

Dear Friend in 4-H,

It sounds as though this weekend's weather is being brought to us by the month of April. Enjoy it while it lasts!

A big THANK YOU to all the clubs that participated in the 4-H Open House. Attendance was low, but those that did attend were appreciative of our efforts and each left with contact information for two or three 4-H clubs.

Here's what's happening:

1. ***Southeastern Ohio Invitational Livestock Judging***: Friday, March 10 at Muskingham Livestock. See the attached flyer for details.
2. ***Little International Showmanship Contest***: Saturday, April 1 at Wilmington College. See the attached flyer for details.
3. ***MASTER 4-H PetPALS VOLUNTEER LEADER TRAINING***: February 24 is when registrations are due for the Master 4-H PetPALS Volunteer Leader Training, Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on March 4. Adult volunteers interested in leading a county 4-H PetPALS club or being a 4-H PetPALS advisor within an existing 4-H club must complete a training before permitted to advise 4-H PetPALS members. Youth cannot enroll in this project unless there is a 4-H PetPALS volunteer as the advisor. Information can be found at www.4hpetpals.osu.edu.
4. ***OHIO STATE FAIR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS***: March 1 is the Ohio State Fair Scholarship Application postmark deadline. College scholarships are offered for exhibitors showing beef cattle, dairy cattle, dairy goats, boer goats, sheep, swine, dogs, poultry, and rabbits, plus several other types of scholarships. More information and an online application is available at: <http://ohiostatefair.com/scholarships/>.
5. ***OHIO BEEF EXPO JUDGING CONTEST AND QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING***: The Beef Expo Judging Contest and QA Session will be on FRIDAY, March 17, at the Ohio Expo Center. Note – This is now held on Friday, NOT on Saturday as in the past. Information about Beef Expo can be downloaded at www.go.osu.edu/livestock from the Calendar of Events page.
6. ***OSU JUNIOR SWINE DAY***: OSU Junior Swine Day is Saturday, March 25. OSU Junior Swine Day is held in two locations on March 25 – OSU Columbus and OSU ATI Wooster, with the same sessions offered at each location. Registration is due by March 19 and is \$10.00 per person. A flyer can be downloaded at www.go.osu.edu/livestock from the Calendar of Events page.
7. ***YOUTH POULTRY CLINIC – OARDC***: A Youth Poultry Clinic will be held on Saturday, March 25, at OARDC in Wooster. Registration is \$20.00 per person and must be postmarked by Friday, March 17. There will be a statewide QA session offered at this clinic. Info can be found at www.poultry.osu.edu on the Calendar of Events page.

8. **NEW OPPORTUNITY! OSU YOUTH POULTRY WORKSHOP:** An OSU Youth Poultry Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 22 at the OSU Columbus campus Animal Sciences Building. A link to the flyer is posted at www.poultry.osu.edu on the Calendar of Events page. The cost is \$10.00 per person if postmarked by April 10, and \$20.00 per person same-day registration. Participants will learn how to evaluate and select birds for meat and eggs, how to quality grade meat carcasses and eggs, basic handling and showmanship techniques, as well as prepare for the Ohio State Fair youth poultry events – judging contest, skillathon, and avian bowl.
9. **Hands Across the Darke:** next meeting is Tuesday, March 14, 7:00pm, Extension Office.
10. **Clover Confidence:BFFs:** a program designed for females in grades 5 to 8. You do not have to be a 4-H member to attend. Flyer attached.
11. **Annual Volunteer Training:** all Darke County 4-H volunteers are required to attend one of the scheduled update meetings in order to maintain their volunteer status for 2017. Refer to the web site: <http://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-volunteerclub-update> for the days/times. You must pre-register to attend so that in the event of inclement weather, I know who to contact. Also, if no one signs up for a particular session, then I'm not there. Please do not assume that you can just "show-up". Included in the update is the mandatory Policy 1.50 training.
12. **Spring Kick Off and Recognition:** Sunday, March 5, 2:00pm, All Seasons Place. Each club is asked to provide one or two non-perishable items for door prizes. Door prizes may be dropped off at our office or brought the day of the event (preferred).
13. **Project #507 Robotics:** If you have a 4-H member interested in this project, but they do not have the funds to purchase the robot, remember that we have two kits available for loan from our office. Contact our office for a copy of the rental use application. Completed applications must be submitted to our office by March 15.
14. **Turkey Orders:** Cooper Farms is once again offering turkey poults to interested 4-H and FFA youth. Orders must be turned in to my office by Friday, March 3. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Letters with complete information have been sent to every club.
15. **e990 postcards:** as of last year, 4-H clubs no longer need to file their own e990 postcards.

Ohio Show Feed Camp: Attached is a flyer for this camp to be held Saturday, March 11. Endorsement of these products by Darke County 4-H, Ohio 4-H, or The Ohio State University is neither intended nor implied. Flyer provided for informational purposes only.