

Dear Friend in 4-H,

Ohio 4-H Week begins this Sunday, March 5 with our Spring Kick Off, 2pm, All Seasons Place, and ends with the Ohio 4-H Conference in Columbus on Saturday, March 11. How is your club celebrating? Attached to this email is the 2017 Darke County 4-H Week list of daily promotional activities. Share your activities with #4HDarkeCounty. On Tuesday, be sure to check out Trivia Tuesday on the Darke County 4-H Facebook page!

- 1. *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.
- 2. *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). Reminder: Please notify your Leadership and Achievement recipients that they will be recognized that day. Letters were sent to County Medal Winners and emails regarding Honor Club and Outstanding Officer books were sent to Organizational Volunteers.
- 3. *Forty-first Annual Ohio Dorset Sale:*** March 17 & 18 at the Preble County Fairgrounds. See the attached press release for details. Endorsement of this sale by Darke County 4-H, Ohio 4-H, or The Ohio State University is neither intended nor implied. Provided for informational purposes only.
- 4. *Raise Your Hand for 4-H:*** Are you a #4HGrown Alum? Raise your hand to pay it forward & help the next generation of #TrueLeaders: www.4-H.org/RaiseYourHand Raise Your Hand, it doesn't cost a thing and the State with the most Alumni this spring will get \$20,000 to use towards 4-H programming.

5. **Hands Across the Darke:** Next meeting is Tuesday, March 14, 7pm, Extension Office. Fundraiser: March 25, 10am-1pm, Extension Office – LuLaRoe Clothing. See the attached flyer. Save the Date: Saturday, May 6, 10am: Clover and Canvas session. Details coming soon!
6. **True Leaders in Service:** This April, 4-H is launching an annual True Leaders in Service initiative in honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Month. True Leaders in Service, a month-long community service activation, will officially kick-off the first day of April, and culminate with the National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 29. Find the details at <http://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/> If your 4-H club is planning to use their “hands to larger service” this spring, sign up to be part of “True Leaders in Service.” Register your club on the web site. Our very own Joyful Jets 4-H Club was the first club from Ohio to register on the site – Cool!
7. **Ohio 4-H Night at the Dayton Dragons:** Saturday, May 13. Ticket order form attached.
8. **Quality Assurance, Youth Building, Fairgrounds:** April 8th - 10:00am; April 10th - 7:00pm; April 20th - 7:00pm; May 13th - 10:00am; May 16th - 7:00pm.
9. **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.
10. **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/>.
11. **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.
12. **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.
13. **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.

14. **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.