

PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

4-H MUSIC FESTIVAL AND VOCAL/INSTRUMENTAL CONTEST

April 20, 1:00 pm

The annual Grant County 4-H Music Festival and 4-H Vocal and Instrumental Contest have been combined and is scheduled for **Sunday, April 20**. This event will start at 1:00 pm and will be held in the Youth & Ag Center, Lancaster. Main leaders have the entry forms or you can get one from the 4-H website at <http://grant.uwex.edu>.

Music Festival Contest rules: It is recommended clubs limit their numbers to a total of 12 minutes. It is also recommended that no more than five minutes be taken between groups for taking down and putting up props. Off-colored jokes and references to alcohol and other drugs are inappropriate. Groups performing will be judged on the basis of musical expression.

Cloverbuds may be involved in club groups. When deciding whether to involve them, consider their interest level. If they are genuinely interested, then feel free to include them. Be sure to consider that they may burn out on music at a young age. **Entry deadline for this event is Friday, April 4.**

Vocal and Instrumental Contest rules: 4-H members may choose to do a solo or duet vocal and instrumental selection. The contest is split into two age divisions, grades 3-7 and grades 8 and over. Each member may have one vocal entry and one instrumental entry. For a complete list of rules check with your main leader, Extension Office or the website. **Entry deadline is Friday, April 4** to the Extension Office.

The Grant/Richland 4-H International Service Project to Coasta Rica, July 8-21 is still in need of a male chaperone. For more information on the trip, please contact Bev at the Extension Office.

OPERATION EASTER BUNNY

It's that time of year again to start planning for the annual Operation Easter Bunny! The purpose of this service project is to provide needy families throughout Grant County with care and food packages at Easter time. We are asking for donations from 4-H clubs to help make this project possible. Clubs may wish to increase their donations by contacting local businesses and churches to see if they would be interested in serving as a collection point for non-perishable food items or cash donations.

Volunteers are also needed to help package these boxes on Sunday, March 16, 9:00 am, at the Youth & Ag Center.

If your club would like to make a donation, please send a check payable to Grant County Junior Leaders, % Tyler Bode, 3885 Highway 61, Potosi, WI 53820.

If your club would like to make a donation of canned goods or nonperishable food items, please drop them off at the Extension Office by 4:00 pm, Friday, March 7. If you would like more information contact Tyler Bode at 568-3764 or Kate Jeardeau, 988-4307



DIORAMA DAY - The

Annual 4-H Diorama Day is planned for March 2nd starting at 1:00 pm and ending at 4:00 pm. We will have a variety of things to do. If you have any questions or would like more information please call Mike Holzer at 341-0199 or Nathaniel Pennekamp at 943-8115.

OUT OF STATE MEETING, March 3, 7:30 pm, North Meeting Room, Youth & Ag Center.

ELECTRICITY PROJECT MEETING PLANNED - There will be a County Electricity Meeting on Saturday, March 8 from 1:00-3:00 pm, at the Youth & Ag Center. We are still working on the project we will be working on that day. We would like to have the members bring along any projects they made in previous years that they would take apart

and re-use to make this years project, bring disassembled if possible. Bring any tools that you have to use during the meeting. Bring any project you are working on, that you would like help with, or any ideas you have for a project you would like to make for the fairs. If you have any questions, please call Dave Meoska, 994-2607, Jay Reynolds, 943-6784 or the Extension Office at 723-2125 and ask for Ione. Please pre-register by Wednesday, March 5.

SEWING WORKSHOP - Saturday, March 8, 9:00-12:00 am, Youth & Ag Center.

We will be making lounging pants so you will need to purchase McCalls M4675 or M5228 (same patterns, different sizes) and fabric for your size. If you are an experienced sewer you may want to purchase fabric for the shirt and pants. The pattern suggests making the pants from cotton or cotton flannel and the top from fleece. Your fabric will need to be pre-washed and dried. You will need basic sewing supplies; scissors, pins, tape measure and a sewing machine. If you would like to surge your project you can bring your serger also. We will provide the elastic for the pants in the class. Please call the Extension Office to pre-register by March 3. Questions - call Kim Spease at 723-6264.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT DAY - Are you having a hard time figuring out what to do for your child development project? Do you have an idea, but are not sure where to go with it? Then you should plan on attending the Child Development Make and Take Night on Monday, March 24 from 4:00-8:00 pm. It will be held at Family Connections in Lancaster. Family Connections is located in Lancaster next to the VFW Club (formerly Curves Fitness). Feel free to come when you are able and leave when you need to. Attendees will be able to use the die cut machine, copy machine, laminator and numerous other resource materials. You will leave the night with a completed or near completed project. Please call the Extension Office to pre-register by March 20th. If you have any questions please call Emily Allen at 943-6164.

FOODS PROJECT MEETING - A fun morning of learning is planned for members of the Foods Project on Saturday, April 5. Laura Orth, Pampered Chef consultant, will be demonstrating and members will be able to participate in the food preparation. More information will follow next month.

CLOVERBUD DAY

Saturday, April 12, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Youth & Ag Center, Lancaster

Cloverbud members are invited to a fun day just for "Cloverbuds". We will be doing lots of fun "bug" activities. We will be making a bug tic-tac-toe board, a bug display box and even some bug shaped food. We will have lots of other fun games and activities for everyone. Please let the Extension Office know by Monday, April 7 if you can come. We are asking for \$2 towards all of the supplies.

HOME ENVIRONMENT DAY - There will be a Home Environment Day for all 4-H members

interested in the Home Environment project on Saturday, April 19 from 9-noon at the Youth & Ag Center. Members will be making a holiday wreath or swag, knotted pillow and blue jean bulletin board. Members are to call the Extension Office by April 11 to pre-register. More information will be in next month's ECHO or you can call Cindy Arndt at 822-6557.

20TH ANNUAL SEWING AND QUILTING EXPO - You are invited to attend SWTC "Bright Ideas" 20th Annual Sewing and Quilting Expo to be held June 6-7, 2008 on campus at Fennimore, WI. Friday's program offers 36 hands-on classes, and one special 2-day session - Beginning Quilting 101. Friday evening features the buffet dinner with keynote speakers Kathy Ruddy and Cathy Miller, The Singing Quilter.

Saturday's program offers 85 workshops in all areas of sewing, quilting, fitting, serging, embellishing, home furnishings, and design, and special adult sessions for the "Absolute Beginner" sewing and "Almost a Beginner" sewing. There will be 10 special youth classes also offered, that include 2 advanced youth sessions - for both girls and boys. Parents accompanying the young sewers are always welcome. The Expo also features vendors, a fabric resale room, scissors and shears sharpening, door prizes and the delicious Expo meals. Don't forget to enter a lamp shade in the "Bright Ideas" Lamp Shade contest! SWTC Expo Registration Booklets are available for free by calling 800-362-3322, Ext. 2360 or email lwhitish@swtc.edu or rwalker@swtc.edu The booklets will be available after April 1st. Registration deadline is May 16.

WHAT TO DO WITH PROJECT DAY PROJECTS - First, congratulations on doing a wonderful job at the sessions. The clubs offered a great variety of items for you to make. Now that you have all those wonderful projects made at Project Day, what do you do with them. You must be enrolled in the project for the item you made in order to show them at the fairs this summer. So if you need to change or add projects to your list, be sure to call the Extension Office so we can make the needed changes to your enrollment.

OMK - HERO PACK LETTERS - OMK (Operation Military Kids) team is asking 4-H clubs to write letters of support to our military youth. Letters need not be long, just a note letting them know you care and are proud of them and their parent. The letters will be put in HERO packs filled with a variety of items that will be distributed to military youth as a thanks for the sacrifices that they make while their parents are deployed. In addition, information is provided to parents regarding local support programs for children and families. Donations of materials for HERO Packs can also be made to the Wisconsin OMK Team. Items such as stationery, stamps, journals and disposable cameras are always welcome. If your club is interested in writing letters or would want to donate items for the HERO packs, contact Cathy at the Extension Office.