

# MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

Northwest Region / Polk County

July, 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>July 2015</b>						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	



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## Calendar of Events

### Looking Ahead .....

- July 5th: Clean up/set up fairgrounds, cookout to follow, 1:00 pm
- July 6th: 4-H Tent set up, 6:00 pm, fairgrounds
- July 6th: Fashion Review judging, 5:30 pm, fairgrounds
- July 8th: Project judging, entry day, Polk County Fair: start time, 2:00 pm
- July 8th-12: Polk County Fair (see attached for full schedule of events)
- July 13th: Clean up/tear down, 12:00 pm, fairgrounds
- July 15th: County wide brainstorm, finalize fair clean up, 6:00 pm, fairgrounds
- July 20th: State Fair registration forms due to the Extension Office
- July 27th: Federation Meeting/Constitution review, 6:30 pm, location TBD

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**Polk County Fair - July 8-12, 2015**

## *From Kristie .....*

### **Volunteers still needed for the Polk County Fair!!**

Your time is extremely valuable during the fair! It is a busy time for everyone, but without you, it could not happen, and definitely could not be successful! There is still a lot of help needed; in the foodstand, 4-H info desk, and as judge's helpers both during project judging and the livestock/horse shows. This year we are using an online program called VolunteerSpot to manage signups and hopefully give you some flexibility as far as fitting some time to help out into your already busy schedule! The link to the signs up can be found

here: <http://vols.pt/UjqZQz> or you can give me a call and I can assign the spot you would like. Thank you in advance for your help during this busy, but fun time of the year!!

### **We need your vote to approve the NEW Polk County Bylaws/Constitution Changes!!**

**When:** July 27th, 2015

**Where:** TBD

**Time:** 6:30 pm

All Minnesota 4-H Organizations are covered under a federal Group Exemption Number (GEN) that was granted to the Regents of the University of Minnesota by the IRS in August 2013. This group exemption status allows Minnesota 4-H federations/councils who have been successfully chartered the authority to use the 4-H name and emblem and to operate as a tax exempt organization which can accept donations and carry out fundraising activities as a non-profit. As a part of the commitment Minnesota

4-H made to secure the GEN, all 4-H Federations/Councils must, by law, adopt and operate under this model constitution/by-laws.

A sub-committee from Polk County have been working diligently to make the new changes. All of the changes have met the guidelines laid out by Minnesota 4-H and it is time for the new documents to be presented and voted on for approval by the Polk County Federation.

We are asking all eligible voting members of the Federation to attend the meeting on July 27th, as they will be presented at this time. Eligible voting members include a youth and adult representative from each club. In order for the new constitution/by-laws to be approved we must have a quorum.

A copy of the "New" constitution/by-laws will be posted on the county website [www.extension.umn.edu/county/polk/4-h](http://www.extension.umn.edu/county/polk/4-h) for your review before the meeting. If you would like to request a printed copy or have any questions, please contact Kristie Johnson, Polk County 4-H Program Coordinator at [218-563-2465](tel:218-563-2465) or [joh04412@umn.edu](mailto:joh04412@umn.edu)

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

### **County Wide Brainstorming/Planning Night:**

**Wednesday /July 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 p.m. / Fairgrounds**

The County fair is an exciting time for all. It is a change to showcase all of the hard work and time spent working on projects throughout the year. It is also a chance to showcase to the public that 4-H is alive and well in Polk County, to meet new friends, connect with new people and hopefully have some fun! It's hard not to get excited during fair time, despite the hustle and bustle of getting everything done. It is my

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hope that this excitement for 4-H will carry over into the new year and beyond, and can be turned into action! The idea behind this event is to share that excitement with others, and gather ideas for where our program wants to be and what you want it to look like in the future. Polk County 4-H is first and foremost a youth organization. Adults, volunteers and mentors give the program structure, guidance and support, but it is the youth who give it vibrance, growth and strength. We need ALL youth voices in Polk County 4-H just as much as we need the voices of the adults who guide them. Their ideas can and will change the program for the good of all. The goal for this event is to bring youth together for a night of food, fun and idea sharing so that we as adults can guide this program into one that fits the "needs" of its members. It is my hope that every youth in Polk County who is able can attend this event! ***So please join us on Wednesday July 15th at 6:30 pm at the Fairgrounds. There will be food!***

## Clay County 4-H Seeks Full-time 4-H Program Coordinator

Applications are being sought for a full-time 4-H program coordinator position in Clay County, officed in Moorhead. This individual will work with another .5 FTE 4-H program coordinator lead and manage the full range of 4-H Youth Development programs in Clay County, including stewarding program development, human resources, and financial needs. A Bachelor's degree and four (4) years of related experience is required.

Applications must be submitted online. A full position description and application procedures can be found

at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/about/employment/>. **First review of applications will be July 10, 2015.** For questions about the position, contact Margo Bowerman, Extension Educator, at [218-281-8695](tel:218-281-8695) or [mbowerma@umn.edu](mailto:mbowerma@umn.edu).

## Message from Dorothy ....



### Dear 4-H Families and Volunteers,

On June 17-19, 12 teams of 4-H'ers from across the state came to the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus to share their research about important agriculture-related issues at the 4-H Science of Agriculture Challenge. The first of its kind in the country, the new program asked 4-Hers to identify agriculture-related issues in their communities and develop science-based solutions. They worked for nine months with adult mentors and agriculture experts to identify their issues and develop their solutions using science and engineering practices. They shared their results at the event last week, which included judging presentations, interviewing and resumé-building workshops, campus tours to explore agriculture and science resources at the University, and a showcase fair and recognition celebration to share their work and connect with representatives from the University and agribusiness community who are eager to meet the next generation of leaders in agriculture.

The top three teams were awarded scholarships that can be used at any accredited university, college or trade school. First place team members received \$1000 each, second place received \$750 each, and third place received \$500 each.

- 1st place: Meeker County 4-H Hay Waste Team: Kayla Kutzke, Ryan Peterson, Daniel Williamson. The team researched, designed, built and tested a feed bunk to reduce hay waste of beef cattle.
- 2nd place: Washington County 4-H Insects as Food Source Team: Serenna Svanoë, Theo Svanoë, Chloe Brey. The team researched insects as a sustainable source of protein for humans and animal, and cultural attitudes, methods

and barriers to production and consumption in western nations.

- 3rd place: Le Sueur County 4-H Biodiesel Team: Brian Prchal, Anna Prchal, Tyler Fromm. The team researched and compared the efficiency and environmental impact of b10 conventional diesel, ethanol, kerosene and 100 percent biodiesel made by the team, and tested temperature, ph and particulate matter.

There is a critical need for skilled agriculture professionals, nationally and in Minnesota, and we know that hands-on experiences like the new annual 4-H Science of Agriculture Challenge are a great way to introduce and engage youth in learning about agriculture, make it fun and exciting, and expand the pipeline of youth studying agriculture and pursuing agriculture-related careers. I look forward to seeing this important new program grow in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman  
Associate dean and state 4-H director

## 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge update

The 2015 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge is off to an amazing start! To date, there are 47 teams registered from 25 counties with 279 team members, 50 adult volunteer team coaches, and 17 youth volunteer coaches!

Here's what Rube Goldberg teams need to know about this year's 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge:

### Qualifying for state fair trip

- Teams will be awarded ribbons as part of the judging at fairs this year. (Last year, teams were awarded medals.) Teams that earn a blue (or purple)

ribbon at their county fair qualify for a trip to the Minnesota State Fair to demonstrate their machine during the second day of their county's state fair encampment. All RG teams in a county that earn blue or purple ribbons qualify for trips to the state fair. (Note: As this event grows, we may not be able to allow all blue ribbon teams to attend the state fair in future years, but this year all blue ribbon teams may attend.)

### State fair attendance confirmations

- All the RG teams need to tell their county 4-H program coordinators if they intend to participate at the state fair if they earn a blue or purple ribbon at the county fair by the third week of July. If your program coordinator hasn't talked to you about this by late July, please contact them.

### RG machine transportation onto fair grounds

- In response to feedback from last year's RG teams, 4-H state fair staff have arranged to provide transportation of RG machines onto and off of the Minnesota State Fair grounds at two set times on the day of judging (the second day of each encampment). The RG machines will be picked up at 7:30 a.m. at the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus and taken to the 4-H building on the fairgrounds. At 9 p.m., RG machines will be taken back to the campus drop-off location. (Teams may still choose to transport their machines from public parking lots themselves, using dollies, wagons, etc. they bring themselves.) Teams that expect to avail themselves of this option must inform their county 4-H program coordinator in time for program coordinators to include this information on the team intention for state fair form.

All information for teams participating in the 2015 4-H Rube Goldberg Challenge can be found

in the rule book. Contact Patrick Jirik at [pjirik@umn.edu](mailto:pjirik@umn.edu) with any questions.

## 2015 scholarship recipients announced

Congratulations to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation's 2015 scholarship recipients. These nine outstanding 4-H youth and alumni from across Minnesota stood out among the 87 individuals who submitted applications. To learn more, please visit our website:

<http://z.umn.edu/sga>.

### Kern Family Scholarship recipients:

- Anna Johnson, Wadena County & Ryan Kohlmeier, Olmsted County

### David E. Pace and Valerie Halverson Pace

#### Leadership Scholarship recipient:

- Logan Johnson, Traverse County

### Ada and Helmuth Schroeder Scholarship recipients:

- Emily Clarke, Lincoln County & Natalie Sayles, Mower County

### CCI Innovation in Agriculture Scholarship recipient:

- Brian Prchal, Le Sueur County

### Searles Family Scholarship recipient:

- Jake Borst, Olmsted County

### 4-H Adult Scholarship:

- Heidi Schaefer, Mille Lacs County & Jeanne Verhoef, Anoka County

## Get the app! 4-H at the Minnesota State Fair

If you have a smart phone and you're going to the state fair, you should download our free app! It combines all of our state fair communications into one place:

- Judging results
- Public schedule
- Interactive map
- Livestock shows and general projects announcements in real time – switch on the alerts function, and you won't even need to open the app!
  - MN4HBeef
  - MN4HDairy
  - NEW: MN4HSheep
  - MN4HAnnounce for all other projects

State fair winners and families, volunteers, staff and all fairgoers interested in 4-H will find it useful. Download it from the iTunes or Google Play store.

If you don't have a smart phone, you can receive these messages on your cell phone by texting "Follow MN4HAnnounce" to 40404. Text "STOP" when you want them to stop. These accounts are active during the state fair.

To join a conversation about 4-H, use the Twitter app and follow MN4H.

## Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational Sept. 11-13

The 2015 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational will be held in Douglas County (Alexandria) **Sept. 11-13**. 4-H members who are involved in their county 4-H Shooting Sports and Wildlife Program will participate in a variety of events such as BB gun, archery, air rifle, air pistol, trap, .22 rifle, black powder and wildlife events. In order to participate, members must work with a certified 4-H instructor and complete 15 hours of training in a discipline and 8 hours of wildlife education.

The state 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational is a great way to demonstrate the skills learned in a safe environment. Come to the Alexandria Shooting Park (located on Interstate

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94 - Alexandria exit 103) **Sept. 11-13** to see the 4-H members in action. To learn more about the 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program, or to see the rules and registration information, contact your Extension office or visit the website at [www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-invitational/](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-invitational/). Registrations will be due to your county Extension office on **Monday, July 20** or a date pre-determined by your county.

## 4-H volunteer corner

### 4-H chaperone training

For adult volunteers, let's take a walk down "memory lane" back to the days of your youth. If you had the opportunity to go on a field trip through school, a youth group or faith-based organization, the trip was mostly likely made possible because there were adults willing to serve as chaperones.

4-H chaperones play a key role in creating "learn by doing" travel experiences. For some youth the trip could be their first travel opportunity away from home without a parent or guardian. Adult chaperones have the responsibility of creating an environment that is physically and emotionally safe. In addition, chaperones recognize and manage risk and understand how youth and adult behavior expectations impact the 4-H member's travel experience. Serving as a chaperone is a rewarding experience; it also requires training.

The online training **4-H chaperone policies: A guide for 4-H adult chaperones** offers valuable information to help insure a safe and enjoyable experience for the youth and the adult chaperones.

Access the training here:

[www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/online-training/](http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/online-training/)

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## 2015 Polk County Fair Schedule

### Sunday July 5th

2:00-6:00 pm.....Clean and set up fairgrounds with **cook out to follow**

### Monday July 6th

5:30 pm.....Fashion Review judging and runway practice, *Fairgrounds*

### Wednesday July 8th

1:00 pm.....Judges and judges assistant meeting, *Foodstand building*

2:00 pm- 6:00 pm.....**Conference judging of general exhibits, 4-H building**

6:00 pm.....Pet and cat show, *4-H building (free stage?)*

6:30 pm.....*Dog Show, Check in at 4-H Building*

6:30 pm.....**PICTURES FOR GRAND AND RESERVE GENERAL PROJECTS**

### Thursday July 9th

8:00 am.....Horse show, *outdoor arena*

All day.....Demonstrations, *Free Stage (final schedule released on entry day)*

2:00 pm.....**All livestock, including horses must be in place**

1:30 pm.....Herdsmanship meeting, *between beef and swine barns*

2:00 pm-5:00 pm.....livestock interviews (*sign up in 4-H tent*)

4:30 pm.....Fashion Review, *free stage*

7:00 pm.....Herdsmanship judging begins for all livestock exhibits

7:00 pm.....4-H Scavenger Hunt, 4-H Building (**Youth only**)

### Friday July 10th

8:15 am.....4-H sheep, beef, meat goat show, *4-H tent*

11:45 am.....Swine Show, *4H tent*

2:00 pm.....Dairy show, *4H tent*

2:00 pm-5:00 pm.....Horse interviews, 4-H Building

4:00 pm.....Rabbit show, 4-H tent

5:30 pm.....*Barnyard Bonanza, 4-H tent (registration 5:00 pm)*

9:00 pm.....***deadline to accept or decline State Fair trip for all projects***

### Saturday July 11th

11:30 am.....Premiere Showmanship Contest, 4H tent

4:00-5:00.....4-H Awards Presentation, *free stage*

5:30 pm.....4-H Premium Auction, 4-H tent (registration 5:00 pm)

### Sunday July 12th

11:00 am.....4-H Costume Show, 4-H tent

12:00 pm.....Herdsmanship winners announced, 4-H tent

2:00 pm.....Parade, *grandstand*

4:00 pm.....**MANDATORY STATE FAIR MEETING ALL PROJECTS, 4-H building**

6:00 pm.....**All projects released, clean up 4-H building, remaining projects can be picked up at the office after Tuesday, July 14th**