

*Email via 4-H Online sent April 30, 2021*

### **WELCOME BACK, T-COUNTY!**

For those of you who are new to our program, my name is Kiersten Heckel and I serve as the 4-H Extension Educator for Tuscarawas County. During COVID in 2020, I switched from doing bi-monthly newsletters that were posted to our website and began writing and emailing out “Update from Kiersten” every Friday. The consensus from the advisors when I met with them in January and February was that they preferred I kept up the emails rather than the newsletters so now it’s officially time for the first Update from Kiersten for the 2021 4-H program year! I try not to bombard and overwhelm you with information but sometimes, there’s just a LOT going on. So, please read over this carefully. My hope is that with info going straight to your inboxes, you don’t miss anything important. No, things are still not quite “back to normal” but they are far better than they were a year ago and for that, I’m very thankful. I’m thankful for seeing our 4-H volunteers and families who pop into the office and I get to hang out with the 4-H teen camp counselors and Junior Fair Board members. Read on for the first update to get our year officially kicked off!

### **4-H Camp Update**

Yes, we ARE having 4-H Camp!! **\*happy dance!\*** This has been a very common question lately and the decision just came down from the university level last week. Please note that camp dates are different than normal; we will be camping Sunday, July 18-Wednesday, July 21. When we weren’t sure if we would be permitted to hold a residential camp, we decided to schedule some day camping opportunities in June. Even with the decision to hold residential camp, we are still going to offer day camps, too, so that there’s something for everyone! We are currently working on both registrations for day camp and registration for residential camp. We will hold three one-day day camps in June. On Thursday, June 10, we will be at the fairgrounds for a carnival themed camp. On Wednesday, June 16, we will be at the Norma Johnson Center for a nature themed camp, and we will return to the fairgrounds on Thursday, June 24 for Mad Scientist Camp! Youth may attend one, two or all three! We are planning that these day camps will last all day (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. roughly). One camp will cost \$30. If you attend two camps, your cost will be \$50 and if you attend all three, your cost will be \$60. Your registration fee will include a t-shirt, lunch, craft, and fun educational opportunities. Registration will be online and available soon! Keep an eye out on our social media pages.

As for residential camp, cost will be reduced to \$120 this year only as some activities at camp might be limited (no pool). We will be doing registration a little differently this year. It will be completely online. We will not be accepting paper forms this year. Because it will be online, you will have the option to pay by credit card! Registrations will be completed by the grade the 4-H member is currently in and will open for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders (only) beginning May 6. Members in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and above will be able to register beginning on May 17, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up will register from May 28 through June 7 OR UNTIL CAMP IS FULL. We ask that you please respect the way we have chosen to take registrations this year. We want to give the older campers the first chance at registration as they have fewer opportunities left to be campers.



Parents: We will be holding a virtual camp parent info meeting on Wednesday, May 5 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. I will plan to record this session in case someone needs to watch it later. We will discuss what camp will look like, the differences, how registration will work, what drop-off and pick-up will look like, etc. Please join us! Once you register the Zoom link will be in your confirmation email. Please register here: <https://go.osu.edu/CampParentMeeting>

### **FINAL Quality Assurance Session!**

If you are planning to exhibit an animal at the 2021 Tuscarawas County Fair in September and have not yet completed your annual QA requirement, there is only one session left! Thursday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. will be held BOTH in-person and virtual! Please register regardless of whether you plan to be online or in-person using this link:

[https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6FQdL0n7JzP7Bfr](https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6FQdL0n7JzP7Bfr)

If you plan to attend in-person, we will be in the poultry pavilion at the fairgrounds. Please bring your own chair, wear a mask, and be prepared to socially distance from one another!

### **Market Hog Tag Distribution**

As all Quality Assurance sessions have been virtual, the Market Livestock Committee has set a couple dates for hog tag distribution. As mentioned during both Swine QA's, hogs will only be tagged with ONE tag this year, rather than two. We will be utilizing the EID tags this year and there will not be a county-wide tag-in. You may pick up your tags on either Saturday, May 1 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. OR Friday, May 14 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. If an advisor wants to come through and pick up all the tags needed for their club, that is acceptable OR families can pick up their own. Please coordinate efforts so both do not pick up tags. If purchasing a hog from Belden Valley Farms, Brett Peters will tag your hog for you (thanks, Brett!). Both distribution dates/times will take place at the fairgrounds. Please remember that ID forms WITH pictures of the tagged hog(s) are due to the Extension office by 4:00 p.m. on June 15.

### **County Horse Update**

Horse members, if you did not attend the county horse update on April 26, there is another opportunity to do so! Chris Kendle will be holding a virtual county horse update on May 10 at 7:00 p.m. Please register for this session here: <http://go.osu.edu/tuschorseupdate2021>

### **Project Guidelines**

Project guidelines have been updated and are posted on our website. Please make sure you review these so you know you're completing your projects correctly and accurately. You can find all guidelines here: [go.osu.edu/4-hguidelines](https://go.osu.edu/4-hguidelines).

### **Project Judging**

We have set TENTATIVE in-person judging dates! At this time, we do not have a location set but we wanted families to have these dates so please put July 12-15, 2021, on your calendars. Members enrolled in horse and hog projects will have their judging on Monday, July 12, all miscellaneous projects will be on Tuesday, July 13, small animal (rabbit, poultry, and goats) will be on Wednesday, July 14, and remaining large animal (beef, dairy, and sheep) will be on Thursday, July 15. Clothing judging will also take place on Thursday, July 15 in the afternoon with scheduled

appointment times. The Style Show will take place at 7:00 p.m. at Broadway United Methodist Church in New Philadelphia.

**Senior Spotlights**

If you will be graduating in 2021, please email me ([heckel.13@osu.edu](mailto:heckel.13@osu.edu)) a senior picture and a short bio (4-H club, years in 4-H, extracurricular activities, future plans, etc.) We would LOVE to recognize you on our social media pages!

Have a great start to 4-H in 2021!!

Kiersten