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Calendar of Events

Looking Ahead ........

- July 6th: Work day @ Fairgrounds, 2:00-6:00 pm, cookout to follow
- July 7th: Fashion Review Judging, 4-H Foodstand, 5:30 pm
- July 9th-13th: Polk County Fair, see attached schedule for specific times/events
- July 14th: Foodstand cleanup day, 2:00pm
- State Fair Registrations Due in Polk County Office / July 18th

August

- August 5th: National Night to Unite event, Crookston, MN
- August 9th: 4-H 5k, 8:00 am registration, Fertile Fairgrounds
- August 14-16: East Grand Forks Heritage Days, East Grand Forks, MN
- August 20-24th: Minnesota State Fair Livestock encampment
- August 28th-30th: Minnesota State Fair general project encampment

Polk County Fair
July 9-13, 2014
From Kristie …..

**Fair Set up day:**

**Sunday July 6th**

Help us get ready for the fair! **Sunday July 6th from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm.** Livestock and horse members-decorate your stalls and get the barns cleaned! We will also be setting up the food stand, and making sure the 4-H building is ready for project judging! Your help is much appreciated during this busy time! There will be a cookout following!

**New at the fair**

Check out the NEW 4-H events this year during the Polk County Fair! Sign up for any of the events in the 4-H Building or during each event registration!

**4-H Scavenger Hunt:**

Thursday, 7:00 pm. Teams of 3-4 youth, 6th grade and above. Sign up in the 4-H building before 5:00 pm on Thursday

**Barnyard Bonanza!**

See flyer attached to this newsletter. Registration is Friday at 5:00 pm under the 4-H tent (between the livestock barns) *Open to anyone*

**4-H Ag Olympics:**

See attached flyer. Registration on Saturday 5:00 pm under the 4-H tent. *Must have a team of 2*

**4-H Costume Show:**

See attached flyer and registration form. Sunday at 11:00 am under the 4-H tent. Animal does not need to have been exhibited at the fair-both exhibitor and animal must be dressed up. (Animal must have appropriate health certificate/coggins/vaccinations etc)

**The Commodity Carnival**

Saturday from 1:00 pm-4:00 pm. Come and learn about agriculture, raising animals, and more. Princess Kay of the Milky Way will be available from 3-4 pm. Games, prizes, recipes, live animals, and so much more! This is going to be a great hands-on event for the whole family!! Under the 4-H tent!

**Northwest Minnesota Shooting Sports and Wildlife Camp**

August 7-8 at Lake Bronson State Park

*Early bird registration for $50 – June 30*  
(otherwise registration due August 1 and will not receive a t-shirt for $55)

A fantastic setting for a Shooting Sports and Wildlife Camp – you’ll want to attend this camp if you’re in grades 3 – 8! Camp counselor applications, for youth in grades 9 – 12, are also being accepted.

Attendees of this camp will participate in fishing, wildlife activities, range time, canoeing/kayaking/paddle boarding, swimming, outdoor cooking and many more fun camp activities. Activities in this camp will count as on-line training and wildlife eligibility for the 4-H State Shoot. Each county with youth participating must have a chaperone to youth ratio of 1:10. For more information, contact your county Program Coordinator.
Sign Up for the 2014 4-H Engineering Design Challenge: Build a Rube Goldberg Machine!

The new 2014 4-H Engineering Design Challenge asks youth to build a Rube Goldberg Machine that can zip a zipper. Rube Goldberg Machines use everyday items that interact in a series of chain-reactions to complete a simple task (The game Mouse Trap is a Rube Goldberg Machine!)

What: Youth teams build a Rube Goldberg Machine that will zip a zipper. Teams will chat online with U of M Engineering student mentors; work with adult leaders, and journal online about the process.

Who: Teams of 3-10 youth in grades 3-8 led by at least one adult volunteer leader.

Where: Teams that complete online requirements can compete in contests at their county fair, and will be eligible to compete at the Minnesota State Fair.

Registration: Registration is online AND through the county fair registration process. See the rule book here www.4-H.umn.edu/events/engineering-design-challenge/docs/rgm-rule-book.pdf

See complete information here: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/engineering-design-challenge/ or contact the 4-H program coordinator in your county.

Message from Dorothy ....

Dear 4-H Families/Volunteers:

In 2014, Minnesota 4-H launched online animal identifications, replacing the previously paper-only process. Moving animal identifications online is part of our effort to improve our processes by making them more efficient, effective and accessible for staff and 4-H families.

Once fully implemented, the online process will reduce inaccuracies, and log and track data, making it accessible for review at any time by families and staff. Families can now log in and upload animal information and photos at their convenience, and view and print reports at any time. This will eventually make the county and state fair processes easier and more efficient. We also still offer a paper-based system for families who need them.

The project to move animal identification online has been hugely successful. As of May 30, there were more than 56,000 animals identified through the new online ID process – a truly remarkable achievement!

We will continue to evaluate and identify additional processes that can be moved online to improve efficiencies in the future.

We want to thank our staff, volunteers and 4-H families for working with us to implement this new online process. Your time, patience, cooperation and support was essential in making this successful. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate Dean and State 4-H Director

Get Ready to Chaperone

4-H'ers have lots of opportunities to travel, and adult chaperones are critical to their experience. The online training, “Chaperone Policies and Procedures” covers roles, expectations and best practices when chaperoning young people on trips, retreats and at events. This training is recommended for adults chaperoning youth at any 4-H program or event (e.g. state fair, BLU, YELLO, state and national trips, interstate exchange trips, etc.)

The training is part of a series of dynamic, interactive 30-minute online training modules to help volunteers build their skills and knowledge from home. These trainings are available to all
adult screened volunteers, through https://mn.4honline.com/. Check out other online volunteer training topics:

- Creating a welcoming, engaging and encouraging environment for youth
- Managing 4-H Clubs - Online 4-H Volunteer Training
- The 4-H learning environment
- 4-H Project Leaders - Where the Action Starts!
- County Financial Practices: A Guide for County Financial Teams
- Preview of each of the trainings: www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training/

One of your 4-H'ers Could Win a Trip to NYSD!

Do you know teens who love Science? 4-H and HughesNet want to inspire future scientists to pursue their passion.

If you know an aspiring scientist, 4-H and HughesNet want to hear their story! Young scientists should share a 15 second science video using the hashtag #4HFutureScientist and tell us why they love science for a chance to win a trip to the 2014 National Youth Science Day event in Washington, D.C., a science kit, and a $1,000 prize!

Learn more here: http://www.4-h.org/about/partners/hughesnetinspireafuturescientist.aspx

Food preservation projects must meet food safety standards

It is so exciting to see the food preservation project area growing. The food preservation judging process is fairly rigorous due to potential food safety concerns of preserved projects. Following research-tested recipes and methods approved for canning and drying is critical to prevent foodborne illness related to preserved products. Be sure to:

- Read and follow your county’s premium book for requirements. This may have changed from past years. It may follow the state fair requirements, “All recipes, procedures and times must be according to the current USDA and/or National Center for Home Food Preservation. No "family" recipes. Quantities of sugar and juice used in jams and jellies may come from recipes on commercial pectin packages, but the processing method must be USDA or National Center for Home Food Preservation approved methods and recipes”.
- Recipes Extension's website follow USDA processing methods. Processing times are adjusted for Minnesota altitudes. Use processing times from 1001-2000 feet for our altitudes in Minnesota which is usually an addition of 5 minutes in USDA recipes.
- Using a research tested recipe is critical not only for safety but also for a quality product too.
- If you can’t find a researched tested recipe for what you want to preserve, don’t preserve it. Instead, consider a poster board on the science of canning.
- Be knowledgeable about the science of food preservation and the product you are preserving. Learn by viewing the Extension food preservation mini-modules.

Happy safe preserving! Hope to see your food preservation exhibits at the fair.

Suzanne Driessen
Extension Educator, Food Safety
General and Livestock Demonstrations

$30 awards will be given to ALL 4-H’ers who complete a 4-H demonstration during General Encampment and Livestock Encampment. NOTE: AN ANIMAL IS REQUIRED FOR LIVESTOCK DEMONSTRATIONS. In addition, each county will receive an additional livestock quota for one demonstrator with livestock. This demonstrator can also participate in all other species activities (show, interviews, showmanship, etc.)

IN ADDITION: A $25 cash incentive will be given for swine demonstrations dealing with PEDv at County Demonstration Day. There is no ribbon requirement. No animal is needed unless it is already there (i.e. County Fair). Team demos will get $25 per demonstrator PLUS $20 additional incentive for the State Fair PEDv demo (a total of $50). Yes, a State Fair PEDv demonstrator will collect $75 in incentives!

4-H Scholarship Opportunities

High School Seniors and college students -- check out the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association Auction Scholarship and Minnesota State Fair Scholarship Program (formerly known as the Hallberg Scholarship) at www.extension.umn.edu/youth/scholarships/index.html.

4-H Livestock Quality Assurance and Ethics Policy

All youth participating as a State Fair 4-H livestock exhibitor in beef, dairy, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbits, meat and dairy goat and lama must have completed the a Livestock Quality Assurance and Ethics workshop. Certification is required prior to county fair qualifying show and is good for three fair seasons. The level of training required is determined by the grade of the youth at the time the training takes place. To view the entire LQA&E policy, go to www.4-H.umn.edu/policies/LQA&E-Policy.pdf.

Note: Since 2006, it is recommended that pre-State Fair age 4-H’ers be certified. Some counties do, however, require certification of swine members (grades 3-13) due to packer requirements at the county fair. Please contact your local extension office or visit www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/lqae/index.html for training near you.

Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase: Honoring Blue Ribbon Kids

This event recognized overall achievement of Minnesota 4-H Dairy Project exhibitors that have demonstrated year-round participation within 4-H and the dairy industry, including success with the animal; knowledge of the dairy project and industry; involvement within 4-H and dairy communities and activities in school, church and community. The Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase will recognize the top 25 4-H dairy project members that exhibit at the MN State Fair 4-H Show. Complete details and online portfolio are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/dairy-showcase.html.

Minnesota 4-H Poultry Prince & Princess Contest

This contest is a scholarship program of Minnesota 4-H and Gold’n Plump. More details are available online at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/poultry-prince-princess.html.

Paint Horse Giveaway Essay Contest

Do you want the opportunity to win a horse? Now is the time! The Paint Horse Give Away Essay contest and the Arabian Horse Give
Away Essay contest await your entry. Each year we give away a young registered Arabian and a young registered Paint Horse to a lucky 4-H member in Minnesota. If you are interested applications are being accepted now through September 2, 2014 with the winner announced at the Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show in September 2014. Go to the following website and look under State and Regional Events for both Essay Contests: www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/horse/.

2014 Minnesota 4-H “Chef for a Day Cook-Off!”

This event is held during all State Fair encampments and is open to all 4-H State Fair exhibitors. Each county will provide a team of 3-5 exhibitors for a 2 hour program, during Livestock Encampment & every General Encampment. The first hour will include an educational activity, and the second hour will be the Chef for the Day Cook-Off! Assigned categories will include Stir Fry, Omelet, or Grilling. All equipment will be supplied, all meat, and some possible ingredients. Teams may bring additional ingredients, (No refrigeration supplied). There will be PRIZES! Contact your local extension office for more details coming soon.

4-H Summer Employment Opportunities

A variety of employment opportunities are available at 4-H state-level summer events. Applications are accepted up to five working days prior to the event. Go to www.4-H.umn.edu/state-fair/employment/ for more information.

MN 4-H State Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational (State Shoot)

The Minnesota 4-H State Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational will be held Sept. 5-7 in Alexandria. Registration is due to your county Extension office on Monday, July 21. Team registrations are due to the Marshall Regional Extension Office on Friday, Aug. 22. Rules and registration materials can be found on the 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife website at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-invitational.

2014-2015 Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leaders Certification

The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program Development Committee invites you to attend a 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification! This training is designed for adults and youth who lead or would like to lead training in shooting sports or wildlife. Classes will be offered in these disciplines: coordinator, archery, rifle/pistol, shotgun, muzzle loading, and wildlife. This training meets the 4-H project leaders’ requirements for certification and recertification.

- October 4-5, 2014: Long Lake Conservation Center, Palisades, MN
- April 25-26, 2015: Two Locations: Ahlman’s, Morristown, MN and Crookston, MN

Mark your calendars now! Registration and complete details will be available later this summer on the Leader Certification website: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/.
State Fair Animal Science Youth Media Trip

4-H is very excited to be able to offer the State Fair 4-H Animal Science Youth Media Trip again in 2014 from Wed. August 20 – Sunday, August 24, for youth who have completed grade 9+ and who are interested in and passionate about journalism, media relations, writing, photography, or about animal science and telling great stories about 4-H’ers! Youth need not have experience in these areas.

The goal of the Animal Science Youth Media Trip is to provide 4-H youth with a learning experience that includes both skills workshops and hands-on-learning about working with media to tell stories of 4-H youth showing livestock at the Minnesota State Fair.

More information may be found at www.mn4-H.umn.edu/state-fair/resources.html, by contacting a county Program Coordinator, or by contacting Anita Harris, Extension Educator, at aharris@umn.edu.

State Fair Forage/Bedding Changes for 2014

4-H has been working with the Minnesota State Fair to develop a new process for forage and bedding provided to 4-H families exhibiting at the state fair. It will affect all 4-H beef, dairy, all goat, sheep, swine and lama exhibitors. Instead of providing various feed and bedding allotments for animals, the state fair has set aside a pool of money even greater than their previous allowance. These funds will be distributed directly to counties according to the number of animals they bring in each species. County 4-H staff and county livestock delegations will determine how this allocation is spent. Possibilities will range from setting up an account with the SF forage department to reimbursing trucking expenses. The allotment will be $8 for every dairy exhibit and $5 for every goat, sheep, swine and lama exhibit. Beef will have wood chips provided as usual. They will not get a dollar allotment and will be charged a $10 fee for bedding due to the high cost of providing wood chips. This is consistent with other beef events that provide wood chips. These changes will not affect 4-H rabbits and poultry who will continue to receive feed/bedding allotments. Complete details of these changes will be available on the 4-H state fair webpage.
### 2014 Polk County Fair Schedule

**Tentative-Subject to change**

#### Sunday July 6th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00-6:00 pm</td>
<td>Clean and set up fairgrounds with <em>cook out to follow</em></td>
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#### Monday July 7th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Fashion Review judging and runway practice, tba</td>
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#### Wednesday July 9th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Judges and judges assistant meeting, <em>Foodstand building</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Conference judging of general exhibits begins, <em>4-H building</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>General exhibit judging ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Pet and cat show, <em>4-H tent</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td><em>PICTURES FOR GRAND AND RESERVE GENERAL PROJECTS</em></td>
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#### Thursday July 10th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Horse show, <em>outdoor arena</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>All day</td>
<td>Demonstrations, <em>Free Stage (final schedule released on entry day)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>All livestock, including horses must be in place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Herdsmanship meeting, <em>between beef and swine barns</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 pm-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Livestock interviews (<em>sign up in 4-H building</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Fashion Review, <em>free stage</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Herdsmanship judging begins for all livestock exhibits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td><em>4-H Scavenger Hunt, 4-H building</em></td>
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#### Friday July 11th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:15 am</td>
<td>4-H sheep, swine, meat goat show, <em>swine barn</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 am</td>
<td>Beef show, <em>4-H tent</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Dairy show, <em>4-H tent</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Horse interviews, <em>4-H tent</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 pm</td>
<td>Poultry and rabbit show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td><em>PICTURES LIVESTOCK GRAND AND RESERVE WINNERS, swine barn</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Barnyard Bonanza, <em>4-H tent (registration 5:00 pm)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 pm</td>
<td>Deadline to accept or decline State Fair trip for all projects</td>
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#### Saturday July 12th

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Premiere Showmanship Contest, <em>4-H tent</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm-4:00 pm</td>
<td>Commodity Carnival, <em>tent</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>4-H Awards Presentation, <em>free stage</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>4-H Ag Olympics, <em>4-H tent (registration 5:00 pm)</em></td>
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#### Sunday July 13th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>4-H Costume Show, <em>4-H tent</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Herdsmanship winners announced, <em>4-H tent</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Parade, <em>grandstand</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td><em>MANDATORY STATE FAIR MEETING ALL PROJECTS, 4-H building</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>All projects released, <em>clean up 4-H building</em>, remaining projects can</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*be picked up at the office after Tuesday, July 15th*