

January 27, 2010

Re: Underage 4H member program

Attn: Sherry Howey

The Foothills 4H Sheep Club is submitting a proposal to be one of the clubs to pilot an underage 4H program. Foothills Sheep Club has been active for 57 years of which several of the included the participation of pee wee 4H members while the program was previously in place. The 4H club continued to mentor members of a junior sheep program called Little Shepherds for several years. Many of the members of the Little Shepherd club moved on to Foothills 4H Sheep Club when they reached the appropriate age.

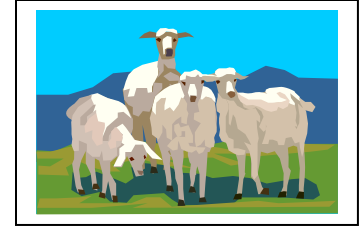
Attached is the proposed schedule for the underage members including meetings, clinics and their achievement days. They will shadow the 4H Club on many of these events and the members have agreed to mentor the younger kids through this program. The participants will learn about basic sheep management, exhibiting skills, public speaking and basic record-keeping.

The leaders for this project will be Jennifer Woods and Kathleen Cranswick. Leader responsibilities will include organizing and presenting monthly meetings, development of educational material for the members, organization of group activities such as public speaking, achievement day and club awards.

Attached also is a letter of support from the Foothills 4H Sheep Club.

**Foothills 4 – H Sheep Club
Little Shepherds**

2010 All club meetings at Mezappa Gas Plant
Meetings at 7 – 8:00 P.M. unless otherwise specified



2010 PROGRAM

- Feb. 11** **MEETING – Introduction to Little Sheperds**
- Mar. 11** **MEETING – All about Sheep**
- Mar.** **WORKSHOPS AS ARRANGED BY THE COMMITTEES**
PLACE TBA (Showmanship, Judging, Equipment)
- Apr. 1** **All lambs tagged**
- Apr. 15** **Meeting – Feeding your lamb**
Little Shepherds Public Speaking
- May 13** **Meeting - Preparing for the show!**
- May 15** **ACHEIVEMENT DAY and Sale**
Place: Highwood Livestock Auction
- June 3** **Meeting**
*** Activity/Record Books turned in for judging**
- June 13** **Year End Banquet and Awards**
Place: Davisburg Hall
Time: TBA

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To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to show support for the 4-H Pee Wee Program. It is with great pleasure that the Foothills Sheep Club has been selected to be part of the Pilot Project. This is a program that is long overdue and our Club is very excited about the opportunity to have these children so that we can MENTOR them on the benefits of being a 4-H Member.

As those of us with Clubs surrounding major urban areas are aware that it is harder and harder to attract families into the Livestock projects with the rapid growth of urban sprawl. More and more of the land is being parcelled off into 5 and 10 acre plots with both parents working in the city. This has dramatically changed the outlook of 4-H as we see growth in areas such as Horse, Small Engine, Photography, Life Skills and Dog Projects to name a few. However the number of members registered in the Livestock projects keeps declining. It was with a Heavy Heart that I was informed that our Region was split on the Idea of supporting such a very worth while initiative.

The Foothills Sheep Club has been in good standing for 57 Years and without such forward thinking initiatives I can see this Club as well as many others that are situated on the outskirts of major metropolitan areas having to fold within the near future. As the competition for our youth to participate in other activities is forever increasing.

In summary the Foothills Sheep Club is very strongly in support of such a great initiative and welcomes the opportunity to participate in this Pilot.

Sincerely,
Eugene Rosia
General Leader
Foothills Sheep Club