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WILLIAMS COUNTY



4-H TIMES

"4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills"



FEBRUARY 2011

GREETINGS:

Spring is a busy time of year. As you will see on page 3, our county 4-H contests are all coming up fast. I hope that you will give serious consideration to participating in one or more of these events. The first event will be Project Expo which will be held on March 24th.

Just what is Project Expo? Project Expo provides youth with an experience in planning, preparing and displaying an article or an educational exhibit. It is an opportunity for self-expression both verbally and visually. Project Expo also provides the opportunity to share with others what has been learned in the specific project. Any youth enrolled in 4-H, ages 8-12 on September 1 (Pre-teen) and ages 13-18 on September 1st (Teen).

Select and research a topic or project directly related to a 4-H project in which you are currently enrolled. Prepare an exhibit for display from this project. You will be interviewed by judges about your display and project. Each county may select a total of six members to participate at the North Dakota State Fair in Minot.

Once you have your display made for Project Expo, it is easy to turn this same project into a demonstration for the **Communication Arts contest on April 29th**! Several of our very successful demonstrations are planned this way. You already have a display, a project and the knowledge that you have shared with the judges and public - so why not take it to the next level?

Why are we afraid of public speaking? It is because we are worried about ourselves. "What if I choke, what if I mess up, what if I forget?" Me, Me, Me. We need to forget about "me" and focus on teaching someone something that we are an expert on. You are an expert on your 4-H project. So teaching someone else how they can do it too, is the next step. And remember - audiences are very forgiving. They really don't care if you mess up or lose your place, or look at your notes. They know it could just as easily be them and they are cheering for you!

I hope that this short "commercial" will inspire you to participate in the county Project Expo and Communication Arts contests. We know that public speaking is the number one fear for most people. We also know that the ability to express your thoughts to others is a lifelong skill that will take you far. Take advantage of this opportunity to practice your verbal communication skills in a non-threatening environment. Parents, please encourage your children to participate. They probably won't choose to do this without your encouragement - at least the first time.

Mary

UPCOMING EVENTS

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February

21 ~ President's Day—Office Closed

March

1 ~ Stony Creek submit article for 4-H Times

13 ~ Daylight Savings Time Begins

24 ~ Project Expo

26 ~ Mountrail County 4-H Basketball Tournament

April

1 ~ Sweet Clovers submit article for 4-H Times

15 ~ Consumer Choices

29 ~ Communication Arts

May

2 ~ Registration for market steer due at Extension office

2 ~ Wonder Wizards submit article for 4-H Times

6 ~ Fashion Revue

Happy Valentine's Day



4-H Club of the Month Corner



Prairie Partners 4-H Club



One of our community projects is Adopt a Highway, which we have done for several years. Every May we clean out the ditches of our portion of the highway.

In the past years we have worked at the Light up Spring Lake Park, ring bells for the Salvation Army, and pick a name from the tree at Christmas to purchase gifts for the Salvation Army.



Last summer our last meeting was a hike/photo walk, this was east of Williston on Dr. Bob Olson's property. We took pictures of birds, flowers, and Dr. Olson shared his knowledge with all of us.

Following the hike we roasted marshmallows to make s'mores.



We also had one of our members, Christy Sperling, graduate.

Christy with her poultry project at the Upper Missouri Valley Fair.

We had the pleasure of having one of our members receive the "Outstanding 4-H'er of the Year Award" Katie Harger.



At our December meeting we made Santa fork tree ornaments. We had to first shape the fork, bending the handles and curling the beard.



Prairie Partners 4-H Club has been in existence since 1971. Our club has a wide range of interests. We have 20 members - boys and girls from cloverbuds to seniors in high school.

Our members have horse, beef (steers and heifers) swine, sheep, poultry and rabbit projects. Some of our club projects include leathercraft, glue solutions, crafts and painting.



We meet on the second Sunday of every month at the Round Prairie School. At our February meeting, we will be doing our glue solutions project.



UPCOMING COUNTY 4-H EVENTS

PROJECT EXPO	Thursday March 24 Registration due March 18	4:30—6:30 p.m.	Bethel Home
CONSUMER CHOICES	Friday, April 15 Registration due April 8	6:30 p.m.	2nd Floor Courthouse
COMMUNICATION ARTS	Friday, April 29 Registration due April 22	6:30 p.m.	2nd Floor Courthouse
FASHION REVUE	Friday, May 6 Registration due April 27	4:30—6:30 p.m. Public fashion show at 6:00 p.m.	Bethel Home

PLEASE NOTE: Fashion Revue participants must have a wearable garment as their exhibit for state competition. Pre-teen needs a top or bottom and teen needs a complete outfit in order to be eligible to compete at the State Fair. HOWEVER, participants may show non-wearable exhibits at the county level on May 6 at Bethel Home.

Reminder - Stony Creek 4-H Club!

Please submit your article for the March 4-H Times on or before March 1. Thank you.

Reminder!

Market Steer identification has been cancelled for this year. 4-H'ers with a market steer at UMVF must let our office know on or before May 1, 2011.

4-H'ERS HOLD CHRISTMAS BOWLING PARTY



Corner Club 4-H held their family bowling and pizza party on December 28th at the Million Dollar Lanes, Williston. Around 50 people gathered together for the event. Everyone bowled and had a good time. This event was just one of Corner Club's 4-H activities during the year. More photos on our website!



MOUNTRAIL COUNTY 4-H BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Mountrail County 4-H Council is again inviting all areas 4-H'ers to the 4-H basketball tournament scheduled for **Saturday, March 26**, at the Stanley High School.

Information and enrollment sheets have or will be sent to all club leaders.

If you are interested, visit with your leader. Enrollments are to be returned to the Mountrail County Extension Office by March 7.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

April 17-18, 2011

4-H Aerospace Event

Grand Forks, ND

This event offers youth, age 12—15, a great opportunity to explore aerospace related careers.

For more information go to http://www.ndsu.edu/4h/programs_events/overnight_tripscamps/aerospace_event/

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 20-23, 2011

Extension Youth Conference

Fargo, ND

The theme for this year's EYC is

"FIESTA"

More information will be forthcoming soon

THE TSC CLOVER CARD

The TSC Clover Card — Investing in local 4-H clubs

Benefits:

Register for your card to get special offers and new from TSC available exclusively to 4-H families.

The TSC Clover Card is a great way to celebrate the new partnership between Tractor Supply and 4-H! Each use of the card shows TSC the value of 4-H customers and, more importantly, enters your 4-H club for chance to receive gift cards from Tractor Supply.

Each month, TSC will randomly select five transactions made with the Clover Card. The local club associated with each of those cards will receive a \$500 Tractor Supply Gift Card. Remember, each swipe of the card gives your club a better chance to win gift cards from TSC!

The TSC Clover Card offers special deals to those in the 4-H community — parents, guardians, volunteers and leaders — and provides chances to win TSC gift cards for their club.

The TSC Clover Program is a trial program effective through June 30, 2011. The TSC Clover Card is not compatible with and may not be used in conjunction with online sales transactions.

Go to www.4-h.org and click on the TSC Clover Card to sign up.

Results of December JC Penney Roundup were \$649.10, which makes a total of \$1,821.30 for 2010 that Williams County 4-H received from JC Penney Roundup! Thank you.

