

Dear Friend in 4-H,

If you listen to WTGR, keep your ears open starting on Monday of next week for news spots advertising our 4-H Open House on February 18, 6:30pm-8:00pm at All Seasons Place, 5256 Sebring Warner Road, Greenville.

Here's what's happening:

1. **4-H Open House:** the following clubs have let me know that they plan to participate: Pets 'N Partners, Fun Bunch, DC Rabbit Raisers, Canine Capers, Genesis, Shooting Sports, DC Beef, Doggone Kids, Silver Hoofs, This N That, Ansonia Animal, Greenville Rangers, Tailwaggers, DC Holstein, Blue Angels and Versailles Busy Beavers. If your club plans to participate but is not on this list, please let me know by Wednesday, February 8.
2. **Midwest Elite Showpig Sale:** see the attached flyer for details. Endorsement of this sale by Darke County 4-H, Ohio 4-H, or The Ohio State University is neither intended nor implied. Flyer provided for informational purposes only.
3. **Homestead Feed & Supply Project Rally:** see the attached flyer for details. Endorsement of Homestead Feed & Supply by Darke County 4-H, Ohio 4-H, or The Ohio State University is neither intended nor implied. Flyer provided for informational purposes only. The QA provided at this program will be accepted by Darke County, providing proof of attendance is submitted to our office.
4. **2017 Welding Workshop:** will take place on OSU Campus April 15. This is a great opportunity for youth to learn from some of the best welding professionals in the industry. Space is limited. See the flyer for details.
5. **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.
6. **e990 postcards:** as of last year, 4-H clubs no longer need to file their own e990 postcards. I will do that for you. This helps me to know immediately which clubs have not been accepted and I can work to get the situation resolved. What I need from you in order to file is your Annual Financial Summary. This document is due to me by January 31. I use the information on that document to file your postcard with the IRS. Your effort to submit your financial statement in a timely manner is greatly appreciated!
7. **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.

8. **Clover Confidence: BFFs (Building Fearless Females):** a program designed for females in grades 5 to 8. You do not have to be a 4-H member to attend. Contact our office for a copy of the flyer.
9. **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).
10. **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.
11. **Trash Bash** is scheduled for April 22-23, 2017. Forms are now available and are due to Darke County Solid Waste Office by March 10. <http://co.darke.oh.us/solidwaste/Website%20-%20Solid%20Waste/2017TRASH%20BASH%20PACKET.pdf>
12. **Ohio 4-H Conference:** Registration is now available for the Ohio 4-H Conference to be held Saturday, March 11, at the Columbus Convention Center. This conference offers many amazing educational sessions, as well as the opportunity to network with 4-H volunteers and members from across the state. The Darke County 4-H Committee will pay your registration fee. They ask for a \$35.00 deposit which will be returned to you once you attend the conference. If you register and do not attend, you forfeit your \$35.00. Hard copies of the registration are available from our office or you may visit the web site: <http://www.ohio4h.org/events/ohio-4-h-conference>
13. **4-H Volunteer Applications** are now available. Anyone interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer in 2017 must complete the volunteer application process. See the web site for details. <http://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2017-4-h-volunteer-application-information> Completed applications must be submitted to our office by February 17 in order to allow enough time to complete the application process by April 1, 2017.