April is here and that's no joke! Today is the enrollment deadline for 4-H members to be eligible to exhibit at the county and state fair. They have until 11:59pm tonight to submit their enrollments.

Please join us in welcoming Teresa Rusler-Heiss as our new Office Associate! We are excited to have her join our team. The next time you stop by the office, introduce yourself and give her a warm welcome!

THANK YOU to our wonderful volunteers who attended an update meeting! We are happy to have you back for another exciting year of 4-H! (Reminders were emailed to those who still need to complete the Policy 1.50 training.)

News You Can Use:

1. **Turkey Pick-Up** is Friday, April 8, Noon to 4pm, Extension Office. Letters with Biosecurity Forms and relevant information were mailed to all who ordered.

2. **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza** has been found in a backyard flock in Franklin County. 4-H members with backyard flocks should increase their biosecurity practices to protect their flocks. Biosecurity information is available online: [https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/animal-health/resources/02.25.2022HPAIUpdate](https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/animal-health/resources/02.25.2022HPAIUpdate) and [https://ohio4h.org/news/avian-influenza-biosecurity-practices](https://ohio4h.org/news/avian-influenza-biosecurity-practices)

3. **Cloverbud Volunteer Training** will be held Monday, April 25, 7pm, Extension Office. This is for new Cloverbud volunteers, as well as any current Cloverbud volunteer who would like a refresher course.

4. **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)

5. **4-H Master Clothing Educators** will host several textile and clothing project clinics via Zoom. Beginner Lever – April 13; Intermediate Level: April 25; and Advanced Level – May 2. Contact our office for the registration links.

6. **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)

7. 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)

8. **Quality Assurance Test-Out** will be offered Friday, April 15 and Monday, April 18. Visit [go.osu.edu/22qatest](http://go.osu.edu/22qatest) for details or to register.
9. **Ohio 4-H SPARK EXPO** pre-registration is now available! Ohio 4-H will host this event June 16-18 on the Columbus campus for youth who will complete 8th grade at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year. [https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5neGGLYZlKyQr54](https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5neGGLYZlKyQr54)

10. **4-H Polar Mystery SPIN Club**! You’ll learn from the experts at OSU’s Byrd Polar Center in this all-day program at the Franklin County Extension office. It’s happening on April 30; find the details at [go.osu.edu/pospin22](go.osu.edu/pospin22)

11. **Dairy Palooza** will be held Saturday, April 30, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster. Additional information and registration is available online: [https://ohio4h.org/.../Palooza%20Registration%20Form.pdf](https://ohio4h.org/.../Palooza%20Registration%20Form.pdf)

12. 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.

13. **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 5. Join us!

14. **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.

15. **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!)

16. **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