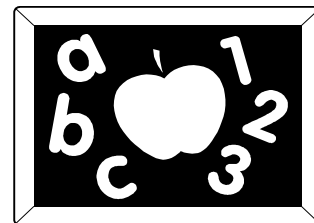




West 1 Field Education Unit 4-H HEADLINE NEWS September 2008



September 2008

West 1 Field Education Unit Educators

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South Dakota 4-H
Website
<http://4h.sdsstate.edu>

CELEBRATE NATIONAL 4-H WEEK –October 5-11, 2008

The 2008 National 4-H Week theme will be "Keeping it Green." With 4-H's connection to environmental efforts, youth participating in environmental science, and 4-H's green brand logo, "Keeping it Green" shows how 4-H is bridging old ideas with new to teach youth environmental stewardship and connecting youth to science-related issues.

What can you do to promote and encourage new 4-H members in your county? National 4-H Week is the first big event in the 4-H year and we need you to promote the 4-H organization. How, you ask? Here are some suggestions that you can do that will get you and your club involved in celebrating 4-H.

Write 4-H news articles for the newspaper

Talk to a radio station about doing live or taped interviews about 4-H

Do a 4-H radio PSA

Have a poster contest in your club to promote 4-H.

Display 4-H projects in a store window.

Put up a 4-H display in a store window.

Do a bulletin board at the library, post office or at school.

Go to 3rd-6th grade classrooms and tell them about 4-H

Put up a 4-H display at a basketball game.

Bring a non 4-H member to a 4-H club meeting.



Secretary Schafer Announces Fight Hunger Initiative

Secretary Ed Schafer recently announced his sponsorship of the "Fight Hunger Initiative" for individuals and organizations who want to help USDA fight hunger in each community across America. The Secretary wants to encourage individuals and communities to help alleviate hunger in their communities. USDA believes that no one in America should go hungry.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is committed to reducing hunger in America by providing children and low-income people access to food, a healthful diet, and nutrition education. Over the course of a year, 1 in 5 Americans utilize USDA Food and Nutrition Service's nutrition assistance programs. Community organizations, such as food banks, soup kitchens, after school programs, and shelters, utilize USDA funding and commodity foods to alleviate hunger. For more information, visit www.fns.usda.gov.

How to help:

Download the toolkit to share with your local programs and groups and start helping your neighbors in need at usda.gov. In the toolkit, you will find step-by-step guides to start projects in your community, and additional resources to help you learn more about USDA food and nutrition programs.



South Dakota
Cooperative Extension Service

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September 15, Western 4-H FCS Show entries due

September 20, Western 4-H FCS Show Board Meeting 10:30 am Rapid City-Walter Taylor Building

September 20, Western Dakota 4-H Camp Board Meeting 2:00 pm Rapid City-Walter Taylor Building

October 1, New 4-H Year Starts

October 5-11, National 4-H Week

October 8-11 Western Jr. Livestock Show

October 10-11, Western 4-H FCS Show

For all listings please check with county offices to confirm dates, times, and locations. 4-H members are always welcome to participate or compete at any county event in any county with a few exceptions.

Welcome Jessica!

Jessica Eikmeier is the new Youth Development/4-H Educator in Haakon/Jackson Counties serving the West 1 Field Education Unit. Jessica grew up on her family's beef cattle and sheep farm between Flandreau, SD and Pipestone, MN. Jessica started showing sheep at the age of 3 and started showing cattle at the age of 4 and traveled the country attending national shows for much of her youth.

She was a 13 year member of Pipestone County 4-H as a member of the club her great-grandparents founded. While in 4-H, she held leadership positions as county Ambassador, club and county President, new-family mentor, gave presentations at the state level, and attended numerous district and state conferences. She was also a 6-year member of the livestock judging team where her career ended as a member of the first-place team leading her to the national contest at the North American Livestock Expo in Louisville, KY. She was also a 4-year member of the meats judging team where her career ended with a trip to Denver and the National Western Stock Show.

After her time as a 4-H member ended, she remained active with the organization. She coached the Pipestone County Consumer Decision Making team for 5 years and acted as an official for the Minnesota State Contest for 4 years. She also judges different project areas and shows in both South Dakota and Minnesota including goats, beef showmanship, photography, and public presentations.

Jessica graduated from SDSU in 2006 with a degree in English and Education. She was a member of Sigma Alpha professionally agricultural sorority, a member of the Little "I" staff, and Orientation Leader, and was the Arts coordinator for the University Program Council. She also worked for the National Young Leaders State Conference and National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine where she taught youth from around the nation about being better leaders.

In her spare time, Jessica enjoys playing tennis, reading, baking, traveling, and spending time with friends and family. She is incredibly excited to meet the people in Kadoka and Philip and get started with her new position.

Play Day Scheduled

The Natural Gateway Rodeo is once again sponsoring a Play Day, September 28, 2008 at the Buffalo Gap Arena starting at 10:00 am. Events to include (subject to change): Break away roping, team roping, barrels, poles, keyhole, flag race, goat tail untying, tie down roping, and musical chairs to name a few of the events. Age divisions are in place for each event and not all events are open to all ages. Entry fee is \$1.00 per event plus a stock fee for roping events. Prizes will be awarded for events and all-arounds. For more information and entry forms please contact: Mary Alice Kritenbrink at 1-605-833-2735 or 26429 Sage Road, Buffalo Gap, SD 57722.

4-H Record Keeping.....Why do I need to keep records in my 4-H Journal???

Record keeping is one of the unique 4-H learning opportunities. During and at the end of the year, your record keeping can help you think about and record what you have accomplished. 4-H leaders and extension staff can learn more about each 4-Her and how they can best help them accomplish their 4-H goals by reviewing the members records.

4-H'ers can learn:

- ◆ How to set reasonable goals for themselves
- ◆ To plan and do things to meet their goals
- ◆ To collect and organize information
- ◆ To accept and complete responsibility
- ◆ To tell what they like to do and what they learned
- ◆ Appreciate what they've learned each year from the goals they reached
- ◆ Recognize what they learned in their 4-H projects
- ◆ Explain what they've learned
- ◆ Keep track of costs of their projects
- ◆ Gather information needed to apply for awards and scholarships
- ◆ Complete applications and resumes for jobs and college
- ◆ And yes, also meet requirements to participate in some county, state, or national 4-H events.

Leaders, members and parents just a reminder that every 4-H member must complete a 4-H Journal and page 9 must be turned in to complete this 4-H year. Please call your local office for more information and their specific requirements.

WHAT IS A GOOD MEETING?

As we start the new 4-H year it is time to reorganize, elect officers and plan the coming year. Here are some helpful hints and suggestions to help make your meetings more productive. Use the following check list to evaluate your club meetings-hopefully you can answer yes to most of them and the ones you answer "no" to you might want to improve those areas.

- _____ 1. Do the officers and leaders check meeting plans with one another beforehand?
- _____ 2. Does the president call the meeting to order on time, keep the meeting rolling, and close on time?
- _____ 3. Do all officers use correct parliamentary procedure when appropriate?
- _____ 4. Is the business part of the meeting short and snappy?
- _____ 5. Are guests introduced and made to feel at home?
- _____ 6. Is there a special program in addition to the business meeting and recreation?
- _____ 7. Does the meeting have variety?
- _____ 8. Is the educational program of interest to everyone?
- _____ 9. Is there an opportunity for members to get to know each other?
- _____ 10. Are all announcements short and to the point?
- _____ 11. Do officers avoid doing all the talking?
- _____ 12. Do leaders avoid doing all the talking?
- _____ 13. Do all or most of the members have an opportunity to talk at least four times during the meeting?
- _____ 14. Is the recreation suitable to the meeting place and group?
- _____ 15. Is there common courtesy shown between officers and members?
- _____ 16. Are leaders given the chance to voice their opinions without feeling judged?
- _____ 17. Are members given a chance to voice their opinions.
- _____ 18. Is there fun, learning, and fellowship at the meeting?

How does your club measure up?

What are you doing that works?

What do you need to work on?

Citizenship Washington Focus

Take your 4-H experience to another level through Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF), a six-day intensive summer citizenship program for youth age 14-18. CWF delegates learn about the democratic process and their role as citizens while they experience our nation's capital. Get the inside scoop about how government really works from prominent guest speakers. College-age program assistants lead bill writing workshops, a national issues forum, mock elections and congressional sessions that prepare you for leadership now and in the future. The 2009 CWF trip will be June 21-27, 2009. Registration deadline is October 10th to your local County Extension Office.

2009 Speech Contest

Each year, the South Dakota Department of Agriculture, Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry, assists in sponsoring a speech contest for high school students. Any South Dakota student in grades 9-12 is eligible to compete for **\$2,300 in scholarships**. The 2009 topic is "Clean Green Alternative Energy". If you would like more information, please contact your local Extension Office for a brochure; your local Conservation District Office; or Pam Bergstrom, Speech Contest Coordinator at (605) 773-6690 or 1-800-228-5254.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program recognizes middle and high school youth solely on the basis of volunteer work in their communities. This unique program is conducted on the local level through officially designated local organizations one of which is 4-H. You can go to their website <http://www.prudential.com/spirit> for more information. If you need a paper version of the application form, call 1-877-525-8491 toll-free. Applications must be completed by October 31st and must be certified by a participating school or organization to be eligible.

Building Our SD Rural Communities

Grants (BOSDRC)

Do you have a great idea that would improve your community? Do you need some help in raising the funds for your project? Then check out the grant program from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture "Building Our South Dakota Rural Communities". These grants are awarded to 4-H, FFA and FCCLA Chapters across SD for the purpose of making "improvements" to your community for a maximum of \$750. There is also a "BOSDRC-Through Safety" grant with a maximum of \$200 available.

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Sincerely:
Tana Clark-
Pennington County
Jessica Eikmeier-
Jackson County
LaDonna McKnight-
Custer County
Youth Development/4-H
Extension Educators



Check Out What's Inside:

- Celebrate National 4-H Week
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