This month we celebrate Ohio 4-H Week March 7th-13th. 4-H’ers from across the state are sharing how they found their spark in 4-H. Members and volunteers are encouraged to share their 4-H experiences with friends, family, and others. Youth may share their 4-H spark stories on the Geauga 4-H Facebook page.

Numerous Geauga 4-H’ers have created 4-H yard displays location throughout the county. We will be sharing these amazing displays on the 4-H Facebook page as well.

On Tuesday, March 9th, several 4-H’ers attended the Geauga County Commissioners meeting to participate in a 4-H Proclamation. Members shared their 4-H experiences and how 4-H has impacted their lives.

We hope everyone chooses to celebrate 4-H in some way.

Yours in 4-H,
Alisha Faudie
4-H Extension Educator
The Magic of 4-H
Join us virtually for a magical night all about 4-H. New Jersey 4-H Volunteer and alum, Conrad Cologne will be performing his 4-H magic show. Stay afterwards for an all about Geauga 4-H presentation. This event is free and open to everyone, regardless of 4-H status. Share this event with your friends and neighbors.

Must preregister at https://tinyurl.com/GeaugaVMS

Advisor Area

2021 4-H ENROLLMENTS

It's time to start enrolling in Geauga County 4-H for 2021. Project selection is important, and we encourage you to check out https://projectcentral.ohio4h.org to explore the wide variety of options available. Once you are ready to enroll…

WEBSITE: http://v2.4honline.com/
Best Browsers for access: Firefox and Chrome.

Returning Members & Advisors:
You will need last year's enrollment email. If you are not sure which email you used, please contact the Extension office.
Instructional step-by-step video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6tEKhvFry

New 4-H Members:
Complete a paper enrollment form. The Extension Office will enroll you based on your form. If the new member is a sibling of a current members (family already has an enrollment profile), member can submit a paper form or be entered online by the parent/guardian.

Complete instructions and video resources are available at: https://geauga.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/how-join-geauga-county-4-h/4-h-online-enrollment

Online OSU Child Abuse Training (Policy 1.50) Complete by April 1st
https://cfaesosu.catalog.instructure.com/courses/2021-osu-policy-150-annual-training-4h-v7-00q3
All OSU volunteers must complete the annual Child Abuse & Neglect Recognition Training. All volunteers are able to complete the course online. The course is self-registration. Upon completion, please submit a screenshot or forward the completion course notice to the Extension Office.

New Volunteer Orientation & 1st Year Child Abuse Training March 31st via Zoom
New volunteers have two options at completing orientation and their Child Abuse Training. They are able to complete both training online or can register for a Zoom training on March 31st. Any volunteer is welcome to attend as well.
   New Volunteer Orientation - 6:30pm
   Child Abuse Training – 7:45pm

New Volunteer Orientation & Child Abuse Training Registration
4-H Club News

Refer-A-Friend Contest
As 2021 may continue to be a challenging year, clubs are encouraged to recruit new members again for the 2021 4-H Year. This year’s contest will award the club who recruits the biggest percent of new members in relation to their 2020 returning members. Winning club will get to choose between a $50 4-H Mall Gift Card or $50 Joann Fabrics Gift Card. Clubs electing to participate will need to submit the club refer-a-friend form.

Project Book Orders
If clubs/youth can place orders through the Extension Office or can order directly from the website. Only orders purchased through the Extension Office with a club check are tax exempt. Personal orders will be charged tax.

To order online, visit: https://ohio4h.org/booksresources
(Coupon for free shipping on orders over $20)

For an order form to submit to the Geauga Extension Office, visit: https://geauga.osu.edu/sites/geauga/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/2021%20Summary%20of%20Changes.pdf

Club Information for Website
It’s time to review and update your clubs information on the website. Please review what is currently online and complete the attached form titled Club Information Form and return it to the Extension Office at your earliest convenience with any changes. The information you provide will be used to update the club page on the OSU website geauga.osu.edu. If at any time a club would like to change the content on their club page, the club would just resubmit a new form and the information will be updated. Club Information Form

Quality Assurance
This year youth will have multiple options to complete Quality Assurance. Three virtual sessions and one will (hopefully) be in-person. Youth can elect to participate in any session. Virtual options are limited to 50 registrations. Review QA flyer for complete details. To register for virtual (zoom) opportunities only, visit: 2021 Virtual Quality Assurance Registration

Virtual Opportunities:
- Session 1: Saturday, March 13 at 9:00am
- Session 2: Thursday, March 25 at 7:00pm
- Session 3: Wednesday, April 7 at 7:00pm

In-Person:
- Saturday, May 1 at 10:00am

YQCA Option – Online https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login
Youth will have the option to fulfill their QA requirement by completing an online Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) session again in 2021. The Ohio State University’s College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) OSU Extension 4-H Youth Development program, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Youth for the Quality Care for Animals (YQCA), has endorsed the following option for youth who are officially enrolled in a 4-H and/or FFA livestock/food animal project.

For the training to meet the Ohio Youth Food Animal QA requirement for the project year:

- Youth must complete the online session by June 1, 2021.
- The on-line module completed MUST be for the correct 4-H age for the youth.
- Must submit copy of certificate to the Extension Office by 4:30pm June 1st.

Please Note:

- All other online courses do not meet the Ohio Youth Food Animal QA Certification requirements. This is the only online (non-OSU) opportunity available to 4-H members.
- The Geauga County Agricultural Society has approved this online YQCA option.
- The $12 fee is imposed and collected by the YQCA and not the Geauga Extension Office or the Geauga Agricultural Society
Member Information

Scholarship Opportunities

4-H Advisory Committee Scholarship
The Geauga County 4-H Advisory Committee Scholarship may award up to two $500 academic scholarships for the 2020 year. See application for details and requirements. Deadline to apply is July 31st.

4-H Horse Committee Scholarship
The Geauga County 4-H Horse Committee may award up to two $500 academic scholarships. See application for details. Deadline to apply is August 1st.

4-H Camp Scholarships – Coming Soon

Honeybee Essay Competition
The Foundation for the Preservation of Honeybees is once again sponsoring the 2021 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition. The essay competition is open to active 4-H Club members only. 2021 Essay Topic: Immunity: Threats to Bee Colonies and Methods to Defend Against the Threats. Deadline for submission to the Ohio 4-H state office is March 29, 2021. Submit essays to Lisa Jinks, jinks.2@osu.edu by midnight. Each submitted essay will be reviewed by a panel of writing professionals and the top essay selected will be submitted for national competition. Be sure to see important requirements and guidelines on the Foundation’s website. Click here for rules and overview.

Equine Safety & Ethics (EQUISTEP)
Completion of this program is required for first year members before participating in 4-H Horse Activities.
- 2021 Topics: Helmet Safety, Safety & Handling, Preventative Health, and Handling Adversity
Members will fulfill the requirement by completing online CANVAS Modules. Each participant will enroll themselves via a link the link below. Each participant must have a unique email address (i.e. siblings cannot use same email)

Across County Lines Request
OSU Extension policy is that youth should participate in the 4-H program in their county of residence. Each county program received money for operations from their county government and local volunteers work hard to support their local programming. Therefore, across county membership is strongly discouraged.

If you have youth interested in joining your club that live out-of-county, they MUST complete a Request for Membership Across County Lines form and submit it to the 4-H Educator in the county where membership is being requested. NOTE: This must be done as early as possible in the 4-H year as counties have different enrollment deadlines and the form may need to be processed earlier than the county deadline.

The policy and form may be printed from our website: geauga.osu.edu (4-H Youth Development, Club Information and Forms). The Geauga County deadline is March 15th.

Permission for 4-H membership across county lines should NOT BE assumed by the parents of the child or advisors until official notification is received from the 4-H office I the county of request.

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

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES