

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

October 7, 2009

FALL INTO 4H

Fall is here and, we have finally settled into the new school year. Now is a great time to get involved in 4-H. We have several things that will be coming up few month, and I hope that everyone will see the opportunities that 4-H has and find their place in 4-H. If you want more information on oppotunities 4-H has, please just contact me and I will be glad to help.

The 4 H's in 4-H Stand for Head, Heart, Hands and Health. In each letter I hope to give you ideas of how to apply the H's in your life.

In this letter I am going to emphasize the H for Heart. With the holidays right around the corner, it is a great time to think of others. Community Service is an important part of 4-H. It does not have to be done as a club; it can be done as an individual. Some examples of things you could do are:

- Help clean yard or home of someone elderly. Plant flowers, rake leaves, change light bulbs or dust. I am sure your help would be appreciated.
- Volunteer to help at local nursing home, or library.
- Collect food for local food pantries.
- Carry food to someone.

Use your heart, and I am sure you could come up with something you could do to

make a difference in your community, or the life of someone else.

JUNIOR COUNCIL

Oktibbeha County 4-H Junior Council will meet on **Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.**

The main focus of the

meeting will be to plan and discuss the 2009 Awards Program. We will make committee assignments for (decorations, food & program) and select Standard of Excellence prizes/awards

for this years Awards Program. Other topics of discussion will be Salvation Army Volunteering and Adopt-a-Family. **REMINDER: Junior Council is open to ALL 4-H'ers and volunteers. Come help plan upcoming activities.**

2009 AWARDS PROGRAM

The 2009 Awards Program will be held **Tuesday, November 17, 2009 beginning at 6 p.m.** at Bost Building B on MSU Campus. Mark this on your calendar. Hope you can attend this event.



NEW IN-SCHOOL 4-H CLUB

I am excited to tell you that there is a new 4-H Club at Starkville Academy starting this month - Starkville Academy 4-H Club. Ms. Susie Wall has volunteered to lead this club.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JUDGING OR SHOWING LIVESTOCK?

Would you be interested in learning how to judge beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, or swine? All youth ages 8-18 are eligible to Judge/Show. You do not have to know anything about animals to be a member of this group.

If you plan to show Beef Breeding, Dairy Goats, Dairy, or Swine at the 2010 Dixie National now is the time to be finding your animals. Ownership deadline is December 1. If you need help or have questions, please contact me at 323-5918.

CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS

I know it may seem early to start thinking about next year's activities, but now is the time to plan for Citizenship Washington Focus. This is a wonderful experience that promotes citizenship and allows you to see the sites of our Nation's Capitol at the same time.

The trip is scheduled for around June 2010. Official dates will be out soon. The cost of the trip is approximately \$900, which includes all transportation, meals, lodging and tourist fees. A non-refundable deposit of \$150 is due by January 1 from the 4-H'er.

This trip is available to 4-Hers 14 years or older. This is an expensive trip and the 4-Her's may need to conduct fundraising events or find a sponsor to help pay for this trip. This is a very wonderful trip, and I know that it is worth the cost. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.



CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

This is a fun activity for any 4-Her who wants to make a few gift items for family or friends. The workshop will be held at the Oktibbeha County Extension Office, December 8 from 2:00 to 5:00. This is a come and go type workshop. The youth will be able to make several items, gift wrap them, and then they can leave. **You must pre-register to attend by December 3.**

This is a fun time to visit and make things for the holidays. Please call and pre-register or if you have any questions. LIMITED TO 20 youth. I hope to see many of you that day!

Be on the lookout for the following upcoming activities: salvation army bell ringing and adopt a family!

If you have email and are not receiving my emails please email me at latrells@ext.msstate.edu ask to be added!

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The future depends on what we do in the present. ~ Gandhi

MAKING THE BEST BETTER!

LaTrell Stokes
MSU-ES 4-H Youth Agent
Oktibbeha County

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 8	Junior Council, 5:30 p.m., County Extension Office
November 9	Deadline to register for awards program
November 17	2009 Awards Program, 6 p.m. Bost Building B on MSU Campus
December 3	Deadline to register for awards program
December 8	Christmas Workshop – 2-5 p.m. Oktibbeha Co. Ext. Office
November 26-27	Thanksgiving Holiday
November 27- Dec 1	National 4-H Congress – Atlanta, GA
December 1	Deadline: Ownership for beef breeding, commercial beef heifers, hogs, purebred dairy animals, commercial dairy heifers, and dairy goats for District Shows & Mississippi Junior Round-Up
December 1	Salvation Army Bell Ringing – 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Starkville Wal-Mart
December 4	Holiday House, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Holiday ideas, food, crafts, etc.
December 15	CWF Deposits - \$150 each person
December 22- January 1, 2002	Winter/New Year's Holidays
December 25	Christmas Day
TBA	Salvation Army Bell Ringing
TBA	Adopt – A - Family