Club end-of-the-year packets are available. Please pick up your club’s packet at your earliest convenience. Also available for pick up are other miscellaneous items (spring packet, awards, etc.). Please plan to have an advisor from your club stop by our office to pick everything up as soon as possible.

Our office associate will be out of the office until October 26 so there may be times when it becomes necessary for us to close our office due to staffing shortages. To avoid wasting a trip, you might want to call the office to verify that we are open before you stop by. We apologize for any inconvenience!

**News You Can Use:**

1. **J & M Ranch Volunteer Opportunity:** The J & M Ranch located on State Route 127 North (formerly the Steam Threshers property) is hosting Corn Maze and Fall Festivities on September 25, October 2, and October 9. They are looking for 4-H clubs to volunteer to help to serve as maze attendants, parking attendants, and ticket takers. Shifts would be from 10am-2pm and 2pm-6pm. If your club volunteers, they will send a donation to your club for helping. If interested, please contact Marla Werner at 937-417-1365, for details or to sign-up.

2. **Share Your Talent with American Idol!** Hey 4-H, AMERICAN IDOL® producers want to hear from YOU! Register for the special AMERICAN IDOL® + 4-H live virtual showcase below and be ready to sing for Idol Producers on Friday, September 24th! Fill out the online registration form and we’ll email you a Zoom link and details and see you on September 24! Register here [https://bit.ly/Idol4H](https://bit.ly/Idol4H) and let’s represent Ohio 4-H!

3. **Youth Entrepreneur Weekend Camp:** Do you know high school youth interested in taking over the family farm, starting their own farm, or owning a business in the agriscience industry? Register for Agricultural Entrepreneurship Camp scheduled for Sept. 24-26. Details at [go.osu.edu/exploreagcamp](http://go.osu.edu/exploreagcamp).

4. **Learn to Code – 4-H World Changers:** Ohio 4-H and Vermont 4-H are joining forces again to bring you another opportunity to learn to code! Games need no explanation — they’re everywhere! They come in many shapes and sizes: video games, apps on your phone, sports games, and card games. What does it take to design a game? Find out in this six-session series to create your own game using Scratch! Register by Sept 25 at [go.uvm.edu/4worldchangersfall2021](http://go.uvm.edu/4worldchangersfall2021)

5. **Carving New Ideas:** Carving New Ideas (CNI) is a camping opportunity that focuses on critical thinking and program facilitation for 4-H members in grades 8-12. The workshop is held at the scenic 4-H Camp Ohio in St. Louisville, Ohio. It will be held October 29-31, 2021. Registration is due by October 6. The camp fee is $75.00. For additional information or to register, visit [https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0ULysvpHUEKrc4C](https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0ULysvpHUEKrc4C)

6. **Thank you notes:** Please remind and encourage your 4-H members to send their thank you notes to sponsors, donors, buyers, etc. A hand-written note is much appreciated by those who took the time to donate a trophy, prize, etc.
7. **Hands Across the Darke:** In-person meetings have resumed. They meet the first Tuesday of each month, 7pm, Extension Office. This organization is open to any youth in grades 5-12 who is interested in participating in a variety of community service activities. Please share this meeting day/time with any youth who might be interested in attending.

8. **Ohio Cheviot Breeders Jim Cluff Memorial Starter Flock Award:** The winner receives a one-year membership in the OCBA, one bred ewe the first year, one ram the second year and in the third year the youth will donate a lamb to continue the award. The deadline is Sept. 30. For an application and contest rules please contact the Ohio Cheviot Breeders Association Starter Flock Committee Chairperson, Tabitha Weisend, at 740-459-9751 or tabithasregcheviots@yahoo.com.

9. **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.

10. **Amazon Smile:** Shop at 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!)

Questions? Contact Rhonda at 937.569.5003 or williams.418@osu.edu