

# March 24, 2013

Hi,

*The most difficult part of writing a weekly piece for a publication is the “idea”. For several years I wrote a weekly column for the Sidney Daily News called “4-H and You”, and for almost five years now I have written a weekly introduction for this State 4-H Newsletter, “News and Notes”. I marvel at those who write columns on a daily basis, and also those people who draw daily comic strips – they almost always create something fresh and new, or with a different perspective. For me, finding the “idea” is a challenge, and I look almost any place.*

*Not knowing how many actually read what is written can be somewhat discouraging. Newspapers have a definite circulation, and I know we can generate statistics for page hits and the like for web based publications. But I never know how many actually read the contents of any publication. One discouraging example about “News and Notes” recently was a request for county interest in a particular project. When the message was posted in “News & Notes”, three counties responded. Because the fuse was short on the deadline, we decided to send a direct message to the Ohio 4-H Professionals listserv in between the weekly newsletters. I used exactly the same message as in the previous week’s “News & Notes”, and within five hours, 23 more counties responded. Hmm .. what is the cost-benefit of taking the time and effort to find the idea and then write a weekly piece if only a limited number of people read it? I admit, I wonder.*

*But I digress. My idea for this week’s intro came from the new release movie, “Oz The Great and Powerful”. I am not regular attendee at the movie theatre, but last weekend my wife and I decided we needed a break – and for a couple of hours, the movie theatre experience always provides that break from reality. At one point during the Oz movie, one of the characters said to another, “Goodness is better than greatness”.*

*I like profoundness in a few words, and this seemed pretty profound to me. Yes, we like to be “great” in all that we do, but if we do not pursue greatness with good in our hearts and minds, the value of the greatness is diminished, if not eliminated. Being just and courteous is paramount; treating others with respect and dignity is rewarding to all; and nothing beats honesty.*

*If we can attain greatness with goodness, of course that is the preference. But without goodness, greatness is nothing.*

Thanks,

Tom

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**Sea Camp Registration Open**

July 14-18, 2013  
at Kelleys Island 4-H Camp

The 2013 Ohio 4-H Sea Camp registration forms are now available on the website [www.ohio4H.org/seacamp/](http://www.ohio4H.org/seacamp/). The complete 11-page registration packet.

Come join us for the best camp on the North Coast!

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### **Ohio 4-H T-shirts Available**

Interested 4-H'ers, families, friends, and advisors may order one or more of the new Ohio 4-H t-shirts, designed by Molly Bauman, Adams County. Bauman's design won both the Clock and People's Choice awards in the Marketing Division of the 2012 Ohio State Fair Communication Days. Orders are due by April 15 and must be paid for in advance with a check, payable to *OSU Extension Adams County*. The shirts are available in a variety of sizes and colors. Colors include kiwi green, yellow, white, and light gray. All print will be in green. Cost of the shirts is \$10 plus \$2 shipping for all youth sizes and adult sizes through XL, and \$12 plus \$2 shipping for sizes 2XL-4XL. All prices include sales tax. Profits from the sale of the shirts will be donated to the Ohio 4-H Foundation.

[CLICK HERE for order form](#)

[CLICK HERE for picture of shirt](#)

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### **4-H Baseball with the Buckeyes**

Baseball with the Buckeyes is back and this year it's the Bucks versus the Ducks! Bring your family and friends as the OSU Baseball Buckeyes take on the Oregon Ducks. Just \$10/person includes a game ticket and this year's "4-H Baseball with the Buckeyes" t-shirt. The first pitch is at 3:05 p.m. at Bill Davis Stadium, directly across the street from the Ohio 4-H Center. Pick up your t-shirt from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center, learn some sports science and play a game or two. For registration and details, click on this link:

<http://go.osu.edu/4HBaseball>

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### **4-H AstroCamp**

Explore space without leaving Earth at **4-H AstroCamp** from June 24-28. This week-long day camp will have campers investigating the solar system, building rockets, learning about constellations and more. For youth entering grades 4, 5 or 6 this fall.

<http://go.osu.edu/4HAstroCamp>

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### **4-H Camp Tech**

4-H Camp Tech is back for three days and two nights from July 18-20. Campers will tackle engineering challenges, program robots, try out electrical and mechanical design and more. Open to youth entering grades 6, 7 or 8 this fall; youth stay in OSU campus dorms.

<http://go.osu.edu/4HCampTech2013>

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### **How do you spell 4-H?**

It's not a trick question! Each year during the Ohio State Fair a spelling bee is held for students in grades 3-4 and 5-6. This year, the bee will be a bit greener with the added involvement of 4-H. Youth can participate if their school is holding a bee or through county 4-H involvement. Each county can send one 4-H speller per age group. Find out more here in the Staff Resources section of the State 4-H web site at: [Ohio State Fair 4-H Spelling Bee](#).

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### **No Bull Challenge Video from OVC**

Several requests have been received for the No Bull Challenge video by the Clark County 4-H alumni, Tyler Gregory and Scott Hannah. The video can be retrieved at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVRTgBfVP5o>

As for downloading a YouTube clip, Com Tech recommends saving video clips using a web site called KeepVid, <http://keepvid.com>.

The following instructional video explains how to download videos: [http://howto.cnet.com/8301-11310\\_39-57405342-285/how-to-download-videos-from-youtube-vimeo-and-more/](http://howto.cnet.com/8301-11310_39-57405342-285/how-to-download-videos-from-youtube-vimeo-and-more/)

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### **Teens Talk on Health Video Challenge**

Calling on all teens to show us your plan on how to tackle health challenges in your family, school or community. Submit a 90-second video or vote on your favorite.

- \$1000.00 Grand Prize
- Be featured in a National Video
- \$2,500.00 For your youth program or classroom
- Plus, the top 5 finalists win \$500.00 cash.

Videos must be submitted by May 3 to be eligible. Voting on the top 5 videos is open to the public May 3-17. The winner will be announced on May 17!

To view the Official Rules visit [Facebook.com/4H](https://www.facebook.com/4H) and click on "Rules" or [click here](#).

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## **OPPC Offers Scholarships to College Students**

Applications for scholarships sponsored by the Ohio Pork Producers Council and Ohio Pork Council Women are due to be postmarked by April 19.

OPPC will be offering up to \$8,000 in scholarships to youth, whose parents are involved in a 365-day swine operation. Also, the Ohio Pork Council Women will be offering \$500 scholarships to college students, junior year and older.

Please help in spreading the word about these opportunities by informing anyone you know who may be interested.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

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## **Japanese Host Families Needed! – Please include this Blurb in your County Newsletters!**

Thank you, 4-H Professionals, for your assistance in educating your volunteers and clientele about the Ohio 4-H International Program. It's resulting in success as we're hearing from lots of NEW host families who report learning about the program through their county 4-H newsletter. Thank you very much! We still need 35 host families, so it would be very helpful if you could run the blurb below on a regular basis. Thank you! Please feel free to contact Mary Lynn Thalheimer with questions or suggestions: 614-292-6941 or [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu).

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## **Families can Bring a Japanese Youth into your own Living Room!**

Did you know the Ohio 4-H International Program brings people from around the world into Ohio's living rooms? And sends Ohio youth to live with families overseas? Hosting someone from abroad helps Ohio youth gain the skills they will need in the classrooms, workplaces and communities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Ohio 4-H is currently looking for families to host Japanese youth for 3 ½ weeks this summer (July 24 to August 19). Potential host families should have a child in their own home aged 10 – 15 who will serve as the main host sibling. Hosting is educational and lots of fun for the whole family! You just need to live your "regular lives" – special trips and activities are not required. Medical insurance and personal spending money are provided. Click here to see what past host families found most meaningful both for them and for their visitor: [http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/drupal-ohio4h.web/files/HostingIsEasyandFun\\_000.pdf](http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/drupal-ohio4h.web/files/HostingIsEasyandFun_000.pdf). You can also check out these "Host Family Frequently-Asked Questions:" <http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/drupal-ohio4h.web/files/HF-Frequently-AskedQuestions.pdf> Click here for an application form: <http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/d6-ohio4h.web/files/International/HF%20App%2013%20-%20a.pdf>. Find out more about all international programs

at [www.ohio4h.org/youth/international](http://www.ohio4h.org/youth/international) or contact Mary Lynn Thalheimer, [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu) or 614-292-6941. Join us this summer! Share your world!

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## **Ohio 4-H Youth and Adults Selected to Travel Overseas in 2013!**

Ohio 4-H recently selected 15 youth and 1 adult to travel overseas for 1 and 2 month homestays this summer through the Ohio 4-H International Program! News Releases to announce these achievements were emailed directly to county 4-H professionals and youth participants last month. If you'd like another copy, please contact Mary Lynn Thalheimer at [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu). Sincere thanks to the County 4-H Educators who have supported the selected participants in their endeavors!

### Argentina - One Month: (July 8 – Aug. 6)

Wesley Stambaugh, Williams Co.

Keyon Wodarski-Felt, Williams Co.

Aimee Bockelman, Henry Co.

Alexa Paolucci, Medina Co.

### Finland - One Month: (July 1 – 31)

Trisha Ford, Fairfield Co.

### Japan - Two Months: (June 12 – Aug. 8)

Libby DeSonia, Greene Co.

Grace Garza, Henry Co.

Carolyn Rychener, Williams Co.

Gillian Hagen, Medina Co.

Kyle von Kamp (adult), Ashland Co.

### Japan - One Month: (July 10 – Aug. 8)

Alex Robinson, Greene Co.

Colten Lyman, Williams Co.

Hannah Braswell, Clermont Co.

Morgan Price, Clark Co.

Chloe Parke, Hancock Co.

Megan Dunlap, Hardin Co.