



The Clover Express
Stark County Newsletter for 4-H/Youth Development
Ohio State University Extension, Stark County
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Massillon, Ohio 44646



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Ohio State University Extension, Stark County

David C. Crawford, Editor

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Web Site: <http://stark.osu.edu>

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In case of bad weather: Listen to Canton 1480
AM WHBC for 4-H/Extension cancellations.

You, the volunteers make our Stark County 4-H Youth Program strong! Thanks and keep up your great work!!

13th Annual Stark County 4H Swiss Steak Dinner: Sat., April 25th at Nimishillen Grange, 4:30pm-7pm. Tickets available for purchase. This is the largest fundraiser of the year. Come out and support your Stark County 4-H Program.

2009 4-H Club Enrollment Packets: were sent to organizational advisors. 4-H Advisors/volunteers and youth are asked to each complete a member form. Contact the Extension office if you have not received a packet or if you have questions 330-830-7700 x102 or x115. Deadline to enroll is March 15th annually.

4-H Volunteer Selection & Age Guideline Review: All adults who help with youth two or more times or are ever alone with the club MUST complete the OSUE Volunteer Process, including application, reference checks and official fingerprint background check. **4-H Ages:** youth from ages 5 AND in kindergarten to eight years old may join as Cloverbud members; **4-H Project/Club age:** youth 9 years old (or 8 yrs in 3rd grade) to age 19 (last year of 4-H is the year in which the youth attains the age of 19).

4-H Book Orders: orders must be placed on order form, check payable to OSUE must accompany order. Please allow for 2 weeks for book orders due to limited storage space and reduced budget. Books must be picked up at office. Please call the office before your trip to pick up items. Due to our small staff, office may not be opened all times due to illness, meetings, etc. Thanks!!

4-H Dog Committee: contact David if interested in the 4H Dog Committee.

4-H Home Economics Committee: Meeting April 8th 6:30pm at North Branch library-25th St.; **4-H Fashion Leadership Board will be forming soon.** Watch for details.

Ohio 4-H Volunteer Conference, Sat, March 14, 2009, registration form due by **February 23, 2009 to Extension office.** 30 scholarships available. Location: The Columbus Convention Center. **Ohio 4-H Teen Conference, Sat, February 21, 2009,** registration form due to the Extension Office by **Feb 6, 2009.** 30 scholarships available. Contact David for info if interested in either conference.

Thanks to The Stark County 4-H Advisory Committee for their annual sponsorship of scholarships for 4-H Teen and Volunteer Conferences!!

THE OHIO RABBIT & CAVY CLINIC, Sat, March 21, 2009, Champaign County Fairgrounds Registration at 4-H Activity Building 8:45 – 9:15 AM; No Registration Fee Questions call, April LeMaster-Rabbits (937) 869-4396.

4-H Day at Cedar Point Friday, June 27th. On this day, 4-H members, volunteers, and friends can visit Cedar Point at a reduced rate.

Quality Assurance-RG Drage Feb 17, 6:30pm-8:30pm County wide Beef Meeting & QA will take place. All species are welcome to participate in the QA. Starts 6:30pm SHARP- please arrive early to register.

NEW Junior Fair & 4-H website: <http://starkcountyjrfair4h.com/> Make sure to visit each specie's page through the barn door, link to 4-H page for Home Ec project information, 2009 Stark County 4-H Project Guidelines, etc. Let this serve as your one stop information site for Stark County Junior Fair and Stark County 4-H! We would love suggestions of what you would like on the site, feel free to contact David or Pam with ideas. Watch for a local Stark community site administrated for safety by National 4-H by end of the year!

4H Horse Committee-Committee meetings are the first Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm at the Harmont/Rt 62 McDonalds. Please plan to attend- we welcome new ideas to make our horse program educational and fun for the youth. Horse Bowl practice starts Jan 8th, 6:00-7:30, runs till competition in April. Even if you don't want to compete, join us for some fun, anyone taking a horse project is welcome. Horse committee has a nice 16" Big-horn leather and fabric saddle we are raffling to help fund our horse activities. Drawing will be in October at our horse banquet, tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Contact a Horse committee member to purchase tickets.

2009 Pygmy Goat Project dates and information: Pygmy Goat Clinic: Saturday, July 18, 2009, in the sheep and swine arena at the fairgrounds. Noon-2:00 p.m. Children are to bring their pygmy goat on a short lead and be ready to practice showmanship. Any information the committee has for them will be distributed as well. Parents are welcome to stay and watch as well!

Pygmy Goat Interview/Book Judging: Saturday, August 15, 2009, in the Jr. Fairboard Office at the fairgrounds. Noon-2:00 p.m. Children are to bring their completed project book (one level for each year you have taken this project) and their completed record book for each goat coming to the fair this year. (No goats are to come for project judging day.) Your Interview/Book Judging is mandatory to complete the pygmy goat project. If you cannot come on this day, you MUST call before and reschedule a time with the pygmy goat committee. Any member that does not call before that day will not be rescheduled for a makeup date. We will not be making up interviews during fair week unless it is prearranged with a committee member. Don't forget about the **Chuck Blackwood Memorial Essay Contest for 2009!** Anyone who is enrolled in a 4-H club and who did not take a pygmy goat project in 2008 can enter! Get the word out! Essay Contest information has been sent out to your advisors and will be again in January. The winner receives an NPGA Registered pygmy goat kid for their 2009 project! Call Kirstin Cheyney at 330-854-2496 or any Pygmy Goat Committee member for help!

Stark County 2009 Junior Fair Update

I hope everyone had a great holiday season! Time is quickly sneaking up on us! Before we know it, the 2009 Stark County Fair will be here! Dates for the 2009 fair are September 1 – September 7, 2009.

All the rules will be posted on the web site (www.starkcountyjrfair4h.com) by the middle of January. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU READ THE RULES COMPLETELY! There have been some rule changes made and there is absolutely no reason not to know what these rule changes are. If you do not understand the rules, please contact a committee member or my office (330) 455-7856 or e-mail starkjrfaircoord@aol.com. Remember– all rules will be enforced!

Dairy: New Rule: Dairy Beef Feeders must be in place at the fair by Monday, August 31, 2009 at 10:00 pm.

New Rule: Dairy Beef Feeders: Members in their first year of the project may only exhibit and sell one calf. Second year members or more of the project may exhibit and sell up to two calves. One extra animal per member project may be tagged in (i.e.-if you can show two animals, you can tag three animals. If you can show one animal, you can tag two animals. Calves will be tagged in by family (same address) and not project member.

New Rule: All dairy beef feeders must be double restrained in the barn at fair time. No Exceptions! TAG-In: June 6, 2009 10:00 am – Noon at the fairgrounds.

Swine: Skillathon-Aug. 15 and 16, 2009 10:00 am – 2:00 pm in the sheep and swine arena at the fairgrounds. Make up date is August 30, 2009 1:00 – 3:00 pm Project book completion is required! Tag-In: June 6, 2009 8:00 am – 11:00 am at the fairgrounds.

Market Goats: All market goats must be wethers. No exceptions! Tag-in: June 6, 2009 9:00 am – 11:00 a.m.

Rabbit and Cavy: April 28: Educational clinic in the Art Hall at the fairgrounds 7:00 pm

Sheep: There have been some rule changes for the sheep this year. Please READ YOUR RULES!! Any exhibitor taking Beginner Market Lamb project (first year) may secure and feed up to four lambs, BUT may exhibit only one market lamb, and/or one Born & Raised Market Lamb. Any exhibitor taking Intermediate or Advanced Market Lamb project and having completed the Beginner Market Lamb project may secure and feed up to six lambs, BUT may only exhibit three lambs at the fair—two market lambs plus one Born & Raised Market lamb **OR** two Born & Raised market lambs plus one market lamb. A tagged lamb not used to exhibit may be used for the carcass class. All completed project books, DUNF forms, and picture release forms must be turned in to the committee on Monday, August 31 BEFORE your animal will be checked in. PLEASE READ YOUR RULES!! There is no excuse for not knowing the rules- rules on the web site (www.starkcountyjrfair4h.com) Tag-In Day: June 6, 2009 8am-11am on grounds.

ATTN: ALL 4-Hers INTERESTED IN TAKING A NEW ANIMAL PROJECT!
The Stark Co. Jr. Fair Pygmy Goat Committee is again hosting an essay contest...

2009 CHUCK BLACKWOOD MEMORIAL ESSAY CONTEST

The **winner** will be awarded an **NPGA Registered Pygmy Goat kid** to be taken as a project and shown in Stark County for 2009! Pygmy goat kid will be **donated** by the Pygmy Goat Committee and will ready for the child in the spring, usually around April or May. **Any 4-H member may participate if they will be enrolled with a club for 2009 and did NOT take a pygmy goat project in 2008.** To enter the contest the child must write an essay outlining **why** they would like to take a pygmy goat project, as well as what housing arrangements you will have. Include in your essay your **name, age, phone number**, number of years you have been involved in 4-H, previous projects taken, and any other information they feel is important and/or interesting! **Be creative!** Think about what may make your essay stand out from the crowd. The essay may be hand-written or typed and often have included art work! Parents/Guardian **MUST** sign at the bottom of the essay confirming that they would be able to receive the pygmy kid, take care of the kid properly as far as housing requirements, ect. and that they agree to **finish** the project out by showing it in Stark Co. this year. Our committee is looking for an individual who shows **enthusiasm and interest** in owning and raising a new project and who is able to provide proper care and adequate housing for a pygmy goat project. (When planning for housing and fencing needs, remember that your pygmy kid will be small when you receive it, probably around 15 inches at the withers).

Essays are due by Feb. 28, 2009. The committee will be meeting the first week of March and the winner will be notified by phone. All others will be sent a letter by mail. If you win, be sure you sign up for the project with your club by March 15, 2009. All names will be withheld from committee members that are judging the essays.

This has been a great program that we have implemented the past several years! The winners have enjoyed their pygmy kids so much! Tell your friends and spread the word! Good luck to all! Questions? Call Kirstin Cheyney @ 330-854-2496.

Send Essays to: **Kirstin Cheyney, Chairman, Stark Co. Jr. Fair Pygmy Goat Committee**

7833 Bricker Rd. NW Massillon, OH 44646

Ohio 4-H Website: <http://www.ohio4h.org/> Visit often to keep updated

Ohio 4-H Events & Opportunities Hand book & State 4-H Calendar: <http://www.ohio4h.org/youth/EventsandOpport/index.html>

OSU Animals Science-Livestock-Horse-Companion Animal-Dog links: <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/%7E4hansc/>

Contacts:David C. Crawford, CED & 4-H Extension Educator 330-830-7700 x115 crawford.228@osu.edu

Phyllis McMaster, Office Associate 330-830-7700 x102 mcmaster.15@osu.edu

**Please contact Phyllis for club registration changes/updates, reserving 4-H Tub of Books, & 4-H Book Orders.

Let's have a GREAT 2009 Stark County 4-H Project year!! Volunteers are the Heart of our 4-H Program-

Thank you for all your dedication, leadership and commitment- You are GREATLY appreciated!!

RG Drage Tuesday, Feb 17, 6:30pm-8:30pm County wide Beef Meeting & Quality assurance will take place. All species are welcome to participate in the QA. Starts 6:30pm SHARP- please arrive early to register.

Junior Fair Theme Ideas for 2009 are due to Pam Baad by Feb. 28, 2009– Fair Theme will be selected in March!

4-H Club/Member Registration Deadline:

Stark County– March 15, 2009

Stark County 4-H Swiss Steak Dinner:

Saturday, April 25, 2009

2009 4-H County Judging Dates:

Thursday, July 16th Clothing/Style Revue;

Saturday, July 18th Foods/Extravaganza/Dog/Cloverbud

Stark County Fair

September 1 - 7, 2009

Ohio State Fair:

July 29 - August 9, 2009

New Stark County Junior Fair/4-H Website:

<http://starkcountyjrfair4h.com>

David C. Crawford

**David C. Crawford, County Extension Director
& Extension Educator, 4-H/Youth Development**

Thank you volunteers!!

You are greatly appreciated!

**“Tell me & I forget; Teach me & I remember;
Involve me & I Learn!” Ben Franklin.**

Happy New Year 2009!

**Thank you Stark County Commissioners for your
continued support!!**

Todd Bosley, Dr. Peter Ferguson, Tom Harmon

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

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Check out 4-H Volunteer fact sheets at: <http://ohioline.osu.edu/lines/kids.html#4HS>

Ohio 4-H Clubs Advisor On-line Handbook: <http://advisorshandbook.ohio4h.org/>

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Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agriculture Administration and Director, OSU Extension TDD No. 800-589-8292 (Ohio Only) or 614-292-1868.