May 2016  Richland County 4-H
Clover News Newsletter

Dear 4-H Volunteer:

As we head into a time of competition within the 4-H and Junior Fair programs, please remind yourself of the importance of the 4-H (and Junior Fair) program and what a valuable learning experience all of us……as a team……are providing for our youth. Some of our members will come out with champion ribbons, all of our members will receive recognition for completing their project work, but not everyone will win every award. This is a time to remember that competition is good for a personal challenge, but it is not the determining factor whether a young person has a successful learning experience. You are encouraged to try one or more of the Etiquette and Sportsmanship Activities (lesson plans) re-emphasize the importance of personal development toward “champion kids”.. As leaders we should take the time now to remind members that success comes from within……the accomplishment of doing something to the best of our ability.

Need your help……. If you have enrollment forms that were missing signatures, please get those done as soon as possible.

Also, Happy Father’s Day to all of our dads, grandpas, uncles and special guys on June 19! Hope you can enjoy the day with family and friends.

Judy Villard Overocker, Ph.D., Extension Educator and County Extension Director

4-H Week Poster Contest Winners Named
The 4-H Committee announces the following winners of the 2015 Richland County 4-H Week Poster Contest:

**8-10 yrs:**
1st place – Michaela Lantz, Country Champions 4-H
2nd place – Morgan Adkins, Bibs & Boots 4-H
3rd place – Masson Sanders, Country Champions 4-H

**11-12 yrs:**
1st place – Riley Lewis, Bibs & Boots 4-H
2nd place – Madison Lehman, Bibs & Boots 4-H

**13-14 yrs:**
1st place – Cassidy Loughman, Country Champions 4-H
2nd place – Maddie Heimlich, Bibs & Boots 4-H
3rd place – Gabrielle Smith, Cubs & Clovers 4-H

**15 years+:**
1st place – Chris Loughman, Country Champions 4-H
2nd place – Kelcie Chance, Country Champions 4-H
3rd place – Cody Loughman, Country Champions 4-H  
Honorable Mention: Eric Workman, Bibs & Boots 4-H

The top placing posters will be displayed at the 2016 Richland County Fair along with several other posters that were creative and attractive. Special thanks to all participants who helped promote the 4-H program in Richland County. The 4-H Committee will place special awards in club mailboxes for the above named poster contest winners in the near future. Note: The judges for the contest want to remind all future participants that all requirements must be met for contest and award eligibility.

Office Hours to the Public
Please review the web site, the phone answering machine and/or the office front door to the Extension office for current “open to the public” hours. Please call and leave a message (419-747-8755) to get into the Extension Office other than the scheduled open to the public hours.

As summertime approaches, extra volunteer (older youth and adult) help would be appreciated in the Extension office. A variety of tasks including answering the phone, greeting/serve the needs of clientele, and preparing for 4-H events (i.e., judging, camp, fair, county events) are available. Contact the office if interested.

Green Thumb Clovers Back in 2016!
The 4-H Committee is distributing soil and plants to 4-H members for participation in the 2016 Green Thumb Clovers program during May and early June. Members will grow the plants and then give the “fruit” of the plant, a.k.a. the vegetables, to a needy family or a food bank. There is no cost to participate. Individuals should bring their potted plants to the fair to have the opportunity to compete for awards. Pots will be in a special display in the 4-H Wall of Fame booth inside the Youth Hall and returned to the grower. Special thanks to the Monsanto Company for supporting the Green Thumb Clover program in 2016. There are a few plants, pots, and potting soil for those still interested in this community service and Growing Local Foods project. Please stop by the Extension office soon to gather your items!

Public Speaking Contests Focus on Basic Life Skill
Note for 2016: A county level public speaking experience is required to be eligible to receive the county Outstanding Member distinction (see the requirements sheet in the Packet of Forms) and the county public speaking contest is one way to meet the requirement. While all 4-H members should be presenting demonstrations and health & safety talks in your local club, they are also encouraged to participate in one of the county public speaking contests on Monday, June 13, 2016 at the Longview Center. Applications are in the Packet of Forms on the OSU Extension web site. Speaking categories include health & safety speaking (individual and team), 4-H Pledge, 4-H Creed, Prepared (What does 4-H mean to me?) and demonstrations (individual and team). Contest entries should be submitted to the Extension Office annually by June 1. Note: County public speaking participation is also a category in the Banner Club competition.
Positive Communication a Focus
Each 4-H club in Richland County has been asked to set a goal to complete one or more positive communication activities as a group in 2016. The etiquette and sportsmanship notebook was distributed at the Super Clinic to advisors (or put in club mailboxes for those not in attendance) in 2012. The notebook has 12 quick and easy to prepare activities where members, parents and volunteers can participate. Clubs can chose their own activity and complete it on their own time schedule. Special thanks to our county Junior Leaders for assisting in preparing the concepts and activities.

E-file Deadline
From the State 4-H Office: Filing the 990 or 990-EZ or 990-N (e-Postcard) will now be taken care of from the Extension office. With the change to the IRS assuming responsibility for the filing tasks, we can now do the e990 for each club and affiliate. Good news for all our clubs! ALL 4-H clubs and affiliates need to submit any acceptance or rejection copies for the 2015 year to the Extension office for your club files.

Membership Cross County Lines -- Very important! Please read!
If you have a 4-H member whose family pays taxes/resides in another county, you MUST complete a one-time membership across county lines form for that member. The signed form (between both county 4-H educators) is an official document for member participation. Some of these across county line memberships have not been caught in the past because the enrollment form did not ask for that information. The form can be retrieved from the <ohio4h.org> web site (type in “cross county lines membership” into the search) and can be started in the county of residence or the county of request. These documents should be completed as soon as possible and BEFORE any member competitive involvement. Your club will be called soon if these issues are not handled.

Dairy Bar
All 4-H clubs are encouraged to sign up to work at least one shift in the Dairy Bar. There will be a limited menu served in 2016 so the focus can be on high quality ice cream and milk shakes, plus great service. The 4-H Committee is giving leadership to this project. Clubs working the Dairy Bar should have at least two adults and up to six kids working at one time. A club stipend will be given to clubs who provide service to this important Junior Fair project. The proceeds from the Dairy Bar stay on the fairgrounds and go toward improvements in the John Hartz Activity Building.

Bellville Street Fair
Many Richland County 4-H members participate in the Bellville Street Fair. The entry information and entry form are now located on the county Extension web site. Entry deadline is the same as the Richland County Junior Fair on July 1, 2016.

Volunteer Certification Opportunities
As a reminder, ALL returning 4-H volunteers are required to attend an approved 4-H Volunteer Certification training on an annual basis. The 2016 training MUST be the university required Child Abuse Training. We have about seven advisors who still need the training. One final opportunity for this training is June 7, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. in the Buckeye Room.
**New Volunteer Selection Process**
The new volunteer selection process is near completion for 2016. Those individuals that may become interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer during 2016 must complete the new volunteer selection process as prescribed by the Ohio 4-H program. Potential volunteers have been notified of additional items still needed to complete the process.

**Camp Enrollment Now Open!**
The “Cruisin’ with 4-H Camp” Junior 4-H Camp enrollment is open for enrollment. The camp overview and application, plus the Ashland University Pool release, minor participation agreement and health history forms, are on the Richland County Extension web site. Camp will be held June 20-24, 2016 at the Richland Rural Life Center for youth age 8 and in the third grade as of 1/1/16 up through those age 14 on 1/1/16. Enrollment and lodging arrangements are on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost for camp has increased slightly, but the total cost includes the 4-H camp T-shirt. 4-H camp scholarships are available on a limited basis to potential 4-H campers with extreme financial need. The 4-H Committee asks that 4-H volunteers recommend those who might need this assistance. Camp scholarship applications are available in the Extension office. Camp enrollment for 2016 is filling fast. All applications should be submitted to the Extension office by June 1, 2016 or a late fee will be incurred.

*Need your help* ………….. Each year a number of volunteers are needed to assist with camp programming, meal preparation/service and transportation. If you could spare a few hours, contact the office. This is a fun assignment! Special thanks to those advisors and parents who have already signed up to help at this year’s camp.

**New! 4-H Cloverbud Retreat**
The new 4-H Cloverbud Retreat will be held on July 13, 2016 at the Richland County Fairgrounds from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Applications are now available in the camp section of the Packet of Forms. Eligible youth are those entering kindergarten this fall thru those just completing the second grade. Cost is $21 per participant (included retreat T-shirt).

**News Concerning Junior Fair Rabbit Exhibitors**
All Junior Fair rabbit exhibitors will be expected to use pine bedding (not cedar) at the fair. Exhibitors must provide their own food and water bowls which should not be able to tip over. In addition, each exhibitor must bring a mess tray/pan (24” X 24”) to put underneath their cage for better sanitation and cleanliness at the fair. The tray should have sides. It is recommended that rabbits NOT be heavier than two pounds at the identification day on July 1 (Shelby ag shop, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.) or July 2 (John Hartz Building, fairgrounds, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.).

The 2016 Richland County Junior Fair market rabbit exhibit must include two rabbits weighed in per exhibit. Additional rabbits will not be weighed on the official scales. Any extra rabbits will need to go home.
Dog Training Starting
The Richland County 4-H dog training series continues on Monday evenings in the Longview Center parking lot at 6:00 p.m. This is a free training series given as a courtesy to 4-H members. Members have the option of obtaining training from another source.

Dog Project Registration Information
For questions the dog program contact Stephanie Bargo at 419-610-7496. A fair entry is NOT required for any dog projects. Judging: dog projects will be judged as a part of the livestock project interview judging day on July 6, 2016. Each dog project requires a separate judging sheet along with a poster at judging. A poster for each dog project is also required for fair exhibit. The county 4-H dog show is Saturday, July 23, 2016 at the fairgrounds. All Richland County 4-H dog projects (except You and Your Dog) are encouraged to participate.

Quality Assurance Tips for the Month for Study:
What are the responsibilities for each of the regulatory agencies listed below?

- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Food & Drug Administration (FDA)
- Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Quality Assurance Required Training
4-H and FFA members have had several in-county opportunities to meet the state requirements for Quality Assurance Training in 2016. At this time, there are no further QA sessions scheduled in Richland County for market livestock, horse, alpaca, dog and breeding exhibitors. Exhibitors can go out of county and pay the $10 minimum fee for participation. See neighboring county web sites (i.e., (county name) .osu.edu) for future training dates. Note: YOU MUST CALL AHEAD and reserve a spot in another county’s class before attending. The Richland County final QA deadline for completion is July 1, 2016 without exception.

Duck and Broiler Pick Up Days
The day for pick-up of the market ducks is Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at the Extension Office from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Broiler pick-up day is Wednesday, June 22, 2016 (same time and location). Please mark your calendar and share this information with your members.

Flower Pot Beautification Project
Special message from the Junior Fair Board: flower pots for the flower pot decorating and beautification contest are available to be picked up at the Extension Office. The flower pots will be judged based on these criteria: promotion of 4-H (and/or FFA), creativity, colorful, appealing, festiveness, neatness. Prizes will be awarded to the top placing individuals/clubs. Prizes may be limited. The turn in date is Friday August 5 by
5:00 p.m. at the Junior Fair Board office. Put name and club on the bottom of each pot. Prizes may be limited per individual and club. Top winners will be recognized at the Junior Fair Awards Ceremony on Saturday, August 13 at 4:30 p.m. in the John Hartz Activity Building. Note: Please call ahead to make sure pots are still available.

**Identification of Breeding Animals**

All market rabbit animals must have ear tags registered with the Richland County Livestock Sale Committee. In addition, all breeding animals will need to have some sort of ID (i.e., ear ID showing # or pictures). Breeding animals will need to have a registration form (like dogs and horses) on file. This latter form will be due July 1 with fair entries (July 15 advisor changes). The *Breeding Identification Form* is online.

**Judging Tip to Share with 4-H/FFA Families**

Project evaluation is a hectic time for 4-H and FFA members...and their families. As a scheduling tip, the Junior Fair Board would suggest these guidelines for livestock judging: If you have one project, please allow at least one hour to get through the judging/evaluation process. With two projects, please allow 1 ½ hours. With three projects, please allow at least two hours, etc.

**Officer Book Submission Deadline**

The 4-H officer book deadline is August 31, 2016. This is the same date the other county awards (i.e., Member-of-the-Year, Outstanding Service, Meritorious Service, banner awards, county medals) are due to the Extension office. The Monsanto funds will be used to provide additional awards for the Gold and other top placing officer books. Don’t forget about the $100 credit prize for clubs having all officers attend the required Super Clinic training sessions and all seven officer books turned in by August 31 (see completion guidelines in the Packet of Forms – *other* – section).

**Fair Booth Theme**

4-H clubs are encouraged to use the “Cruisin’ with 4-H” theme for 2016, but may also come up with their own theme, if desired. Fair booth requests should be submitted to the Extension office by June 1, 2016.

**Richland County Family Horse Guide Online**

Check out the Junior Fair Family Horse Guide online. The rules, entry information, registration/permission to participate forms and other opportunities are now available. NOTE: The horse registration and permission to participate forms, plus the annual horse fee ($25), were due to the Extension Office by May 15 (advisor extended and final deadline to June 1, 2016). Pictures of animals will need to be attached to the form as old pictures will not be acceptable. Changes, deletions and additions can be made up until the final deadline of June 1. **Note:** *New horse project participants need to view the safety CD’s prior to any showing in 2016.* The body condition scoring sheet (completed by a veterinarian) must be returned by June 1 also. This form is included in the Family Horse Guide.
Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows
You might be interested in knowing that Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows is now available as a downloadable PDF in addition to the traditional hard copy. The revised (2015) publication can be downloaded onto one device (one phone, tablet, or computer) and read using Adobe Digital Editions software. The digital PDF is convenient and searchable, helping readers find rules and terms much easier and faster.

Financial Reminder
All payments for fees, publications, resource materials, etc. must be paid by check (payable to OSU Extension) or money order. When 4-H “clubs” purchase 4-H project books, the club is exempt from tax on the books. It is important that all of your club’s books are purchased at once so tax is not charged. Individuals who purchase books will be charged Ohio sales tax for individual books. All project books should be purchased with a check or money order.

Reminder: Let 4-H Members Know About My Plate
My Plate, the revised food guidance system introduced by USDA last year, is an important update for youth enrolled in Ohio 4-H food and nutrition projects. Depending on a project book’s publication date, it may refer instead to the older My Pyramid or Food Guide Pyramid, but 4-H members should still know the My Plate recommendations. (They are being incorporated into state fair events.) A flyer should be included with every food and nutrition project.

Scrapbooking Project Requirement
For those youth taking the 4-H scrapbooking project in multiple years, 4-H members are asked to also complete a series of goal statements (i.e., the self determined project pages) in addition to the project book. Youth may use the self determined sheets available in the Extension office (free of charge). Note: scrapbooking project participants should review the State Fair Guidebook for additional requirements for state fair participation.

Fair Book – First Edition Soon to Be On-line
As soon as trophy sponsors are verified, the 2016 Richland County Junior Fair Book will be on-line for your reference. 4-H and FFA leaders will be notified its availability. All class numbers will be the same as in the 2015 fair book.

CARTEENS a Great Teen Opportunity
The Richland County 4-H CARTEENS program is having another great year of teaching teens about driving safely and positive driving behavior. Youth 14 years and older (as of 1/1/16) should consider observing the next session on Saturday, June 25. Observers and instructors should arrive at the Longview Center by 8:15 a.m.
Junior Fair Board
The Junior Fair Board will meet for workdays on July 5 (6:00 p.m.) and July 7 (10:00 a.m.) at the fairgrounds. Their next meeting is August 1, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. (fairgrounds).

Camp Counselors Training Scheduled
The camp counselors will have a program development and training on Friday, June 3 (note date change due to school conflicts) from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Longview Center.

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Roger Rennekamp, Director, Ohio State University Extension.

For Deaf and Hard of Hearing, please contact Richland County Extension using your preferred communication (e-mail, relay services, or video relay services). Phone 1-800-750-0750 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST Monday through Friday. Inform the operator to dial 419-747-8755.