

Newton County News

January 2010



It's that time of the year to make preparations to participate in the many opportunities 4-H has to offer. Are you up for the Challenge? 4-H will provide many opportunities for you to learn new skills, compete in contests and participate in hands on activities. If you are interested, take time to read this newsletter for dates and times of all events. There are changes for county contest this year.

Please call 601-635-2268, if you have questions or concerns regarding anything in this newsletter.



4-H Cloverleaf Youth

Are you age 8-9? Where you 8 or 9 before January 2010? If so, you have an opportunity to compete in our Cloverleaf Contest in the county and possibly advance to the District competition in Ellisville. Please call to put your name on the list to attend an information session on January 19th from 4:00-4:30.

4-H Junior Youth



Calling all youth ages 10-13, as of January 1, 2010!!! Are you interested in participating in robotics, technology, the arts and many more hands on activities? If so, this is your time to start participating in 4-H events. There are various contests to compete in on this age level, for more information call the 4-H office to put your name on the list to attend an information session on January 19th from 4:45-5:15.

4-H Senior Members

Are you age 14-18? Where you this age before January 1, 2010? What activities will you put on your scholarship application? What will you list as your extra curricula activities? Do you participate in anything that will aid in your chances of attaining a scholarship other than school academics? If you don't have an answer, you need to become more involved in 4-H.

Don't wait too late to start participating in worthwhile activities that will assist you in earning a chance to receive a scholarship and gain life long skills. To learn more about 4-H competitions and activities please call the 4-H office to put your name on the list to attend an information session on January 19th from 5:15-5:45.

Talent Competition

Do you Sing, Dance, Write Poetry, play a Musical Instrument, Praise Dance, group dance or more? Well, if you answered yes, the 4-H Talent competition has been scheduled just for you. For more general information or to receive a registration application, please call the 4-H office at 601-635-2268. Registration opens on January 19th and is open through February 19, 2010. The Talent Competition has been set for April 8, 2010.

Monetary Prizes will be given to the winners in each category. Also, Individual and Group winners who are 14-18, as of January 1, will advance to compete at MSU during the state competition. So join the fun!

County Contest Changes....

County Contest has been set for April 8, 2010. The break down by age and time is as follow:

Cloverleaf: Ages 8-9 will showcase boards from 4:00-4:30

Junior visuals/public speaking: Ages 10-13 will present from 4:30-5:00

Senior visuals/public speaking: Ages 14-18 will present from 5:00-5:30

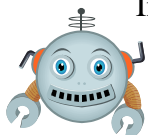
Miscellaneous Contests 5:30-6:30

Share The Fun Talent Competition- 6:30

Only Blue Ribbon winners will advance to the District and State Competition. There will be judges secured to select those youth who will advance to the District and State Competition. So please start preparing now for your competition.

Very Important Notice: This is not a practice time. Please call the 4-H office by **January 19th** to register for your contest area.

4-H Robotics



Interested in learning more about science, engineering and technology? Want to learn more about robots? Get your friends together and join us for Robotics Club starting this month. Dates for upcoming meetings are as follow:

Where: 4-H Office

**When: January 21, February 18, March 18
April 15 and May 20**

Time: 4:30

Leadership Corner

Health Rocks Teen Leader Meeting

The Health Rocks Teen Leaders will meet on the following dates over the next three months.

January 25 - 3:30 at the Newton Public Library

February 23 - 3:30 at the Newton Public Library

March 23 - 3:30 p.m. at the Newton Public Library

County 4-H Council

The County Council is a very important part of

the 4-H program. The Council is open to all youth in 4-H, especially those who hold an office in their 4-H Club. If you have ideas or suggestions, please attend these meetings and bring a friend. The Council meetings will be held one day per month. The next Council meeting is scheduled for January 27th at 4:00.

Keeping Your Records on Track

Ok let's get back on track with our records.



Newton County's records program has declined and we want to have at least 10 record books turned in this year. You should include all 4-H activities completed from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. To help assist you with keeping your records on track, there will be monthly parties on record books. Don't wait until the deadline to start trying to compile your record book. The training parties will be offered on January 28, February 25, and March 25 at 4:00 p.m. You can win money and trips from submitting a record book. Please call Katrina for more information.

State Leadership Team

If you are a teenager between the ages of 14-18, and have been a member of 4-H at least one year, you may be eligible to apply for the State Leadership Team. For more information regarding the requirement to apply, please call the 4-H office at 601-635-2268 as soon as possible. The county deadline to submit applications is January 29, 2010.

4-H Scholarships Available

4-H Scholarships are due April 1, 2010. Graduating High School Seniors and College Freshman, who have been active in 4-H, can apply for various state 4-H Scholarships. Applications are available on the web at http://msucare.com/4h_Youth/scholarships/index.htm or you may call our office at 601-635-2268 for applications. Applications are due to the 4-H Office by March 24, 2010.



4-H All Stars

If you are 16-18 years old, have been in 4-H for at least three years, demonstrated leadership skills and good character, and have outstanding service ability and 4-H project work, then you need to apply to be a 4-H All Star. Applications are available at the 4-H Office. Applications are due to the 4-H Office by March 12, 2010. For more information contact the 4-H Office.



Congressional Awards Program



The Congressional Award is the U.S. Congress' award for young Americans. Participants earn Bronze, Silver and Gold

Congressional Award Certificates and Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas: Volunteer Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration. Earning the Award is a fun and interesting way to get more involved in something you already enjoy or something you'd like to try for the first time. You move at your own pace - on your own or with your friends. This is not an award for past accomplishments. Instead, you are honored for achieving your own challenging goals. Regardless of your situation, you can earn The Congressional Award. The Congressional Award has no minimum grade point average requirements. It accommodates young people with special needs or disabilities who are willing to take the challenge. The Congressional Award is open to anyone ages 13 1/2-23. If you are interested in this program, please call the 4-H office.



4-H Volunteer Leader Trainings

Join the 4-H Volunteer Supper Club this month. The training is being offered for all volunteers interested in sharpening your skills in 4-H. The Supper Club training will be offered on January 26, at 5:30 at the 4-H office. Dr. John Long and Dr. Susan Seal will be the featured presenters and will be sharing some pointers on 4-H Shooting Sports and Social Networking. The workshops titles are *“Providing a Positive Shooting Sports*

Experience in 2010” and “Improving Your Social Networking Skills with Youth.” Please call by January 22nd if you plan to attend.



Mississippi Volunteer Leaders Association Conference

The Mississippi Annual 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference will be held February 26 - 27, 2010, at Mississippi State University in the Bost Extension Conference Center. The conference will begin with registration at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, and conclude on Saturday by 7:00 p.m. This year's conference will provide an excellent opportunity for 4-H volunteers, Extension faculty, and friends of 4-H to participate in outstanding funshops, workshops, great fellowship, entertainment and fun! The registration fee for full-time delegates is \$75.00, and includes all activities, meals, banquet, and annual membership. If you want more information concerning this conference please call the 4-H office to receive your packet. All fees and room reservations from Newton County must be made by January 22.



Livestock Show Information

We are very excited about our upcoming livestock shows! Be sure to mark your calendar for January 23, 2010 for the Newton County Livestock Show and Sale. The dairy animals will start showing at 9:00 a.m. followed by beef, goats and hogs. Lunch will be provided for all participants and families, sponsors and volunteers immediately after the show. All of the market animals will be auctioned after lunch.

Southwest District Show –

February 1 – Goat Show 12:30

February 3 – Pig Show 9:00

February 4 – Steer Show 8:30

Commercial Heifer Show

Beef Breeding Show

Dairy Show – 9:00

Dixie National Livestock Show –

February 5 – Sr. Dairy Judging Contest 3:00

February 6 – Pig Show 8:00

Dairy Show 8:30

February 8 – Steer Show 8:00

Beef Showmanship 1:00

February 9 – Com. Heifer & Beef Breeding 8:00

Goat Show 8:00



Shooting Sports

The Newton County Shooting Sports program is off to a great start for 2010! Enrollment has doubled from last year and we are so excited about that. I know that everyone is eager to start practicing and as soon as we get a clear weekend of weather we will be ready to practice! Watch your mail for the next scheduled practice.

April 24 – District Shooting Sports Event

July 17 – State Shooting Sports Invitational – Sr. Only

July 23- State Shotgun Invitational – Sr. Only



4-H Club Meeting Date

Virtual Technology Club

This 4-H club is available to any youth interested in learning more about technology. Upcoming meeting date is February 15th at 4:00 p.m. Call by February 12th if you plan to attend this club meeting.

Pleasant Grove 4-H Club- will meet the first Monday of each month the Newton Library at 3:30.

Cloverleaf 4-H Club- will meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Tinka Tonka Daycare at 5:00 p.m.

Morning Star 4-H Club- will meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning at 4:30 at the Morning Star Fellowship Hall in Newton.

St. John 4-H Club- will meet at the Newton Library every 2nd Saturday of the month.

Robotics 4-H Club- will meet at the 4-H office on 3rd Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

NOTE: All clubs are open to all youth regardless of race, national origin, gender, or religion.



We look forward to seeing you at a 4-H event soon. Take care and remember in 4-H we are open to suggestions and new opportunities. Please call the 4-H office at 601-635-2268 or email us at katrinam@ext.msstate.edu or leannem@ext.msstate.edu if you have concerns or questions regarding the 4-H program.

Newton County 4-H Newsletter is on the Web. There are also links to other 4-H information. Go to the following link .

<http://msucares.com/>

click on 4-H, click on county activities and scroll down to Newton

Yours in 4-H,

Katrina M. McCalphia
MSU-ES-Newton County 4-H Youth Agent

Leanne McGee
MSU Extension Agent



“4-H is... a Community of Young People across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.”