We look forward to seeing everyone at spring kick off on Sunday!

Happy 120th birthday, Ohio 4-H! 4-H started in Springfield Township in Clark County in 1902. This year we celebrate 120 years of 4-H in Ohio. Join us at our Spring Recognition program where we will kick off the celebration!

**Spring Recognition and Kick Off, Happy 120th Birthday, Ohio 4-H:** will be held Sunday, March 6, 2pm, Radiant Lighthouse. We will be recognizing outstanding officer books, leadership and achievement award winners, honor clubs, premier members, county medal winners, and more! Hands Across the Darke will be collecting items for Rustic Hope. If you would like to donate, they will be accepting diapers, wipes, and non-perishable food items. Also, each club is asked to donate one or two non-perishable items for door prizes. Door prizes can be brought to the Extension Office ahead of time or brought to Radiant the day of kick off (preferred). Emails were sent to organizational advisors notifying them as to which officers will be recognized.

News You Can Use:

1. **Darke County 4-H Skating Party** is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 6:00pm-8:30pm at Skate Zone 805, Greenville. Admission is free and skate rental will be paid by the Darke County 4-H Committee. Hands Across the Darke is a co-sponsor of the event. Encourage your club members to wear their club t-shirts as the three clubs with the highest percentage of club members in club t-shirts will receive a cash award for their club!

2. **Statewide Officer Training:** Encourage your club officers to participate virtually in the statewide officer training being held on Wednesday, April 6, from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Registration deadline is March 30. Registration Link: [https://go.osu.edu/officer](https://go.osu.edu/officer)

3. **Cloverbud Volunteer Training:** All new Cloverbud Volunteers are required to attend a Cloverbud Volunteer Training. A session is scheduled for Monday, March 21, 7pm, Extension Office. Current Cloverbud Volunteers are also invited to attend if you would like a refresher and to see new Cloverbud resources. To register, send a message to williams.418@osu.edu

4. **Ohio 4-H Night at the Dayton Dragons:** Join us for a fun evening of baseball on Saturday, May 7 with a 7:05pm start time. The pre-game parade of counties is back prior to the game. Tickets are $10.00 each and can be purchased online: [www.go.osu.edu/ohio4hdaytondragons](http://www.go.osu.edu/ohio4hdaytondragons)

5. **Volunteer Update Meetings:** a total of 23 sessions will be offered in January through March. All Darke County 4-H volunteers are required to attend one of these meetings. To register: [go.osu.edu/22update](http://go.osu.edu/22update)

6. **Cloverbud Resources: Cloverbud Volunteers** – check out the Cloverbud Connections Blog. Lots of great articles as well as resources you can use. Be sure to review the new Cloverbud Reading Adventures! Subscribe to the blog by entering your email in the subscription box on the left-hand side of the page. [https://u.osu.edu/cloverbudconnections/](https://u.osu.edu/cloverbudconnections/)
7. **2022 Darke County 4-H Calendar** is available! [https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2022-darke-county-4-h-youth-development-calendar](https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2022-darke-county-4-h-youth-development-calendar)

8. **4-H Enrollment**: April 1 is the enrollment deadline for 4-H in 2022. Members may join or add projects after April, but those additions will not be eligible for fair participation. Complete enrollment information is on the web: [https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-online](https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-online)

   Important things to remember:
   - Returning families should not create a new profile. They will use their family email and password from last year to login. If they don’t remember the email they used, please have them contact me. I can retrieve that information for them.
   - Do not use Internet Explorer as your browser. Instead use Google Chrome, Safari, or Firefox.
   - Current 4-H volunteers should reenroll themselves as soon as possible, especially if this is your year to be fingerprinted.
   - Members can begin to enroll now. Encourage them to not wait until March 31 or April 1 to enroll.

9. You can **help 4-H celebrate Earth Day** with the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources! 4-H’ers and clubs are invited to present a program or demonstration during the weekend of April 22-24 at selected Ohio State Parks. It’s a great way to complete leadership activities in natural resources projects or share your earth-friendly activity! Selected programs will be recognized this summer at the Ohio State Fair at the ODNR Park. Find all the details here and apply by March 14. [https://bit.ly/3InwAWM](https://bit.ly/3InwAWM)

10. Download your **officer books** from this website: [https://ohio4h.org/officerresources](https://ohio4h.org/officerresources) Be sure that you are using current and up-to-date officer books for your club records.

11. **Hands Across the Darke** is a community service club open to youth in grades 5-8. They meet the first Tuesday of each month at the Extension Office at 7:00pm. Their next meeting is April. Join us!

12. **Quality Assurance information** is available online: [https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/quality-assurance-0](https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/quality-assurance-0) New this year: a parent or guardian must accompany first and second year exhibitors, regardless of the exhibitor’s age.

13. **Amazon Smile**: As you complete your online shopping, don’t forget to designate the 4-H program to receive a donation through Amazon Smile. Shop at [smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1056844](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1056844) and Amazon donates to the Darke County 4-H Committee. (It comes up as The Ohio State University, but donations go to our 4-H program!)

14. **Darke County United Way**: Did you know that 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 designation line. Thank you to everyone who designates their pledges to us. It means a lot to our program!

Questions? Contact Rhonda at 937-569-5003 or williams.418@osu.edu