MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

BRAINERD REGIONAL OFFICE / KANABEC COUNTY DECEMBER 2012

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CONTACT US

Kanabec County Extension
County Courthouse
18 North Vine St Suite 181
Mora, MN 55051-1351

Jodi Bakke
4-H Program Coordinator
Interim
(320) 679-6340 (phone)

Renee Kostick
4-H Regional Educator
(218) 232-5174

www.4-H.umn.edu
www.extension.umn.edu/county/kanabec

Statewide Horse PDC Webinar

There will be a statewide Horse PDC webinar on Monday, December 3rd from 6:30-8:00 pm. We will be watching the webinar together as a county from the courthouse basement, room #3. All youth and adult Kanabec County Horse PDC members should attend. Others who are interested in learning about regional and state horse project opportunities should also attend.

Dog PDC Meeting

There will a Dog Project Development Committee meeting on Monday, December 3rd, at 5:30 pm in the courthouse basement, room #5. All youth and adults who are interested in growing and developing the dog project in Kanabec County are encouraged to attend. We will discuss having a dog bowl team and elect PDC officers. For questions please call the Extension office at 320-679-6340.

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Camp Counselors Needed

Are you in 9th grade or older? Do you want to have a great summer and meet new friends? Sign up to be a PICCKMW Camp Counselor! Applications to be a PICCKMW Camp Counselor will be out soon. Camp will be held June 24-26 at Norway Point Camp in St. Croix State Park east of Hinckley. Call the Extension office for an application and the list of camp counselor meetings and events. Applications are due back to the Extension office by January 31st.

Kanabec County 4-H Ambassadors "Christmas in a Shoebox/Bag"

The Kanabec County 4-H Ambassadors plan on making 100 boxes or bags to give to needy families locally, all items donated will be used for local needy families. All items you wish to donate you can bring to the Courthouse. Please have any items you wish to donate turned into the Courthouse by December 13th.

Gift Suggestions:

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

Hygiene Items: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: t-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

Sign-up for the 2012 Kanabec County 4-H Shooting Sports/Wildlife Program

The Kanabec County 4-H Shooting Sports/Wildlife program will have its kick-off/sign-up for the 2012 program year on January 14, at the Mora Public Library, (200 West Maple Ave.) at 6:30 pm in the basement.

The very exciting Shooting Sports/Wildlife program encompasses a variety of shooting disciplines: BB gun, Air Rifle/Air Pistol, .22 rifle, (field grade and target grade), Shotgun (trap shooting), Archery, Muzzleloading (rifle, pistol and tomahawk) and Wildlife.

The various disciplines are school grade dependent. BB gunners start in third grade and can go through sixth grade. Air rifle/Air Pistol and Archery start in fourth grade and can go until one year past high school graduation. The powder burning disciplines, (.22 rifle, Shotgun and Muzzleloading) can start in seventh grade but to shoot .22 rifle and Muzzleloading, the youth must have completed the fifteen hour Beginner training session.

All equipment is provided for the various disciplines. There is a modest fee for each discipline. The youth do have to belong to 4-H but they are able to sign up at the Kick-off if they are not already 4-H members.

Kanabec County has had a very strong showing for many years at the Minnesota State Invitational Shoot held every September. Any youth that wants to attend the State Shoot is able to, provided they have met the minimum number of hours required for each discipline.

Dates and times and any other information that would be needed can be found out at the Kick-off on January 14th. The program is structured and safe, providing an enjoyable and educational experience for any and all youth.

We would like all returning shooters to come sign up on January 14th as well. Hope to see you there!

Minnesota 4-H State Horse Winter Roundup

You won't want to miss this fun opportunity to learn more about the Minnesota 4-H Horse Project activities available to 4-H youth. Winter Roundup January 25-27, 2013 at Green Lake Bible Camp, Spicer. Full conference fee includes three days and two nights of learning, sharing information, and having fun! Conference fees will be supplemented again this year by the Minnesota 4-H Horse Association.

Sessions on Horse Project areas will be geared toward new 4-H parents/leaders, veteran leaders, and **junior youth leaders**. Older youth (**8th grade & above**) may attend, however this will be intense leader training with very few recreational activities provided.

- Registrations postmarked by January 7, 2013 $60.00
- Registrations postmarked January 8th-14th, 2013 $80.00
- Any one day same as full fee
- Registrations will not be accepted if postmarked after January 14th **

Please call or e-mail Carol at 763-464-4427 or wru4h@yahoo.com with any questions about fees and /or deadlines.

During your Friday through Sunday stay you will be provided: Friday evening pizza party, 5 meals, 2 nights stay, lots of information on the Minnesota 4-H Horse Project, great info and ideas from our keynote Speaker, a chance to meet new friends, and **FUN**!

Don't wait! First come, first served! Complete the registration form and mail it back. For more information, contact co- chairs Carol Dobbelaire atwru4h@yahoo.com or Nan Wellnitz at wild.4hair@yahoo.com or youth chairs Alex Schonnesen or Samantha Stahnke. Registration deadline: January 14, 2013.

Dear 4-H families and volunteers:

This time of year, we find ourselves taking time to reflect and give thanks for the wonderful things in our lives. As the Minnesota State 4-H Director, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the 4-H program in Minnesota. Without the support and contributions of volunteers, partners and families, youth would not have the opportunity to explore their passions in 4-H, whether to find out what it's like to design, program and build a robot or raise and care for a horse or sing and dance in a musical.

Research shows that these learn-by-doing opportunities for youth – where they decide what they want to learn about and how – are critical for their positive development. And this type of learning only happens in youth programs like 4-H.

Your support helps 4-H equip youth with the skills to learn, lead and succeed in school, college, careers and communities today and in the future.

Sincerely,

Dorothy M Freeman

Re-enroll by January 15

Don't miss out! 4-H youth and volunteers need to re-enroll by ***January 15***. Re-enrollment remains open after January 15, but the longer you wait, the more you miss out on, including critical communications.

The re-enrollment task should be significantly shorter this year because previously entered information will carry over into the new 4-H year. However, it is CRITICALLY IMPORTANT that families review and update enrollment information, especially health and emergency

contact information. If you have forgotten your password, you can request to have it sent to you at the main login screen at mn.4honline.com.

New (first time) 4-H youth members can enroll online using the link above, but must mail a signed copy of the Authorization Statements to Extension staff. The Authorization Statement document can be downloaded from www.4-h.umn.edu/policies/4H-member-authorization-form.pdf and mailed to your county or regional office at www.extension.umn.edu/about/offices. You will find "Quick Start" and "Detailed Instructions" links on the login page to guide you through the enrollment process.

New (first time) 4-H Adult Volunteers must complete the three step 4-H Volunteer Screening process in order to serve as a 4-H volunteer. Instructions and forms are available at www.4-h.umn.edu/volunteer/#application. Screening is a separate process from enrolling. Complete information and support resources can be found online at www.4-h.umn.edu/4honline.

4-H Clovermart Holiday Sale

This is a limited time offer for all 4-H Clothing and Novelty items you might have missed the opportunity to buy during the State Fair! This sale will only last through ***December 13, 2012***. Please visit the link below to see all items available for purchase, to download the order form and to receive more information! sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/4hclovermartholidaysale/

For additional information or questions, please contact: Laura Leibfried at leib0060@umn.edu OR Kelsey Glaess at glaes042@umn.edu OR call 612-626-3726.

Building Leadership and Understanding – BLU

The State 4-H Ambassadors offer BLU, an exciting and fun leadership adventure that brings together over 500 youth from across the State of Minnesota in an overnight leadership workshop. Each retreat uses hands-on activities to help youth learn and practice valuable skills that they take back with them to their counties and communities, and will use throughout their lives.

Youth grades 6-13 are invited to participate; non-4-H members are welcome too. Choose the BLU location near you:

- **Minneapolis North**, Crown Plaza; Saturday, ***February 2-3, 2013***
- **Mankato,** AmericInn, ***February 9-10, 2013***
- **Bemidji**, Hampton Inn & Suites, ***March 2-3, 2013***

The cost is $80 for all participants and chaperones. This covers all meals, lodging, activities, and supplies. A BLU retreat t-shirt is available for an additional $12 if ordered at the time of registration. A late fee of $20 per person will be added for registrations received after the deadline.

Chaperones will be needed! Please call the Extension Office if you are interested. Regions and/or counties must provide their own adults-in-charge and transportation to BLU. Adults must be 21 or older and be a screened 4-H volunteer.

Registration is due to the county Extension office by ***January 7, 2013***. The registration form is available online at www.4-.umn.edu/county/kanabec.Click on 4-H in Kanabec County and look under forms. Additional information is available online at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/blu. Please contact your county Extension office or Kim Thompson, Center for Youth Development at thomp037@umn.edu or 612-624-7774 with any questions.

2013 Project Bowls

Project Bowls are just around the corner! It is that time of year again when project bowl teams will begin practicing for the Regional Contests in March. There are opportunities for teams to form in dairy, dog, general livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit and wildlife. Two team contests are held - Junior (grades 3-8) and Senior (grades 4-12+). Check out the 4-H Project Bowl website at: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/project-bowl for rules, resources, and more information for the 2013 bowls. If you would like to coach, help coach or participate on any of these teams, please call your Extension office. Regional Bowl dates and locations are:

- ***March 2*** – Foley
- ***March 9*** – Farmington
- ***March 16*** – Grand Rapids
- ***March 16*** – Redwood Falls
- ***March 23*** – Snow Date
- ***April 20*** – State Bowl (Foley)

Reminder: M4-HAVA Forum

The Minnesota 4-H Adult Volunteer Association reminds you to consider attending the 2013 M4-HAVA Forum which will be held at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud on ***February 14-16***. Exciting and educational workshops have been planned, as well as opportunities for you to get together with other 4-H volunteers from around the state to share ideas, learn new skills, develop and renew friendships, and have a lot of fun.

Forum registration includes meals and all sessions. "Early bird" registrations received by ***January 15*** are just $85 for M4-HAVA members and $120 for non-members. Registration received ***January 16-31*** is $130 for M4-HAVA members and $165 for non-members. One-day registration is also available. Note: Membership is just $10/year per person or $15 per couple (S/L/B/G/T/Q), so you'll want to join M4-HAVA before or while registering for the forum. Youth 9th grade and above register as an adult, while youth K-8 will register for "Kids Path" for just $65 per youth.

Hotel reservations can be made by calling the St. Cloud Kelly Inn at 320-253-0606. Mention that you are with 4-H to obtain the special event rate.

More information about this event, including session titles and descriptions, is available at the M4-HAVA website at www.m4-hava.org (Click on "upcoming events").

See YOU at the forum!

Citizenship Washington Focus

CWF is a citizen and leadership event for high school youth from across the United States. Youth learn about government, the legislative process, meet with elected officials and visit many national monuments and historical sites in Washington D.C.

- ***June 30 - July 6, 2013*** (Does not include travel dates) – National 4-H Conference Center, Washington D.C.
- Be sure to check out any County specific requirements and deadlines.

More information can be found at the following website at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/citizenship-washington-focus

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Make It with Wool Contest, Mankato – Dec. 1
- Statewide Horse PDC Webinar – Dec. 3
- Dog PDC Meeting – Dec. 3
- PICCKM Wildlife Retreat – Dec. 7-8
- Christmas in a Shoebox/Bag Due – Dec. 13
- Office Closed – Christmas – Dec. 24-25
- Office Closed – New Year's Day – Jan. 1
- BLU Registration Due – Jan. 7

- Shooting Sports Kick-Off – Jan. 14
- M4-HAVA Registration Due – Jan. 15
- 4-H Re-enrollment Deadline – Jan. 15
- Office Closed – Martin Luther King Day Jr. Day – Jan. 21
- Horse Winter Roundup – Jan 25-27
- Leader's Council Meeting – Jan. 28
- Camp Counselor Applications Due – Jan. 31
- BLU, North Minneapolis – Feb. 2-3
- BLU, Mankato – Feb. 9-10
- M4-HAVA Forum, St. Cloud – Feb. 14-16
- Project Bowl, Foley – March 2
- BLU, Bemidji – March 2-3
- Project Bowl, Farmington – March 9
- Project Bowl, Grand Rapids– March 16
- Project Bowl, Redwood Falls – March 16
- Project Bowl, Snow Date – March 23
- State Project Bowl, Foley – April 20