

February 16, 2015

Dear 4-H Families:

RE: 4-H Button Days

The County 4-H Committee is asking for your assistance in helping with 4-H Button Days to accept donations for the county 4-H Program. This is the only fundraiser the county 4-H program conducts during the year. Each club is expected to participate. We have 79 businesses willing to support 4-H and allow us to collect donations at their businesses. We need clubs to stand up and help support our own program by committing to be at the business locations. **The dates & times for 2015 are:**

- ⌘ **March 13th from 4-6 pm**
- ⌘ **March 14th from 9 am-Noon**
- ⌘ **June 5th from 4-6 p.m.**
- ⌘ **June 6th from 9 am-Noon**

Purpose – Is to make 4-H more visible to the public and provide the public an opportunity to financially assist the county 4-H program. Each person is given a 4-H button or sticker to display on their clothing for others to see. It is hoped that 4,000 buttons/stickers can be given out. All funds collected are used towards the county 4-H activities, awards, scholarships, etc. This is the only fundraiser for our county as an overall support to the entire county 4-H program.

Where – 4-H clubs are asked to take responsibility for a site and man it Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. Locations can be banks, groceries, stores, restaurants, etc. **Clubs should not be in the buildings, but out front.** The post offices (due to Federal regulations), and bars or taverns should not be considered. The Extension Office will act as a clearing house for locations, so call our office to register your spot early. We will inform the businesses so they are aware of 4-H Button Day. **Do not contact businesses yourself.** The Extension Office has already done that. However, if you know of a new possible location, please let us know and we will contact that business.

Materials – We have over 5,000 4-H buttons/stickers available. We also will provide a collection can indicating this is for the support of the county 4-H program. **The cans will be available to be picked up March 9th to 13th & June 1st to the 5th. Your collections or donation should be turned into the Extension Office no later than March 20th & June 12th, respectively.**

Manpower – An entire 4-H club is not needed to man a location. Two or three members at a location for a 2-hour block of time is one possibility. 4-H Button Days can be considered a community service project for a club toward Honor Club points. There are 1500+ members that can man the 79 locations. Please consider supporting our local 4-H program.



Members, especially younger members, need to be assertive. Members should ask people if they want a 4-H button or sticker, and if they would like to support the 4-H Program. Don't stand back and hope people will come to you. Also, smile and be friendly! 4-H has a very good image and has always received a lot of community support. Thank people for their support when they contribute money. If you want to borrow the Chris Clover mascot, you may. Just be sure to call ahead to reserve it.

It is hoped that all locations in Urbana and throughout the county will have 4-Hers passing out buttons/stickers and collecting donations. Last year, 4-H Button Days collected around \$1200. This is down \$700 plus from previous years, mainly due to lack of club participation. If you have questions, please call the office at 484-1526.

Thank you for supporting **YOUR** 4-H program!

Sincerely,
Melinda Morrison
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

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