Congratulations to all our State Fair Qualifiers! We hope your State Fair experience was full of excitement, learning, and great memories. Share your 4-H State Fair story and/or photos with the Extension Office. We’d love to share them on the Geauga 4-H Facebook page.

As we close our 4-H year and set our sights on the Great Geauga County Fair, I hope you take a moment to reflect on the past year. As a 4-H member you have given back to the community in unprecedented times of need, have learned how to face and handle adversity, and have navigated through a wide range of transitions. 4-H teaches us more than just project content and knowledge, it helps us develop character and truly learn about ourselves. It pushes us to reach beyond our goals and to reach out to others when in times of need. 4-H’ers and our amazing volunteers really are making the best better!

Please read through this newsletter as it contains lots of important information: community service opportunities, awards nominations, and very important Junior Fair information. As with all things 4-H, we do our best to give our members, volunteers, and clubs as much information and support possible so that they can do impactful work. Can’t find the answer to something? Have a new idea? Let us know and we’d be glad to help.

Yours in 4-H,
Alisha Faudie
4-H Extension Educator
**Member Information**

**4-H Photography Contest**
Here’s a chance to show off your photography skills. All pictures must be taken between Fair 2020 and August 13, 2021. Members are not required to take a 4-H Photography Project to enter contest. Entry deadline is 4:30pm on August 13th. All eligible entries and winners will be displayed in the Jr. Fair Building during fair.

**Geauga Park District Equine Opportunities**

**Trail Horse Nature Challenge**
Saturday, August 28, 10 AM-3 PM at The West Woods
Registration: [https://reservations.geaugaparkdistrict.org/programs/?id=16419](https://reservations.geaugaparkdistrict.org/programs/?id=16419)
Facebook event: [https://fb.me/e/1lejaQWrv](https://fb.me/e/1lejaQWrv)

**Horseback Riders: Amish Buggy Training & Trail Ride**
Saturday, September 25, 9:30 AM-1:30 PM at Swine Creek Reservation
Registration: [https://reservations.geaugaparkdistrict.org/programs/?id=16421](https://reservations.geaugaparkdistrict.org/programs/?id=16421)
Facebook event: [https://fb.me/e/PUQgHvLM](https://fb.me/e/PUQgHvLM)

Riders must trailer their own horses to the park. Helmets are encouraged. Please bring a shovel to clean up after your horse in the parking lot...thanks!

**4-H Cultural Immersion Project – Puerto Rico**
Tuesday, November 23 – Wednesday, December 1, 2021 – Castañer, Puerto Rico

The best way to understand a different culture is to immerse yourself in it. Apply to be part of the Cultural Immersion project experience in Puerto Rico. You will build multicultural skills and understanding, as well as an increased ability to communicate in the increasingly diverse society that we live in. You will experience both the Old San Juan urban area as well as life in the remote mountain town of Castañer. We will also be working with 4-H youth from Puerto Rico in joint service projects.

Teens ages 15-19 (as of date of trip) are eligible for this 8-day service-learning experience. The cost of the experience is $500 plus airfare (est. $600). Limited scholarship funds are also available.

Who: Teens ages 15-19 (by the date of the trip)
Where: Puerto Rico (San Juan and mountain village of Castañer)
When: November 23 – December 1, 2021
Application Deadline: August 10th, 2021
Cost: $500 plus airfare -- (Approximately $600)
(Includes most meals, program fees, overnight lodging and transportation)

Contact the Extension Office for an application.
BJ Wells Memorial Award

The Auburn Swine Club began the BJ Wells Memorial Award in 2013 in honor of BJ’s dedication to the 4-H Swine program. He was a member of the Auburn Swine Club for at least 13 years, he was Jr. Fair King in 2004, and became an advisor of the club. His passion was raising and showing pigs and he was willing to share this gift with his siblings, members of his club, and everyone that was interested, regardless of what club or county they were from. The award is open to all swine project members. See attached application.

4-H Club News

Geauga Hunger Task Force
Greener Fields 4-H Club, in partnership with all of Geauga County 4-H and Dr. Augustine Kellis, will again be running a food drive for the Geauga Hunger Task Force. Our drive this year is being led by our club secretary, Jayme O’Neill. The GHTF supports five local food pantries in Geauga County, as well as provides support to NextStep, to groups that deliver home based meals, to provide lunch meals to Seniors at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center, financial support to local churches providing community meals, financial support to Claridon Cares which provides summer lunches to students, and to the Veterans pantry.

All donations and money from 4-H clubs and businesses who give through the 4-H drive will be matched up to $20,000. In 2020, the Geauga 4-H and business donations, plus the match from Dr. Kellis, totaled close to $39,000! If any club wants to send a financial donation, please mail it to the Geauga Hunger Task Force (check payable to them), Attn: Claudia Toth, 209 Center St., Chardon, OH 44024. Please indicate in the memo line that it’s for the 4-H food drive. If it’s not a club check, please also include the club’s name so your club’s participation can be noted. It would be helpful to also send a tally sheet noting the financial donation to Christine or Jayme. New this year is the option of shopping off of our Amazon wish list for donation items! The items will be shipped to an adviser and personally delivered to a local pantry. If a club donation of food items is made, please send a tally sheet so that club participation and the match can be recorded. Please note the food drive attachments. Thank you all for your past help and participation! Our help will be needed this year more than ever. Food assistance is the number one reason for calls for help to the United Way since the pandemic.

Blankets for Veterans
Community Service Opportunity
Sew Sew Sweet 4-H Club

Make No-Sew Blankets for our Veterans that will be distributed at the Great Geauga County Fair on Friday, September 3, 2021, at the Veteran’s Tent.

These blankets should start with 2 fleece fabrics measuring at least 1 1/2-yard pieces.

Please have blankets turned into the Extension Office by August 20th in a bag labeled with your 4-H clubs name on it. Please remember this is a community service project that could count towards your Honor Club application.

If you should have any questions regarding this project, please contact Lisa Briggs at briggsil@ymail.com or at 440-313-2371. Thank you for your help in honoring our Veterans.
2021 Recognition Awards

Volunteer Recognition Awards

Below is a general description of the awards that will be presented at the Recognition & Appreciation Ceremony. Nomination forms are available online and are due by October 1st. Volunteers must be in good standing and have completed their volunteer training requirements by Oct 1st to be eligible. Previous award winners are not eligible to receive the same award multiple times.

- **Clover Key Award** – The KEY to 4-H growth lines in new, committed, and creative leaders. This award recognizes leaders with service from 1-5 years who have provided outstanding service to 4-H and demonstrated a genuine passion towards the program and its ongoing success.

- **Leadership Development Award** – Recognizes a 4-H volunteer, with 5 or more years of service, who had demonstrated and displayed the ability to develop leadership in youth.

- **Meritorious Service Award** – This award honors an individual who has shown superior dedication to the 4-H program. Volunteers with 10 or more years of service, who have made a special contribution to or impact on the Geauga County 4-H program. The recipient of this award will have influenced the lives of 4-H members in a positive way and/or influenced the overall of the 4-H program.

- **Geauga County 4-H Hall of Fame Award** – The prestigious award honors an individual who had served in the 4-H program for a minimum of 15 years and has made significant lifetime contributions of service to the 4-H program.

Member Recognition Awards

Below is a general description of the awards that will be presented at the Recognition & Appreciation Ceremony. Nomination forms are available online and are due by October 1st, 4:30pm. In addition to each award’s eligibility requirements, members must have fulfilled all their 4-H project requirements to be eligible (met enrollment deadlines, completed project judging, QA [if applicable], met minimum attendance requirements, are in good standing, etc.). Awards requiring supplemental descriptions must be attached to the application – please print or type, illegible note cards will result in in disqualification. Only one member/club per application. See nomination forms for complete details.

- **Outstanding 4-H Member** (Replaces Outstanding Participation Award) - This award is to recognize youth who have exhibited outstanding participation across the 4-H program and who have worked to improve themselves and gain personal growth by learning new skills, gaining new knowledge, and participating in a variety of experiences in 4-H. Members are limited to one outstanding award. The Outstanding 4-H Member is awarded on an individual basis not on a species/project basis.

- **Gold Medal** - The Gold Medal Awards are used to recognize members who have shown outstanding effort, personal increase of knowledge and skill, and outstanding achievement in a General Awards category or project area. A 4-H member may only receive the Gold Medal award once per category or project area during their 4-H career.

- **Honor Club** - A 4-H Honor Club is one that incorporates the spirit of 4-H, as stated in the motto, pledge, and the eight elements of positive youth development, in its meetings, project work, and club activities. Honor Club recognition is a challenge to all clubs to set goals and work together to achieve those goals. It is not intended as a contest between clubs.

- **Cloverbud Award** – Recognize outstanding Cloverbuds at the yearly recognition ceremony. Only enrolled cloverbuds (age 5 and in kindergarten to age 8 and not yet in the third grade by Jan 1st) are eligible to receive this award.

- **Club Community Service Award** – This award will recognize a club(s) that demonstrated outstanding community service efforts for the year.

- **Geauga County 4-H’er of the Year** - Combines Ambassador Award and Girl/Boy of the Year. Applications should be completed by the member. Geauga County’s 4-H’er of the Year is the most prestigious award given at the county level. It will be awarded to one individual, age 16 or older, who actively demonstrated their 4-H character in
all of their activities and interactions. The member should be active in local 4-H activities and demonstrated leadership abilities at the local club and county level(s). Applicants should support and exhibit the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship, serve as an Ambassador to 4-H, and live to “Make the Best Better”.

2021 Awards Ceremony
The Extension Office and the Geauga 4-H Advisory Committee are working to see what this years Awards Ceremony will look like. Once details are confirmed, we will share the information with everyone.

Jr. Fair Information
https://www.geaugafair.com/junior-fair.html

From Jr. Fair Coordinator, Jan Jackam

Thank you to all of those market animal exhibitors who have completed their information for the online sale. We really appreciate your efforts to get this done.

Also, a thank you to all the exhibitors who submitted pictures for the back of our tee shirts. Seven drawings have been submitted and we will be making a decision at the July Junior Fair Board meeting.

Assessments are due for all exhibitors going through the Livestock Sale on Saturday, July 17th at Junior Fair Office (behind the milkshake booth). This year the assessment is $10.00 per lot through the sale. Advisors, please have one check for your club and a list with the member’s name, tag numbers if available, and what they are bringing to fair. At this time, you will pick up the “We Support” boards for your exhibitors along with the biography sticker and a livestock scholarship donation form for those who might be interested. The boards from the large animals should be turned in to the Sales Office by August 21st.

Online registration is up and running. Remember, you have to create your account, then sign up for all your classes. Swine and Rabbit exhibitors do not have to enter your tag number — just enter the class. All others should have their tag numbers and be able to enter them. If you need help, please look at the attachment to the newsletter with instructions.

All exhibitors must submit a COVID waiver, which is found at https://www.geaugafair.com/uploads/9/5/9/4/95943910/waiver_geauga_county_junior_fair.pdf
Waiver must be submitted prior to fair or youth will be ineligible for exhibition/showing.

Livestock exhibitors also must complete and submit a Drug Use Notification Form by August 25. Those can be found on the Junior Fair page of the geaugafair.com website. All exhibitors with market animals must complete the form, along with dairy and dairy goat exhibitors with lactating animals. You need one form per animal.

If you or your members have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email at lijackam@gmail.com.

SWINE INFORMATION
HOG EXHIBITORS and ADVISORS- hog pen setup will be Sat. Aug. 21st at 8am. I just need 1 or 2 adults or older kids from each club for both set up and tear down. Please txt me who will be there. Tear down is Sat. Sept.11th also 8am, no pressure washing during setup or teardown. Wed. Sept. 1st is weigh-in, 8am-5pm, weight limits are 220#-310#. All oils must be washed off hogs prior to weigh in, no oil use during fair. Thank you, Kirk Walker 440-679 3207

We gratefully acknowledge the continued help and financial support of our Geauga County Commissioners Jim Dvorak, Tim Lennon, and Ralph Spidalieri.