-H Office is not extending the deadline this year. If you completed your fingerprint screening and would like to be reimbursed, please turn the necessary paperwork into our office.
4. **Second Annual Clover Confidence BFFs:** Save the date – Friday, February 9. Registration information coming soon! <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2018-clover-confidence-building-fearless-females-bffs>
5. **Cloverbud Fun Day – Date Change!** Cloverbud Fun Day is being scheduled for June 28 instead of the July date on the original calendar. This year's fun day will be held at Chenoweth Trails, Greenville. Registration information will be available in the spring.
6. **State Horse Advisor Training:** Saturday, January 28, 2018, 9:00am to 5:00pm, Ohio 4-H Center, Columbus. Agenda includes updates for the 2018 4-H Horse Program in addition to various presentations on horse management topics that will be useful to 4-H advisors, volunteers, and horse owners. Registration is due by January 15, 2018. <https://ohio4h.org/events/state-4-h-horse-advisorvolunteer-training-session>



7. **State Dog Advisor Training:** Saturday, February 3, 2018, Ohio 4-H Center, Columbus. This training is for any 4-H advisor who has one or more youth taking dog projects in his/her club, regardless of whether the club is a general project club or dog-only project club. Training includes available resources, dog projects and opportunities, positive reinforcement training techniques, promote welfare and safety of dogs, and new perspectives for club activities. Registration is due January 19, 2018. One volunteer from Darke County may attend for free. Contact Rhonda for details.
<https://ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/Advisor%20Training%20Event%20and%20Registration.pdf>
8. **Ohio 4-H Conference:** will be held Saturday, March 10, Greater Columbus Convention Center. The 4-H Committee will pay your \$35.00 registration to attend. They ask for the \$35 from you as a deposit and once you attend, your check is shredded or returned to you. Early bird registration deadline is February 8. Hard copies of the registration booklet are available from our office or you can find it online: <https://ohio4h.org/events/ohio-4-h-conference>
9. **Officer Books:** Please be sure that your club is using the correct 4-H officer books. Officer books are resources are available online: <https://ohio4h.org/families/members/officer-resources>
10. **Volunteer/Club Update Meetings:** A total of 18 update meetings are scheduled January – March, 2018. All Darke County 4-H Volunteers are required to attend one of these meetings in order to maintain their volunteer status for 2018. No additional meetings will be scheduled and there is no opportunity to go to out-of-county sessions, so please plan accordingly. Call our office to pre-register as class sizes are limited. A complete list of available days/times is posted to the web. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2018-volunteerclub-update-meetings>
11. **Quality Assurance information for 2018** has been posted to the web. Please note: in 2018 all Darke County youth must complete QA by June 1, 2018 in order to be eligible to exhibit and sell their animal. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2018-quality-assurance>
12. **Save the Date: 4-H Skating Party:** Hands Across the Darke and the 4-H Committee are sponsoring a 4-H skating party on Tuesday, March 6 at The Skate Place in Greenville. Admission will be free for all 4-H members and their families (you will be responsible for skate rental - \$2.50). Tickets for this event will be available from the Extension Office. Details coming soon, but save the date!
13. **2018 Enrollment Packets** are available. Organizational volunteers may pick these up from our office during normal business hours or by special arrangement. It's time to get ready for another year of 4-H!
14. **Upcoming Deadline: Due to our office January 19:** Secretary and Treasurer's books (mandatory), Historian and Reporter books (optional), Honor Club Scoresheet, Premier Member Applications, County Medal Forms, Ohio 4-H Achievement Records.

15. **Ohio 4-H Achievement Records:** 4-Hers who are 14 and over are invited to apply for statewide recognition for outstanding 4-H project work. This form should also be completed if Darke County teens are interested in being selected to represent Darke County at statewide camps and events. <https://ohio4h.org/awardsandscholarships>
16. **Ohio 4-H Night with the Dayton Dragons:** Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 19 and join us at Fifth/Third Field. https://darke.osu.edu/sites/darke/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/2018%20Dayton%20Dragons.pdf
17. **2018 Family 4-H Family Guides:** hard copies are available from our office or you may download online: <https://ohio4h.org/books-and-resources/family-guide>
18. **Joann Fabrics Reward Card:** JOANN Fabrics has partnered with the National 4-H Council to bring more hands-on 4-H programs to youth. Current members, parents and volunteers can sign-up for the JOANN 4-H Rewards Card and receive 15% off total in-store and online purchases. JOANN will give a minimum of 2.5% of every eligible transaction to support 4-H programs. Find the details at <http://www.joann.com/4-h/>
19. **Hands Across the Darke's New Community Service Project:** Now through February we will be collecting the following supplies to donate to Rustic Hope: Shampoo/conditioner, small containers of laundry detergent (most carry it to the laundromat), dish soap, bathroom supplies (all), throw blankets, diapers, and baby wipes. If you would like to help with this collection feel free to drop these things off at the Extension Office.
20. **Trash Bash: April 21 and 22, 2018:** Registration forms are available on the web: <http://co.darke.oh.us/solidwaste/>
21. **New 4-H Volunteer Applications:** Available from our office or via the web <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2018-4-h-volunteer-application>
Applications must be submitted by 4:30pm, March 1, 2018.
22. **County Medal Forms:** Available from our office or on the web site: <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/darke-county-4-h-county-medal-application> All 4-H members enrolled in projects are invited to apply in order to be recognized for outstanding project work. Recipients will be recognized during our Spring Kick-Off in March. Completed forms are due to the Extension Office by 4:30pm on Friday, January 19, 2018.
23. **Premier Member Award:** Remind your 4-H club members to complete the application to be a Premier 4-H Member. Applications are due January 19, 2018. Recipients will be recognized during our spring kick-off in March. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/premier-4-h-member-award>

24. **United Way:** You can designate your United Way pledge to be given to the Darke County 4-H program. Simply write “Darke County 4-H” on the donation form. Thank you for your support.

Enjoy your holiday season!

Best Wishes,

Rhonda Williams
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