



Friends of 4-H

Minnesota 4-H Foundation
Center for 4-H Youth Development
University of Minnesota Extension Service

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Extension
SERVICE

NEWS

YELLO Vision of Youth

Visions of youth and leadership abound in 4-H. There are 4-Hers developing food and nutrition clinics, working for political campaigns, organizing youth groups and camps, teaching computer technology and animal husbandry, and serving as positive role models for youth in a variety of capacities. The list of 4-Hers and their activities seems endless. In the midst of lives of service, however, there is a need for continued planning, development and personal growth for youth leaders. Over 400 youth leaders from across Minnesota gathered at the Minnesota State Fair grounds June 16-19 for such an opportunity, Youth Exploring Leadership and Learning Outloud (YELLO) conference.

At YELLO, youth were involved in community service projects, developing citizenship skills, participating and presenting educational workshops, and discussing teen issues. The youth also had the opportunity to hear motivational speakers such as Glen Taylor, president of Taylor Corporation and owner of the Minnesota Timberwolves and Minnesota Lynx, Susie McConnell Serio, coach of the Minnesota Lynx, and Carl Olson, High School Counselor and nationally renowned speaker.



The activities and events of the week provide youth leaders with a greater network of fellow leaders and additional skills to assist them in their work and outreach across the state. For many the conference also allowed time to reflect on their journeys in leadership and continue to set new goals and ideas.



Vision for Leadership

Building on the success of YELLO, 4-H Extension faculty are working with youth and adult volunteers across Minnesota to enhance and expand current youth leadership curriculum and opportunities.

Lucia Orcutt, 4-H Extension Educator, Center for 4-H Youth Development, is quick to point out the strengths of Youth Leadership in Minnesota 4-H and the importance that YELLO (previously JLC, YLC, and YLE) has played in the lives of many 4-Hers. "Leaders are being lifted up, and have been nurtured, through state sponsored events. We continue to explore expanded opportunities for all youth who are interested in gaining leadership skills and ways to sustain youth throughout the year as they tackle extraordinary leadership projects?"

Building on the work that has been carried out by Minnesota State 4-H Ambassadors in creating District Leadership retreats, the 4-H Youth Leadership Program Design Team is talking with educators, youth, and adults on how best to plan for the future.

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Youth Leadership Fund Sponsors

Elaine Christiansen & Hal Routhie





FROM THE DIRECTOR

*Linda L. Smith
Executive Director
Minnesota 4-H
Foundation*

As summer draws to an end and we enjoy the sites, sounds and experiences of State Fair, we are reminded of the tremendous 4-H opportunities available to Minnesota youth. Through new and continuing 4-H club activities and innovative 4-H adventures, hands-on learning and leadership experiences are making a difference in the lives of more than 168,000 Minnesota youth.

The long held values that have been a part of 4-H are still at the core of the program. As the articles in this newsletter describe, youth have opportunities for leadership as they contribute to their family, community and country. And 11,000 volunteers continue to create the youth/adult partnerships which are a cornerstone of Minnesota 4-H programs.

With the help of The University of Minnesota Extension Service's 4-H Youth Development program, families and communities prepare young people for a positive future. In this period of state and county financial constraints, the University continues its strong commitment to 4-H. An indication of this commitment is the appointment of Dorothy Freeman as the State 4-H Program Leader. We are excited to welcome Dr. Freeman, a veteran 4-H staff member from Virginia Cooperative Extension. Working with Dr. Dale Blyth, Director of the Center for 4-H Youth Development, Dorothy will provide leadership for the Minnesota 4-H program. You will have an opportunity to meet Dorothy, either at the Minnesota State Fair or as she travels throughout the state. She is passionate about youth development and will help establish a solid foundation for Minnesota 4-H's second century.

Working with the Center for 4-H Youth Development, The Minnesota 4-H Foundation is committed to helping youth reach their potential. We thank you for your many contributions. Investing resources in building the future leaders of Minnesota is as important a choice as we will ever make. You are making a difference in the lives of today's youth, our future!



Gold Clover Award

Mary Boorsma, Jr. Master Gardener

Mary Boorsma has combined her green thumb and big heart in designing and implementing the Junior Master Gardener program in the Le Sueur-Henderson area. Through her work with 4-H and Extension, Mary serves as a teacher who has created an outdoor classroom in which she teaches children and teenagers about plants, insects, food production, and gardening. Cheryl Amundson, 4-H educator for Rice and Le Sueur counties notes that, "Mary is a real volunteer...Mary's real skill is to make gardening fun for the kids while they are learning." One highlight for the young people involved in the Junior Gardening program was making a meal using the vegetables they had grown.

For her work with 4-H and the Junior Master Gardener program Mary recently received the Gold Clover Award. The Minnesota 4-H Foundation sponsored the Gold Clover Award to recognize outstanding volunteer commitment to youth and to community.

Friends of 4-H News is published by the Minnesota 4-H Foundation and mailed to donors and friends of Minnesota 4-H.



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State 4-H Program Leader Named

Dorothy McCargo Freeman began as the Minnesota State 4-H Program Leader August 1. With 27 years of Extension experience and a strong commitment to quality 4-H programs, Freeman takes leadership for Minnesota's 4-H Youth Development Program. Dorothy will also serve as Assistant Director for the Center for 4-H Youth Development, a position that was formerly filled by Michael Charland.

Dorothy, a Virginia native, has been active in Virginia's 4-H Youth Development programs at county, district, and state levels. She is also well known across the country and served as President of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, 1991-92.



Dorothy McCargo Freeman, the new Minnesota State 4-H Program Leader, is welcomed by the youth to Minnesota 4-H.

During Dorothy's 4-H career, she has focused much of her work on teen programming, youth adult partnerships, workforce preparation, and urban programs. She has also provided leadership for Virginia's Children, Youth and Families At-Risk initiative that utilizes a community-based collaborative model to reach over 10,900 under-served children, youth, and adults.

We look forward to Dorothy's leadership and passion for 4-H programming. She comments "having passion is not effective if one cannot dream the possibilities and engage stakeholders to create and implement a common vision while respecting the traditions of the organization."

Local Investments through the Minnesota 4-H Foundation

Since its inception the Minnesota 4-H Foundation has served as one means to support and connect with 4-H in counties and clubs throughout Minnesota. Over the last ten years the Minnesota 4-H Foundation has seen significant development in the area of county endowments. Through the work and donations of county federations, families, and friends of 4-H there are presently twenty-two counties that have created endowments.

Funds from county endowments have allowed counties and local 4-Hers to carry out community service projects, to develop 4-H promotional packets for their counties, to strengthen 4-H programming, and much more. If you are interested in contributing to a county endowment that currently exists for either a home county or a current county of residence contact the 4-H Foundation, or if you are interested in learning more about setting up a new endowment for your county



contact either the Minnesota 4-H Foundation or your regional extension educator.

Current County Endowments:

Aitkin County Endowment
Anoka County Endowment
Becker County Endowment
Chippewa County Endowment
Clay County Endowment
Houston County Endowment
Hubbard County Truhn Endowment
Kandiyohi County Endowment
LeSueur County 4-H Endowment
Martin County Endowment
Mille Lacs County Endowment
Murray County Endowment
Nobles County Endowment
Olmsted County Endowment
Otter Tail County Cal Mielke Memorial
Polk County Endowment
Ramsey County 4-H Leadership Council
Rice County Tina Johnson Memorial
Sibley County Endowment
Washington County 4-H Memorial
Watsonwan County A R Voss Endowment
Wilkin County Endowment



GOLF RECAP

Minnesota 4-H Golf Classic & Silent Auction

A beautiful Friday in the middle of July at the Les Bolstad University of Minnesota Golf Course provided the perfect setting for the 5th Annual Minnesota 4-H Foundation Golf Classic. Basking in the sunshine and the excitement of the day, 126 golfers took to the course to make this years golf classic a record-breaking event both in terms of the number of golfers and the funds raised for Minnesota 4-H.

Highlights this year included a hearty luncheon provided by the Machine Shed followed by an afternoon program hosted by guest emcee Kristin Stinar, news reporter for KSTP-TV, enthusiastic 4-Hers greeting golfers at the holes, and a live auction featuring prizes such as Northwest airline tickets, Minnesota Vikings tickets, a Randy Moss signed jersey, and quarters of beef.

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation is grateful for the support and commitment of the companies, individuals, players, volunteers, and committee members in helping to make the Fifth Annual Minnesota 4-H Golf Classic and Auction a record-breaking event!

For more information on the 4-H Golf Classic please contact the Minnesota 4-H Foundation.



Minnesota 4-H Golf Classic Sponsors

Major Sponsorship (\$5,000)

Land O'Lakes, Inc.

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University of Minnesota Extension Service
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Shoquist, Marc
Stone, Sandie

In Kind Donations

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Jennie-O Turkey Store
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Minnesota State Fair

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Shamrock Leathers Trophies & Awards
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University of Minnesota, Crookston
– John Zak
Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, N.A.
– Phillip Kopischke

Silent Auction & Volunteer Gifts

Acme Comedy Club
Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center
Best Western – Maplewood Inn
Bigger, Jeff
CHS Cooperatives Foundation
Dean Foods
Elite Steak 'N' Chops
Flaherty's Arden Bowl
Fox, Joseph
Goodrich Golf Dome
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Minnesota Deer Hunters Association
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Minnesota Twins Baseball Club
Minnesota Vikings – Jana Johnson
– Paul Johnson

Minnesota Wild
North Oaks County Club
Northwest Airlines, Inc. – Sandy Shepley
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Outrageous Ink – Joey Gerdin
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– John Maschoff
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U of MN – Extension-Kim Boyce
Weness, Maria
Ziegler Cat

Hole Contest Sponsors

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Minnesota Deer Hunters Association
Minnesota Twins Baseball Club
Old Chicago
St. Paul Saints
Tastefully Simple
Timber Lodge Steakhouse
The TORO Company
U of MN – Federal Credit Union
Verizon Wireless

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Balloon Contest Sponsors

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 U of MN Extension – Kim Boyce
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 U of MN – Foundation, Deb Noll
 Ziegler Cat

Kern Scholarship Award



Nicole Fox

of Anthony and Barb Berning; and Nicole Fox from Rosemount a 4-H member from Dakota county and daughter of Greg and Sandi Fox. This fall Daniel will be attending the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota with plans to major in Actuarial Science, while Nicole will be studying at the University of Minnesota with a planned major in Veterinary Science.

In 1992, Mrs. Violet Kern established the Kern scholarship to encourage 4-H members to receive higher education. The scholarship is \$1,500 renewable for four years provided the student remains in a Minnesota public school and maintains a strong grade point average.

This year the recipients of the Kern Scholarships are Daniel Berning of Albertville, a 4-H member from Sherburne county, and son



Daniel Berning



**THANK
YOU**

Continued from page 1

YELLO

Orcutt points out that much of the groundwork is set. There is a commitment to creating authentic opportunities for the youth voice within the 4-H youth development programming process. Youth in partnership with adults are encouraged to effectively support application of youth leadership skills, and the intentional building of civic capacity among participants. This is achieved by incorporating research based youth leadership educational opportunities and applying youth development principles.

Linda Smith, Director of the Minnesota 4-H Foundation, notes that, "4-H is building on the successes that have led to today. ...the 4-Hers of yesterday are doing amazing things and through their support and the financial support of others who care about 4-H we are able to move forward. 4-H is thinking ahead as to how best to equip 4-Hers for the world of tomorrow. This is an exciting prospect, but can at times seem daunting. The Minnesota 4-H Foundation and Center for 4-H Youth Development are working together to allow the

voices and visions of youth to take shape as we plan for the future."

Vision for the Future

As 4-H continues to enhance the Youth development program and curriculum, a new initiative is taking shape. At YELLO the Minnesota 4-H Foundation launched the Leadership Fund to support leadership programming and training for youth and adults. In past years corporations and families have contributed to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation specifically to assist with developing leadership programs in Minnesota. The Leadership Fund has been developed to continually strengthen the Leadership opportunities and educational programs offered throughout Minnesota.

Contributing to the MN 4-H Leadership Fund are Leadership Sponsors: **Best Buy, Inc., General Mills Foundation, Elaine Christiansen and Hal Route,** and YELLO Event Sponsors: **Canterbury Park, Otter Tail Power, and SuperValu.**

A special thank you goes out to all of these sponsors as we continue to build support for this exciting initiative and the work of 4-H youth leaders in Minnesota

Spotlight on 4-H Foundation Trustees

Sandie Stone

"If I could return to one time in my childhood I think it would have to be a week at the State Fair," says Sandie Stone. As a Wisconsin 4-Her living just outside Superior, Sandie recalls both the significance and fun that 4-H brought to her life.



"4-H made a big difference in my life," states Stone, "...the whole family was involved—all five siblings—and my parents alternated as leaders. From the time I was ten I was learning to

conduct meetings and organize activities."

Throughout high school in Superior, Wisconsin, and later college at the University of Wisconsin—Madison, Sandie found herself using the leadership skills she had learned as a young 4-Her. It was after college that Sandie moved to Minneapolis and made this her home.

In February 2002, Sandie retired from Cargill, Inc., and was approached by a friend to become involved with 4-H and the Minnesota 4-H Foundation. Sandie's interest was peaked and she joined the Board of Trustees in November 2002. Realizing that rural areas and rural ways of life are changing, Sandie wanted to be part of keeping 4-H a vital way of life for youth. "4-H is still important for youth and provides such a significant opportunity for youth to learn and grow. I believe it's important for youth in rural areas and in urban areas to experience the positive learning and connections that 4-H provides," notes Stone.

Stone hopes to give back a little of what she has received to an organization that is dear to her heart, and for at least a day this year she will be at the Minnesota State Fair with other young people reliving childhood memories and the excitement that 4-H can provide.

Wayne Carlson

From the small town of Hallock, in the Northwest corner of Minnesota, to the 4-H Extension offices in Northwest Minnesota, to the State 4-H offices at the University of Minnesota, Wayne Carlson has been a voice for youth and 4-H. First Wayne accomplished this as a 4-Her and later as assistant county extension agent in Roseau county, a state extension agent for Northwest Minnesota, and then a state educator and acting Director of Minnesota 4-H.



There is very little that Wayne does not know about 4-H, and Wayne is eager to share his knowledge and appreciation with those around him. For this reason Wayne is glad to serve on the Minnesota 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees.

Wayne recalls his own upbringing on a 240 acre farm in rural Minnesota and attending Lancaster High School. Agriculture was a way of life. Yet Wayne wanted to learn more and challenge himself further. This meant attending the University of Minnesota, from which he graduated in 1957 with distinction. Wayne's time in 4-H at the University of Minnesota has led him down many interesting roads—one of which is a life of connection with 4-H.

Today, alongside his hobbies of woodworking, photography, videography, and computers, Wayne enjoys speaking on behalf of youth and serving on the Minnesota 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees. Someday Wayne may retire, but for now he is busy as ever and alongside his business-life he finds time to call 4-H families and donors to thank them for their commitment to 4-H.



Support 4-H through your United Way Campaign

Did you know that if you participate in the United Way campaign at your business you can direct your contribution to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation? As a non-profit with 501(c)3 status, the Minnesota 4-H Foundation is eligible to receive designations from the United Way campaign, even though we are not an affiliate, member organization. If you would like to support 4-H programs through your United Way contribution, you must write in "Minnesota 4-H Foundation" in the area on the pledge card for designations to specific organizations. This is a convenient way for you to help provide year-around support to 4-H youth development programs. There are many effective health and human service organizations that you can support through United Way, including 4-H, so keep that in mind this fall when it is United Way time at your workplace.



MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS

Memorial and honorary gifts are a special way to recognize or remember a friend, family member, 4-H club leader, or Extension staff person by honoring that person or their memory with a gift to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation. This is a great way to applaud the personal accomplishments of your favorite 4-H members and alumni. Gifts can be designated to a specific program or to the general fund where contributions support 4-H program areas of greatest need.

The following gifts were made June 1, 2003-July 31, 2003

Memorials

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Thrivent Offers

Opportunity to support 4-H

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation is participating in Thrivent Financial Bank's new credit card program, which is designed to benefit charities and non-profit organizations. Through this program the bank donates a portion of net purchases made on its MasterCard® Classic® Charitability Card to the participating charity or non-profit organization designated by the cardholder. As a participant, the Minnesota 4-H Foundation can receive an annual donation from the bank.

Once a cardholder has selected the Minnesota 4-H Foundation, everytime the card is used, the bank donates a portion of the net purchase to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation. There is no cost to the cardholder. The program provides a great way to turn your normal credit card use into a donation to us without increasing your budget.

Balances on other credit cards transferred to the Charitability Card also count toward the donation. For more information or to apply for the card, please call the bank directly at 866.596.1501. Complete rules and guidelines on the program can be found on the bank's website at www.thriventbank.com.

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Adult Scholarship from the MN 4-H Foundation

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation is pleased to announce that **Beth Johnson** of Badger, Minnesota has been selected to receive the 2003 4-H Adult Scholarship: Workforce Re-entry award. This scholarship, endowed by an anonymous donor, is for adult volunteers/ alumni who are returning to the classroom for additional workforce skill development and training. To date, eleven \$2,000 scholarships have been awarded to Minnesota 4-H volunteers.

Urban 4-H Program

Within blocks of the state capital in St. Paul a new program is taking root. A 4-H program at Rivertown Commons shows an innovative new approach to bring 4-H to life in the midst of urban living. As the sixth community in Minneapolis and St. Paul to develop a site-based 4-H program, Rivertown Commons is aimed at reaching underserved audiences living in public and subsidized housing neighborhoods with accessible and high-quality youth development programming.



The Minnesota 4-H Foundation, through grants from The Sheltering Arms Foundation and IBM, is supporting the work being done at Rivertown Commons. As part of a site-based program, the youth gather an average of three times a week to build community, take advantage of learning opportunities, and develop computer and communication skills. In this way the 4-H site-based program is designed to build and reinforce critical life skills among children and adolescents in regard to building relationships, nutrition

education, social responsibility, intercultural education, which complement academic achievement.

Over recent years much study has been done with youth and the opportunities and risks that exist during "out of school" time. In many cases "out of school time" is fraught with dangers and additional pressures for young people. 4-H is working with local communities to create positive alternatives. For example, recently at the Rivertown Commons 4-H site young people gathered to discuss community building, as well as hands-on activities such as making silly putty and learning computer skills. The program targets two distinct groups children age 5-12 and adolescents age 13-19. Through the program the adolescents grow into roles as mentors and work to support and model healthy behaviors for the children. Rivertown Commons provides one new exciting 4-H venture that is developing a place for youth to learn, to grow, and experience the excitement of 4-H.

4-H GOLF RECAP

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Youth greet golfers and share their 4-H stories



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