Hello T-County!

As we approach Thanksgiving this week, I look back on the past year of 4-H activities. No, they may not have always looked “normal” but we’re ending the year a little more positive than we started it. I’m grateful to be in this position where I can see what a tremendous impact the 4-H program has on the youth of our communities. I don’t have a long update, but I wanted to send out a few reminders to you as we approach the holiday season.

**Jr. Fair Livestock Sale Checks**
If you have not yet picked up your sale check(s) and turned in your thank-you cards, please do so as soon as possible. Checks must be cashed within 90 days and these checks were issued on November 10. A new addition to the fair rules this year is that if a committee has to re-issue a sale check, a $50 processing and re-issuance fee will be assessed (Tuscarawas County Fair Book, page 48, rule #37). So please make sure to get your checks picked up and deposited into the bank in a timely manner! We have a list in the Extension Office of buyers and their addresses if you aren’t sure where to send your thank-you card. Please make sure your card is stamped! The OSU Extension Office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**2022 Market Beef Tag-In**
For those planning to exhibit a market beef animal at the county fair in 2022, the Market Livestock Committee has set Saturday, December 11 as the day of tag-in. Tag-in will take place at the fairgrounds from 9AM-Noon. The AGR Holiday Classic will also be taking place that weekend so the back-up date for county tag-in will be on Monday, December 13, 6-7PM. You MUST call the Extension Office at 330-339-2337 to make an appointment if you cannot tag your animal in on the 11th.

**Coming in 2022: 4-H Jr. Leadership Club**
This is a project I’ve been working on for a couple of years now! If you talk to some of our parents and advisors who were in 4-H, they may have been part of Jr. Leaders. At some point along the way, Jr. Leaders just became “Older Youth” who only met a few times a year, typically January-March. WELL, we’re bringing it back and it will be YEAR-ROUND! This is a completely separate club from the 4-H clubs. Jr. Leaders (JL) will not take 4-H projects. Instead, JL’s will meet monthly and will focus on leadership, community service, socialization, career exploration/workforce prep, etc. I was a JL in my home county of Muskingum and it was a great time so I would like to provide similar experiences in Tuscarawas. Teens will not need to apply and interview for this opportunity, it is just an additional club to join and be a part of! Officers will be elected and those individuals will help advisors plan out the year. We’ll kick things off with a Teen Leadership Retreat in January! Similar to what we did in 2020, we’ll hold a leadership retreat Friday, January 14-Saturday, January 15, 2022. We are still nailing down a location. More details will be announced soon! This retreat is open to all teens who are in 9th grade and up. We brainstormed ideas at the first retreat for activities to do with the JL’s and then of course....COVID hit. But we’re on track to get things kicked off (FINALLY) in 2022! Look for the details and registration soon but in the meantime, mark your calendars!
**Camp Piedmont Benefit**

As a reminder, the Camp Piedmont Benefit will be held at Buckeye Career Center on Saturday, March 26, 2022. We ask that clubs donate items for the raffles and auctions. We’ll need large donation items, baskets, whatever clubs can give! The other counties who utilize Camp Piedmont will also be participating in the benefit. An Amazon Wishlist has been set up for paper products that will be needed. The wish list can be access here: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1BR6FKUECHWZ0?ref_=wl_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1BR6FKUECHWZ0?ref_=wl_share) This link has also been shared with the other counties. If you purchase something from the wish list, just have it shipped to the registry address and it will go straight to one of our benefit planning members! Don’t forget that the benefit also has a Facebook page and it’s a public group! Just search for: Save Camp Piedmont Benefit.

I hope everyone has a safe and healthy Thanksgiving. I will be out of the office beginning Wednesday, November 24 through Wednesday, December 1. I will be one of the four chaperones taking 45 Ohio 4-H teens to National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia! Our own Addy Kendle (Above & Beyond) and Emma Leggett (Boots & Chutes) will be part of the group representing our state. We’re looking forward to a great time in GA!

With a grateful heart,

Kiersten