A NOTE FROM LAUREN
What an exciting time of year! A time to reflect on the past year and to think about what the new year holds! Do you have 4-H goals for 2018? What project areas do you want to work on? This is a great time to be thinking about projects you are interested in and potential exhibits you could bring to the 2018 Fair. If you have an idea for a workshop — we want to hear from you! We are getting ready to plan for next summer already!

During this holiday season remember to give thanks for our clubs, our community, our country and our world. How can you or your club use your HANDS and HEARTS to give back, make someone’s day, or help others in need?

SHOOTING SPORTS ‘TRY IT’ DAY
The Clay County Flyers 4-H Club is hosting a ‘Try It’ day on Sunday, December 3 at the 4-H Center beginning at 3 pm. Youth between the ages of 8 and 18 are welcome to attend to see if they have an interest in archery or BB gun. Club member expectations will be explained. Four-H and non 4-H members are encouraged to attend. A parent or guardian must attend with their child. Safety classes are mandatory if you want to participate in shooting sports and will be held on Sunday, December 10. Please contact Liz DeVelder for questions or more information.

NEW! STATE-WIDE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT FOR 2017-2018
‘Blanket Buddies’ (fleece-tied blankets) is the community service project chosen by the 4-H Youth Council for the new 4-H year. The Youth Council challenges each county 4-H program to make the most number of fleece tied blankets to donate to hospitals, nursing homes, Domestic Abuse shelters, police and fire departments and/or food pantry. 4-H clubs and families are encouraged to contribute to the overall county impact by making blankets. This service project will run the majority of the 2017-2018 4-H year, with impact reports due in August. A summary of the impact will be announced at the 2018 South Dakota State Fair. Youth will truly be putting their ‘Hands to Larger Service’ with this project. Please note: if planning to work on this project, please contact the facility or organization you want to donate to before you start to make sure they will accept the blankets. Also, let Colleen know who you are donating to so a list can be started and We don’t have double donations to one group. She also needs to know the number of blankets made and donated for the impact Report. A flyer is included with this newsletter.

NATIONAL 4-H VOLUNTEER e-FORUMS from Audrey Rider, Volunteer Development Field Specialist
This fall we have a wonderful opportunity to provide training to adult and youth 4-H Volunteers across the state through the National 4-H Volunteer e-Forum series. The Volunteer trainings that were formerly held at regional centers are now being offered at the county level depending on interest.
The December 7 (6-7:30 pm) e-Forum topic is Helping 4-H’ers Grow in Life & Work. In 4-H, all youth can explore their future. Club meetings, events, camps, and after-school programs are places to develop life skills and expand their interests through 4-H. During this session volunteers will share ideas, receive resources, and see a variety of successful programs that help youth focus on life-long learning, workforce readiness, and career exploration. Caring adults can help all young people make decisions and create their own positive future. If you are interested in attending the December eForum, please let Lauren know immediately.

JUNIOR AMBASSADORS
The Ambassadors met for community service on November 20 to help with the Thanksgiving Welcome Table. They helped set up tables and place settings, prepared dessert trays, and served drink choices to attendees. Eleven members came to help – the Welcome Table was very appreciative! Our next meeting will be December 22 at 12:00 Noon at a location to be determined.
BLACK HILL STOCK SHOW YOUTH DAY

The 2018 Black Hills Stock Show® Youth Day will take place on January 27, 2018 in Rapid City, SD. This event is put on by SDSU Extension and South Dakota 4-H. The Youth Day is open to all youth, regardless of their affiliation with 4-H. Age requirements are that the youth must be at least 8 years of age by January 1, 2018 and must not have turned 19 by January 1, 2018.

Youth Day activities include:

- Livestock Judging – Team and Individual Event
- Beef Cook-Off – Individual Event
- Horse Quiz Bowl – Team Event
- Hippology: Team Event
- Livestockology: Team Event
- Dog Show: Individual Event
- Dog Skill-a-thon: Individual Event
- YQCA Instructor Led Training

You can find the contestant packet on our website.

YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS (YQCA)

A new quality assurance program was released in March 2017. This year, the National Pork Board transitioned to Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) and will no longer be administering Youth Pork Quality Assurance Plus (YPQA) by the end of 2017. The YQCA program will be fully utilized as the youth quality assurance program.

About YQCA

Educators and livestock industry professionals have noticed the success of the YPQA program and determined the need for a multi-specie (beef, dairy, goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine), science-based educational program that offered access to every youth exhibitor ages 8 to 21, nationally. Annually, youth livestock exhibitors raise thousands of food animals that contribute to the U.S. food supply, which translates to millions of pounds of consumable food products. Understanding how to produce a safe wholesome food animal product comes from a comprehensive educational program focused on proper care and welfare of food animals. Thus, a group of educators and livestock industry professionals from around the U.S. have been developing this program to meet the needs for a multi-species program.

YQCA provides a common framework for youth food animal quality assurance programs that will enhance the educational experience of youth, improve the care of food animals, and provide a higher level of food safety to consumers. The program is founded on food safety, animal welfare, and character development covering topics including daily health observations, proper use of medications, establishing a valid Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR), and ethics in the show ring. YQCA is an annual certification that engages youth producers on the good production practices required to raise food producing animals for exhibition or show.

The goals of YQCA:

1. Ensure safety and well-being of animals produced by youth for showing and for 4-H and FFA projects.
2. Ensure safe food supply to consumers.
3. Enhance the future of livestock industry by educating youth on these very important issues so they can become informed producers, consumers, and/or employees in the agriculture and food industry.
4. Maximize the limited development time and budgets of state and national youth program leaders to provide an effective quality assurance program. Offer livestock shows a valid, national quality assurance certification for youth livestock exhibitors.

Implementing YQCA in South Dakota

South Dakota 4-H is excited to announce they have partnered with YQCA to provide our youth the YQCA certification program!

- For the upcoming year (Oct 2017-Sep 2018), SD 4-H will expect all youth (ages 8 to 21) exhibiting swine projects at county and/or the State Fair to complete YQCA certification.
- For the 2018-19 4-H year, youth ages 8 to 21 exhibiting beef cattle, dairy cattle, dairy goats, meat goats, sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbits at county-level fairs or State Fair will be expected to become YQCA certified.

The YQCA Youth Standards are on the website. Be sure to read.
NEW! 4-H SCIENCE OF AGRICULTURE
Through “hands on” 4-H agriculture, science, technology, engineering, and math learning experiences, youth will:
♦ Get excited about and interested in agriculture and STEM.
♦ Have a greater understanding and knowledge of food production and its importance in our economy and world.
♦ Gain 21st Century skills, including technology, health, business and economic literacy, critical thinking, problem solving, initiative and self-direction.
♦ Consider and connect with agricultural-related studies at the university level while being exposed to and exploring future careers in agriculture.
4-H members will work on teams of 3-4 youth, in 6th grade and above. Participants will attend a statewide event to present their 4-H Science of Agriculture projects, which will be evaluated and judged. The team with the highest scores at the end of the event will be recognized and each member of the team will receive $1,000 scholarship for any college, university, or accredited trade school. Youth will also have a chance to connect with representatives from the University and agribusiness community, who are eager to meet the next generation of leaders in agriculture and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). For more information, go to iGrow.

GOD, FLAG AND COUNTRY ORATORY PROGRAM
The Vermillion Fraternal Order of Eagles 2421 Sunshine Aerie Chapter invite you to participate in their first annual God, Flag and Country oratory program. The purpose of this program is to instill in our young people a deeper understanding of God, Flag and Country in our common lives and to make them aware of their heritage and to make it more meaningful to them in the world today. The contest will be held at the Vermillion Eagle’s Club on February 24, 2018 so you have plenty of time to write the winning speech. The contestant packet is on our website with a more detailed explanation of the contest, rules and registration form. Registration forms are due February 10, 2018.

Happy Birthday
Dec 2 – Riley Skatvold
Dec 5 - Shannon Sokolowski
Dec 9 – Jerami West
Dec 10 – Jennifer Ensminger
Dec 13 – Henry Anderson
Dec 28 – Lexy Dobney
Dec 30 – Liz DeVelder
Dec 30 – Nicholas Havermann
Dec 31 – Brannon McDonald

ROBOTICS WORKSHOP
On January 6, SD 4-H will be hosting an introductory workshop for robotics. An overview of the robotics curriculums will be provided as well as an introduction to LEGO MINDSTORMS programing. The workshop will be held via DDN with locations at the Sioux Falls Regional Center, Rapid City West River Ag Center, Pierre Regional Center, Aberdeen Regional Center, Winner Regional Center, and Selby High School. Pre-registration through iGrow is required. For more information or questions, contact Christine Wood at 605-782-3290 or Christine.Wood@sdstate.edu.

The Vermillion Area Arts Council is having a Holiday Arts & Crafts Celebration December 10 - 16 at the Washington Street Arts Center. See the flyers in this newsletter highlighting the many fun activities they have planned for the week.

The new 4-H year began October 1 so please start enrolling or re-enrolling in 4-H Online. Members do not need to re-enroll every year. Re-enrollment and new members—please do not set up a new profile! New members can complete a paper enrollment or can enroll online. Enrollment forms will be in the 4-H kitchen or can be found on the website. Help sheets are also on the website. You need to use either Firefox or Google Chrome.

CLUB LEADERS - don’t forget to re-enroll, too!

WAL-MART DONATION
We received quite a few skeins of DMC embroidery thread in various colors if anyone is interested. We also have all the paint and fabric that the store donated a year or so ago.
I will be on annual leave December 20 through January 3. If, by chance, you are thinking about 4-H and want to stop by the office, please call first to see if Lauren is here. Thanks, Colleen.

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Happy New Year!
Barn Quilt Workshop

What:
- Participants will create a 1' x 1' OR a 2' x 2' wood barn quilt of a pattern of their choice

Who:
- Clay County 4-H youth, ages 8-18. Youth ages 8-12 need to be accompanied by an adult. Parents may also participate if there is space.

Where:
- Wildfire Ceramics/The Front Porch Studio

When:
- January 2, 2018 from 2 - 5 pm

Cost:
The Clay Co. Leaders Association is paying for part of the youth cost in addition to the discount Crystal has given 4-H.
- 1' x 1' youth - $15
- 2' x 2' youth - $30

If youth registrations are low, the workshop will be opened to adults December 15 - 19.
- 1' x 1' adult - $40
- 2' x 2' adult - $75

What to Bring:
Crystal is supplying almost everything! You need: A hair blow-dryer if you have one and a creative mind!
*Please wear clothes you don't care get dirty. This paint will not wash out of clothes.

Please fill out the form on the next page and return to the office by December 19! Space is limited to the first 10 youth!

For Questions, contact:
Lauren Hollenbeck, 4-H Youth Program Advisor
Lauren.hollenbeck@sdstate.edu
Colleen Rickbohm - clay.county@sdstate.edu
(605) 677 7111

iGrow
A Service of SDSU Extension
iGrow.org
Barn Quilt Workshop Registration Form

Participant Name____________________________________ Age_____

Parent or Guardian____________________________________

Phone________________ E-mail Address_____________________

Do you need a ride from the Extension Office? YES NO
(Lauren will reserve a vehicle if needed)

Please place a check mark next to the barn quilt pattern you prefer (colors will vary depending on your creativity - you will be limited to 3-4 colors due to paint dry time)

Please return this form and your payment to the Extension Office by December 19!
Pick-A-Chick

Are you interested in showing poultry?

Who: Anyone in 4-H, cloverbuds included!
What: Birds purchased for $5 each and additional learning workshops
When: January 12 - Office needs to know of interest
         Early March - Chicks need to be picked up

We will continue our Pick-a-Chick program this year! Youth from ages 5-18 will be able to learn from a poultry breeder how to care for and show poultry. You will be able to purchase exhibition type show Bantams (smaller than many farm chickens you may be familiar with) for $5 per chick. Chickens do best in groups, so it is recommended that you get a minimum of 5, even if you do not plan to show all 5. **Choosing chick breeds will be on a first come basis on delivery day. The breeder will not take specific breed requests this year.**

Chicks need to be purchased in early March. Please let the office know before January 12 if you are interested in purchasing a bird. At that time we need to know how many birds you would like so we can send in an order. If you change your mind before March/April, there is no charge and the birds will find other homes, but it will be very hard to receive a bird in March if you were not on the initial interest list.

Early in March, chicks need to be kept in basements or garages in a box with a heat lamp until they feather out. If this is a concern for anyone, let us know and we will discuss what options would be best for you to care for a bird.

At the end of the summer, there are opportunities to return the birds or sell them back to the breeder if you cannot care for them over the winter.

Do not hesitate to call or e-mail if you have any questions or concerns!

Clay County Extension Office
Phone ~ 605-677-7111
Email: clay.county@sdstate.edu
lauren.hollenbeck@sdstate.edu
2017-18 4-H Youth Council Community Service Project

“Blanket Buddies”

4-Hers are... 4X more likely to give back to their communities! What better time than now to start instilling the spirit of giving in our South Dakota 4-H youth.

Help the South Dakota 4-H Youth Council team with their community service project this year! Any 4-H family, club, or county can make an endless number of tie blankets to be donated to area health care facilities (i.e. hospitals, clinics, assisted livings, etc.) and/or shelters.

4-H club are asked to keep track of the number of blankets made. These numbers should be reported to the local 4-H county office.

For questions, please contact the Clay County Extension Office at 605-677-7111.

Hilary Risner | Regional 4-H Youth Program Advisor
(605) 394-1722 | hilary.risner@sdstate.edu
711 N. Creek Dr. | Rapid City, SD 57703

South Dakota State University, South Dakota counties, and USDA cooperating. South Dakota State University adheres to AA/EEO guidelines in offering educational programs and services.

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4-H T-Shirt Design Contest

How would you like your original design printed on the 2018 county 4-H t-shirts? How about on the cover of the 4-H Fair Supplement? Submit your design for the Clay County 4-H T-Shirt Design Contest! $25.00 cash prize to the member whose design is selected!

The four rules are 1) 4-H Clover must be used in the design and must be used properly, 2) one entry per member, 3) design size limited to 8.5” x 11” and 4) you must be a current and active 4-H member.

Entry deadline is Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 5 pm to Colleen in the office.

4-H is AMAZING!

Note: The winning design may have a few small modifications made to make it digital and we may change the coloring depending on the t-shirt color.
Holiday Arts & Craft Celebration

Vermillion Area Arts Council
Washington Street Arts Center
202 Washington St, Vermillion

Sunday, December 10 – Saturday, December 16
2-6 pm most days
Make a gift / Yarn Sales/ Art & Craft Sales
Come and enjoy Music, Dance, Buy Local Arts
Still accepting Art & Craft entries

Special events:
Sunday, December 10 from 2 - 7 pm: Santa with gifts for kids 4-6 pm and Ugly Sweater contest (prize for best homemade & commercial)
Wednesday, December 13 from 2 - 6 pm: Santa Story Time 4:30 – 5:30 pm
Saturday, December 16 from 2 - 7 pm: Great Vermillion Pastry Contest with prizes & pastry auction at 6:00 pm

Contact vermillionareaarts council@gmail.com
VAAC Holiday Arts Celebration Schedule

Sunday December 10  2-6 Arts Crafts With Santa
9-11    Artist/crafts set up time
2 – 6    Art & Craft Sales plus Lumostudios Yarn Sale
3 – 4    Make a Gift - your choice of $5 or $10 or $15 Projects Children must have adult working with them
4-6     Santa - On site w Gifts for kids
5-6     Ugly Sweater Contest – Prize for best Homemade & Best commercial

Monday   December 11  2-6 Arts & Craft Sale Plus
2 – 6    Art & Craft Sales plus Lumostudios Yarn Sale
3 – 4    Make a Gift - your choice of $5 or $10 or $15 Projects Children must have adult working with them

Tuesday  December 12  2-6 Arts & Craft Sale Plus
2 – 6    Art & Craft Sales plus Lumostudios Yarn Sale
3 – 4    Make a Gift - your choice of $5 or $10 or $15 Projects Children must have adult working with them
5-6     Christmas Carols – Vermillion Children Choir

Wednesday December 13  2-6 Arts & Craft Sale Plus Santa Story Time
2 – 6    Art & Craft Sales plus Lumostudios Yarn Sale
4 – 5    Make a Gift - your choice of $5 or $10 or $15 Projects Children must have adult working with them
5-6     Santa Story Time

Thursday  December 14  2-6 Arts & Craft Sale Plus
2 – 6    Art & Craft Sales plus Lumostudios Yarn Sale
3 – 4    Make a Gift - your choice of $5 or $10 or $15 Projects Children must have adult working with them
5 – 6    Music to be announced

Friday    December 15  2-7 Arts & Craft Sale Plus
2 – 6    Art & Craft Sales plus Lumostudios Yarn Sale
3 – 4    Make a Gift - your choice of $5 or $10 or $15 Projects Children must have adult working with them

Saturday December 16  2-7 Arts & Craft Sale Plus
2 – 6    Art & Craft Sales plus Lumostudios Yarn Sale
3 – 4    Make a Gift - your choice of $5 or $10 or $15 Projects Children must have adult working with them
4-5     Great Vermillion Pastry Contest - Prizes – Show off your baking skills Best Tasting, Best presentation, Most original, Best Traditional
5-6     Great Vermillion Pastry Auction
VAAC Holiday Arts Celebration
at the Washington Street Arts Center
December 10 – 16, 2017
2-6 pm daily

What is your Art?
We are inviting Painters, Potters, Crafters, Bakers, Poets, Writers, Musicians, Foodies, Knitters, Crocheters, Basket makers, etc.

Artist Booth Information at the Washington Street Arts Center
Artist do not have to be on site at all times. VAAC volunteers will operate this as a store/gallery and sell your items for you. Your time is requested as much as you can provide.
One 10’ X 10’ booth is $50 if registered by December 1. Includes one table and chair.
After December 1 the booth cost is $75. Addition 5’ is $75.
Set Up times: Saturday, December 9, 2017 from 2 to 4 pm or Sunday, December 10, 2017 from 9 am to 12 noon.

Artist Booth fee will be utilized for advertising.
The VAAC is not taking or asking any share of income from artists.
Donations will be accepted.
Booth space is intended for 1 to 3 artists.
Students may combine beyond the 3 for one booth.
Contact: vermillionareaartscouncil@gmail.com

Send Sign up to VAAC, PO Box 484, Vermillion SD 57069

Crafts for Christmas