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Find out what’s happening on TLC.

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Hear how 4-H took some TLC members to Puerto Rico!
Announcements

The Moral Committee has an exciting, festive challenge for all of TLC! Each member is asked to send in a picture of them with a tree they decorated for the holidays. There is also a chance to receive a prize for sending in a picture! Stay tuned for results!

Congratulations to Matthew Swearingen for being selected to serve on the 2020 National 4-H Conference Youth Leadership Team! He will work with teens from across the country to create a sense of community, plan and facilitate activities, and encourage youth to turn their ideas into actions.

Congratulations to all three of our Junior Advisors: Maddie Allman, Emmy Beck-Aden, and Samantha Mozena, for being chosen to serve as Roundtable Facilitators for the 2020 National 4-H Conference! Only 16 individuals nationwide were chosen for this experience. We couldn’t be more proud of these three young ladies!

Congratulations to the following individuals who were selected to attend the National 4-H Conference:

• Lindsey Bair
• Treva Hampp
• Nat Kresic
• Samuel Vessel
• Annie Warrens

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Announcements

Results from the Morale Committee Photo Challenge…
Committee Happenings

Advocacy
The Advocacy committee is discussing a state house tour and also completed the invite list and letter so they can invite legislators to O4HC.

Communications
The Communications committee finalized their first newsletter for the month of November. They have discussed future articles for upcoming newsletters. They ask that all TLC members be completing their Bio form.

Community Service
The Community Service committee discussed their ideas for conference, as well as making newspaper pots.

Fundraising
The Fundraising committee finalized upcoming fundraisers at Chipotle, Raising Cane’s, and Los Mariachis. They discussed selling bracelets and shirts at O4HC. An Anthony Thomas Chocolate sale.

Morale
The Morale committee is conducting a Christmas tree photo challenge as well as an ugly holiday outfit theme for the December meeting. This year, they are planning a sock exchange for the December meeting and are going to continue Morale Mondays.

Social Media
The Social Media committee asks that if any TLC member goes on a 4-H trip or present to a county that they send in pictures. They discussed Member Mondays, Region Reps stories, and alumni spotlights.

State Outreach
The State Outreach committee is inviting 50 states to O4HC and is discussing visiting other states.

“Don’t carry your mistakes around with you. Instead place them under your feet and use them as stepping stones to rise above them”
Lindsey Bair
This November, I had the privilege to travel with Ohio 4-H to Puerto Rico as part of the Cultural Immersion Program. Going into the experience, I was excited to immerse myself in a new culture. I had the impression that Puerto Rico would be similar to life in Columbus, Ohio, due to the fact that Puerto Rico is a U.S. Territory. Our 4-H educators traveling with us, Steve and Joe, did not give us a full itinerary and were extremely vague about what to pack. When our 13-member group arrived in the Puerto Rico airport we soon realized why. In Puerto Rico, people live day to day, and do not plan months in advance like we do in the States. In the end, no one in the group wanted to leave Puerto Rico. The experience and kinder culture we had been living in was hard to let go of. When I returned home to Columbus, everyone asked me about my experience. I showed everyone pictures but was more interested in telling people about the appreciation, hospitality, and celebration I witnessed while in Puerto Rico. My world view has been expanded, and I am extremely grateful to have been immersed in the culture.

Jodie Jennings
Recently, I had the opportunity to go to Puerto Rico through the 4-H program with Steve Brady of Warren County. While there, our group completed many new experiences in order to immerse ourselves in the culture they have. While we did many activities resembling a tourist-esque trip, we also saw many sides of Puerto Rico that the average person does not get to see. My favorite part of the trip was our time spent in the remote village of Castañer. We got to tour a coffee farm nestled deep in the mountain town. The owners were very happy to have us there. They produced oranges, vanilla, bananas, and--Puerto Rico’s cash crop--coffee!

As someone coming from a traditional ag background here in the states, it was so cool to see what agriculture means to people in a very different climate and region of the world! I learned so much about farming there, from the sprout of the seed, to the harvest, and then how it gets to the consumer! As someone passionate about the agricultural industry in all of its forms, going to that farm was definitely a highlight of the trip for me. While that was my favorite experience, we did not have a dull moment the whole time we were there! The experience is one I am forever grateful for and one I will never forget!

Matthew Swearingen
Last month, I was given the chance to travel to Puerto Rico with some of my closest friends to represent Ohio 4-H. By spending a week on the island, I was able to greatly expand my view on the world, and learn about life in another part of our country. Once we arrived in San Juan, we were quickly greeted by humid weather and blistering sun. In our first few days in the territory, we traveled to Castañer to execute service learning projects in the area. While staying in the village, we had the opportunity to travel to other parts of the island and even spent some time swimming in the warm waters surrounding the island. Along with coffee picking and visits to the local bakery, we kept ourselves busy exploring the area. After spending 5 days in the town, we left and moved to a suburb outside of San Juan. One of my favorite memories from San Juan was going to the beach and being able to swim in the waves that didn’t exist on the south side of the island. Although our time in Puerto Rico was short, we were able to make memories that will last a lifetime and make an impact on lives that might have otherwise gone untouched.
Featured Article Photos

Cultural Immersion Project- Puerto Rico
Lindsey Bair, Jodie Jennings, and Matthew Swearingen