

MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

BENTON COUNTY

November 2013

 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION



Our Holiday Workshop provides a great example of our 4-H philosophy: youth teaching youth!

Sarah Kashmitter teaches Seema Bemboom how to assemble a wooden witch, which was developed by the Pioneers 4-H

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Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H Families and Volunteers,

Minnesota 4-H's vision is to provide hands-on opportunities for youth to learn, lead and contribute in their school, college, career and communities, now and throughout their lives. Our 4-H alumni are shining examples of 4-H's impact in developing generations of leaders in Minnesota.

The current edition of Extension's *Source* magazine is now available and includes a story about Extension 4-H alumni and former speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives Margaret Anderson Kelliher. In it, she talks about how 4-H equipped her with skills and experiences that paved the way for her years of service and leadership as an adult.

I hope you will read this story and share it with people in your community to help them understand the important role 4-H plays in preparing youth to lead, contribute, and help Minnesota communities thrive. You can find the article on Extension's web site here: www1.extension.umn.edu/source/fall-2013/4-h-alumni-give-back-to-communities/.

Sincerely,

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

Meet Your Regional Extension Educators

The University of Minnesota Center for Youth Development has divided the state into five regions. In the Central Region there are ten Extension Educators working in 4-H Youth Development. This article will introduce you to one of those Extension Educators. Watch this space in the months to come for additional introductions or click on this link to read all the introductions now: z.umn.edu/REEs



Hi! My name is Josey Landrieu and I've been an Extension Educator in the Center for Youth Development for a little over five years now. I started my work in Extension as a 4-H Intern in Olmsted County and then transitioned to my Educator role in the Metro, Twin Cities area. I'm beyond excited about our new Central Region team. I lead work in the areas of Regional Program Planning and Evaluation, Citizenship and Leadership, and Staff Development. I have the privilege of working directly with both Hennepin and Chisago counties by supervising the Program Coordinators in these two counties.

A big driver of my work is to always look for ways in which youth and adults from diverse backgrounds can come together and experience positive youth development opportunities. I'm honored to work with the 4-H program and serve the most densely populated and ethnically diverse region in our state.

I can be reached at spall003@umn.edu or via phone at 612-624-4858. I look forward to meeting all of you!

Next month look forward to an introduction to Jessica Russo from the 4-H Urban Youth Development Office.

4-H Enrollment and Re-enrollment for 2013-2014

Don't miss out! The new 4-H year began on October 1 and all 4-H youth and volunteers must be enrolled (or re-enrolled) in order to participate or volunteer in Minnesota 4-H. Enrolling early ensures continued communication about 4-H opportunities and deadlines as well as accident coverage while participating in 4-H programs.

Youth may enroll as Cloverbuds (Grades K-2), club members (Grades 3-13), or independent members (Grades 6-13). Project interests are selected as part of the enrollment process but may continue to be updated until county fair exhibit registration is due. Enrollment options are detailed at www.4-H.umn.edu/be-a-4-H-member.

MN 4-H uses 4HOnline.com, which means that families can go online to enroll new members and to re-enroll returning members and volunteers. In addition, club and project leaders can access enrollment data in 4HOnline related to their club or project area. Full details about 4HOnline.com are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline.

New (first time) 4-H adult volunteers are always welcome and needed! To get started, interested adults must first complete the three step 4-H volunteer screening process before enrolling. Instructions and forms are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/#application.

Leader's Banquet

The 54th annual Benton 4-H Leaders Banquet was held on October 10th at Mr. Jim's in Foley. The event signified the end of the (4-H) year and was an appreciation dinner and awards program for the 4-H youth and adult leaders. During the evening, an invocation and welcome was provided by volunteer, Jan Johnson. Sharon Beehler gave a Leader's Response detailing her 4-H experiences as a volunteer and 4-H Club

Leader, including growing up in town and her transition to leading in 4-H.

After the speeches, awards were presented to certain volunteers. Congratulations to adult leaders that received awards! The following awards were presented:

LEADER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Karen Sakry

HONORARY 4-H MEMBER: Anna and Allen Lyon

FRIEND OF 4-H: Rapid Electric (Kevin and Shannon Hackett)

Additionally, service awards and retiring member awards were presented.

FIRST YEAR ADULT LEADER

- DIAMOND WILLOW
Sue Tix
- DUELM
Elizabeth Schneider
Kevin Hackett
Michael Kloss
- ELK RIVER CRITTERS
Connie Goulet
- GRAHAM
Jennifer Betker
- GREEN ACRES
Diane Halverson
- LANGOLA LIVEWIRES
Kimberly Thon
Mark Thon
- NORTH BENTON
Irene Neu
Joan Nichols
- NORTHERN LITES
Cory Boettcher
Tracy Zwilling
- PIONEERS
Peter Ackerman
- INDEPENDENT
Amanda Gessell

FIFTH YEAR ADULT LEADERS

- PIONEERS
Amy Gapinski

- 79'ERS
Brian McIver
Mike McIver
Pam McIver
Tammy McIver
- INDEPENDENTS
Cathy Jesok
Chad Tirevold

TENTH YEAR ADULT LEADERS

- BUSY BEES
Denise Rothfork
- 79'ERS
Eileen Kirchenbauer
- St. Pat's
Dena Walz

FIFTEENTH YEAR ADULT LEADER

- LANGOLA LIVEWIRES
Spencer Hackett
- MAYHEW LAKERS
Barb Bemboom
Tammy Studenski

TWENTIETH YEAR ADULT LEADERS

- INDEPENDENT
Joe Scapanski

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR ADULT LEADERS

- 79'ERS
Donita Beehler

THIRTY YEAR ADULT LEADERS

- INDEPENDENTS
Becky Molitor

THIRTY FIFTH YEAR ADULT LEADERS

None

FORTIETH YEAR ADULT LEADERS

- 79'ers
Don Beehler

Benton County 4-H is blessed to have dedicated, passionate, and hard-working volunteers.

All of our volunteers contribute to the success of the 4-H program. All of our volunteers are valued and their work is very much appreciated by Extension Staff, community members and certainly by youth that they serve. Thank you, volunteers, for donating your time to Benton County 4-H!

Leader's Council & Silent Auction

Sunday, November 17

Silent Auction: 3:00-5:15 p.m.

Leader's Council: 6:00 p.m.

The November Leader's Council meeting will be on Sunday, November 17 at 6:00 p.m., following the Silent Auction, which will be from 3:00-5:15 p.m. Both events will be held at St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Gilman.

Our Silent Auction is an annual event in which Benton County 4-H raises money for a community member or family that is in need. Recipients are generally in need because of medical bills. Past recipients include people suffering from cancer, accident victims, and people with other debilitating diseases.

This year the Silent Auction recipient is Mylee Scapanski. Mylee is a beautiful young girl, who went from being a healthy seven month old one day to fighting for her life the next. In June, Mylee went into cardiac arrest and was later diagnosed with a very rare disease called Restrictive Cardiomyopathy. She is in need of a new heart and will stay at the hospital until they find a healthy transplant for her.

All of the proceeds from the Silent Auction will go directly to the Scapanski Family.

There are many ways to help with the Silent Auction:

- Distribute fliers and letters. If you would like to distribute fliers or help by asking businesses if they could make donations, please contact Michelle for fliers and/or letters asking for donations.
- Make personal donations. Donations may be brought to the Extension Office by Friday, November 16 or brought to the Silent Auction between 2:30—3:00.
- Volunteer at the Silent Auction. If you would like to volunteer or bring snacks for the

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Silent Auction, please contact Michelle at 320-968-5077 or mkgarcia@umn.edu by Wednesday November 14.

Please donate your hands to larger service, so that the Silent Auction is a success for Mylee and the Scapanski Family. The Silent Auction is our opportunity to show the community our 4-H values and our commitment to caring, community building, and generosity.

Club Charter Paperwork

Friday, November 1

Completed club charters are due on November 1 to the Extension Office! If you would like any assistance in completing this very important process, please contact Michelle at 320-968-5077 or mkgarcia@umn.edu.

2013 Fall 4-H Volunteer Training

Tuesday, November 18, 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 3, 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Adult volunteers and youth leaders are required to attend the 2013-2014 annual volunteer training. We will use the North Central Region 4-H Volunteer e-Forums broadcast for our training. Join with other 4-H volunteers in our community and across the 12-state North Central Region to learn cutting edge information that will help us work effectively with 4-H members.

You will benefit from the feedback and discussion of other state 4-H programs and develop new skills for facilitating learning experiences and for applying this in your work with youth in 4-H projects, clubs, and activities. It is REQUIRED that each club sends at least one adult volunteer and one youth to a training. Please RSVP by November 12 by contacting Michelle at 320-968-5077 or mkgarcia@umn.edu, so that she can plan accordingly.

- **Date:** November 18, 2013
- **Location:** Benton County Board Room

- **Time:** 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- **Topic:** "Hooray! You've got 4-H parents! Now what?!"
- **Date:** December 3, 2013
- **Location:** Benton County Board Room
- **Time:** 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- **Topic:** "Engaging teens/Older youth"

Club Officer Training

Thursday, December 5, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m

All club officers should attend the Club Officer Training on Thursday, December 5 from 6:30 - 8:00 at the Harvest Fellowship Church (400 2nd Avenue North, Sauk Rapids). Pizza and Pop will be served! It is required that club officers attend the training. Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 27, 2013 for the training so the right amount of food can be ordered. Contact Michelle at 320-968-5077 or mkgarcia@umn.edu. We also need experienced officers and adult volunteers to help with this training. Please contact Michelle as soon as possible if you would be willing to help train others.

Regional 4-H Lock-In!

Friday, January 24 to Saturday, January 25, 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE! The 4th annual Regional 4-H Lock In will be held the night of Friday, January 24, from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. in Monticello. More information will be going out closer to the date to enrolled 4-H members in grades 7 and up.

Share the Fun & Performing Arts

Friday, April 11

SAVE THE DATE! Share the Fun & Performing Arts will be on Friday, April 11 at the Foley Auditorium. More information will be coming out closer to the date to clubs and 4-Hers enrolled in performing arts.

National Youth Summits Opportunity

The National Youth Summit series is a national opportunity for high school students, grades 9 - 12, to advance their skills, meet industry mentors, and prepare for a career in science, technology or healthy living. The first Summit on Geo-Spatial Technologies was successful with 127 high school students! Upcoming summit events include:

- National Youth Summit on Healthy Living: **January 9 - 12, 2014**
- National Youth Summit on Agri-Science: **January 16 - 20, 2014**
- National Youth Summit on Robotics: **February 13 - 17, 2014**

Link to more information at:

<http://www.nationalyouthsummit.org/>.

National 4-H Conference

The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the US Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities.

Important dates include:

- **April 5-10, 2014** - Conference, National 4-H Conference Center, **Washington, D.C.** (possible flight dates of April 4 and April 11)
- **November 19, 2013** - Application deadline postmark date. All youth delegate application/recommendation forms; staff recommendation forms; and other adult recommendation forms are due with postmark date of November 19, 2013.

Please go to the following URL for delegate application process and materials:

www.4-H.umn.edu/events/national-conference

Register for a BLU near You!

The Minnesota 4-H State Ambassadors invite all youth in grades 6 on up to plan to attend a Building Leadership and Understanding (BLU) overnight leadership retreat near you! Volunteer chaperones will also be needed. Five BLUs will be held this year in the following locations:

- **February 1-2 - Shoreview**
- **February 8-9 - Marshall**
- **February 15-16 - Crookston**
- **February 22-23 - Duluth**
- **March 1-2 - Owatonna**

Additional details are available online at: <http://www.4-H.umn.edu/events/blu/>, or connect with your County 4-H Office for more information.

MN 4-H Adult Volunteer Association Conference

February 6-8, 2014 - Plymouth, MN

Volunteers and their families are invited to attend the 29th Annual MN 4-H Adult Volunteer Association (M4-HAVA) Conference at the Best Western Plus Kelly Inn in Plymouth on February 6-8, 2014. One of the focus areas will be 4-H Project Curriculum Training. **Early Bird registration must be received before January 1st** to receive the discount rate for new or renewing M4-HAVA members.

Complete details including conference registration and hotel reservation information is available on the University of Minnesota Extension webpage:

www1.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/m4-hava.

Closed for Holidays

Please remember that the Extension Office Closes for certain Holidays. In the next few months our office will be closed:

November 11, 28, 29 (Veteran's Day & Thanksgiving)

December 24 (Half Day), **25** (Christmas)

January 1 (New Years)

Calendar

November

- 1 Club Charters Due, Extension Office
- 11 Veteran's Day Observation – Office Closed
- 17 Leader's Council, St. Peter & Paul Church, 6:00 p.m.
- 17 Silent Auction, St. Peter & Paul Church, 6:00 p.m.
- 18 Mandatory Volunteer Training, Board Room, 6:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- 24 Ambassador Meeting, Board Room, 6:00 p.m.
- 28 Thanksgiving – Extension Office Closed
- 29 Extension Office Closed – Day After Thanksgiving

December

- 3- Mandatory Volunteer Training, Board Room, 6:45 p.m. -8:30 p.m.
- 5 Officer Training, Harvest Fellowship Church, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- 24 – Christmas Eve – Extension Office Closed at 12 Noon
- 25 – Christmas Day – Extension Office Closed

January

- 9-12 National Youth Summit on Health Living, Chevy Chase, MD
- 14 Small & Exotic Committee Meeting, Extension Office, 6:00 p.m.
- 14 Livestock Committee Meeting, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Auction Committee Meeting, Board Room, 8:00 p.m.
- 16-20 National Youth Summit on Agri-Science, Chevy Chase, MD
- 24-25 Regional Lock-in, Monticello, 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

February

- 1 Beef Weigh In, Benton County Fairgrounds, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 1-2 BLU Leadership Retreat, Shoreview
- 3 Leader's Council, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Beef Weigh In, Benton County Fairgrounds, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 13-17 National Youth Summit on Robotics, Chevy Chase, MD
- 15 Beef Weigh In Snow Date
- 15 Market Beef IDs Due
- 17 Presidents Day – Extension Office Closed