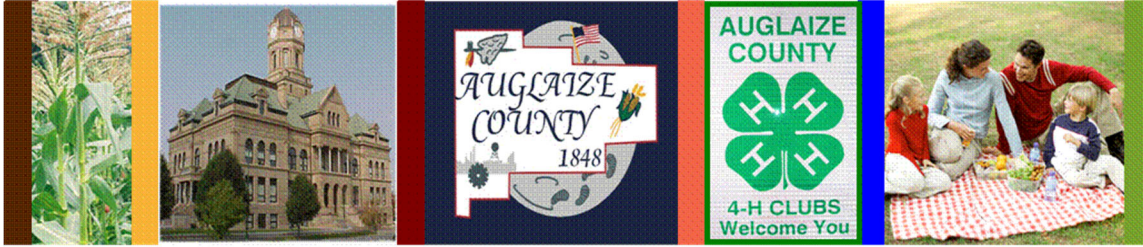


# Extension Communicator



## November 2020

### 4-H Youth Development

#### Special points of interest:

- 4-H Youth Development
- Agriculture & Natural Resources
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

#### 4-H Zooms through 2020

In person programming was suspended in mid March as the 4-H year was getting into full swing. Alternate plans had to be developed quickly by our club volunteers. As usual, our volunteers worked hard to accept this challenge and continue to “make the best better”. Zoom meetings, demonstrations posted on club social media pages, emails, phone calls, all became part of the club planning. Thank you to all of our volunteers and families that made this year a success!

#### 4-H Program Reaches Over 2,000 Youth

The Auglaize County 4-H program served over 2,000 youth during 2020. This number reflects participation in community clubs, CARTEENS, school enrichment, Cloverbud and special events. There are over 200 volunteers giving leadership to the program.

#### Good News from 4-H Camp!

The good news that came from 4-H camp this summer was that we went virtual! Sadly, we were not able to hold our traditional residential camp at 4-H Camp Palmer. That did not stop our camp counselors from planning and conducting a fun and exciting camp. Through a series of Zoom meetings, the teens planned 6 sessions that were shared online, 3 mornings and evenings during the week we should have been at camp. The counselors developed the activities for each session, recorded them and did the final edits to present to our campers. Links were shared on the 4-H Facebook page so that the campers could view the videos at their convenience. Many favorable comments were shared regarding the camp sessions.

#### Cloverbuds Are Going Places

With many in person activities cancelled throughout the 4-H year, it was a challenge to be involved in the community. Our youngest members, cloverbuds, were provided the opportunity to go places by participating in our passport activity. The original passport had to be revised to adapt to the restrictions that the coronavirus presented. The passports were based on the four “H’s” - head, heart, hands and health. Cloverbuds completed activities such as helping at home, and attending virtual 4-H events. There was also a fair activity as part of the program. Cloverbuds who completed the passport program received a special prize.

#### Auglaize County Office

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**THE OHIO STATE  
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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

### Auglaize County Fair A Success

After many months of uncertainty and multiple plans, the Auglaize County Junior Fair Board conducted a modified junior fair. With over 1,600 youth participants, the Junior Fair continues to grow in size. The board of teen leaders conducted their altered judging events with the cooperation of adult advisors, including OSU Extension staff. Members of the Junior Fair Board were elected or appointed by their peers to serve. These board members dedicated many hours to insure that the fair will be a positive experience for all who are involved.

### 4-H in the Classroom offers Experiential Learning

As teachers and students returned to the classroom this fall, many become enrolled in the 4-H in the Classroom program. Approximately 750 students are learning the "4-H way" - with hands on experiential curriculums. This program offers a variety of curriculums from which teachers can choose. Programs offered include Life of a Butterfly, Solar Energy, Nutrition lessons and Go Plants! - a plant science curriculum. In addition, the Cloverbud program is being conducted in kindergarten through second grades throughout the county.

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

As many of you are aware, Dr. Jeff Stachler left his position with OSU Extension in September. Jeff offered a variety of excellent programs and brought practical research based information to our agriculture community. We thank Jeff for his excellent work, outreach and leadership during his time here in Auglaize County. Jeff accepted a position as an Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources and 4-H Youth Development in Griggs County, North Dakota. We wish him well!

### Water Quality

Hello! My name is Brigitte Moneymaker, I started in March at the Auglaize county extension office as a Water Quality Extension Associate. In addition to Auglaize, I cover Mercer and Allen counties and I am part of a team of six other associates that span throughout Northwest Ohio. Previously I worked as a National Park Ranger in Indiana with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and a project lead for NASA DEVELOP, a division of NASA's Applied Sciences Program.

My role in this new position is to support local producers in implementing conservation strategies that promote nutrient reduction in the Western Lake Erie Basin. This includes on-farm research for precision agriculture, promoting best management practices for soil health and water quality, and providing education and outreach.

Since starting this position from home has greatly impacted my ability to meet and learn about local producers in the area, please feel free to reach out via email or phone to let me know if you're interested in learning more about our water quality efforts, or to talk about how I can help improve the water quality and soil health on your property! Thank you!

[MoneyMaker.4@osu.edu](mailto:MoneyMaker.4@osu.edu) 419-910-6057

## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)

Hello! I'm Sarah Amelung, the new SNAP-Ed program assistant in Auglaize county. I started this role on December 9, 2019 and what a year it has been! SNAP-Ed is USDA grant-funded and serves audiences who receive or are eligible for SNAP and other food benefits. I have been busy connecting with existing partners in the community and creating new partnerships throughout Auglaize and Mercer counties such as the Auglaize County Juvenile Probation Department, Auglaize County Crisis Center, Coleman Professional Services, and Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Although teaching has looked differently the past several months, I use a virtual platform to continue nutrition education in our community based on the USDA's MyPlate guidelines. The feedback from my participants has been excellent and I have received emails about how the

classes have been encouraging them to make better food choices. We have enjoyed making recipes together and the live platform creates an environment for our usual nutrition lesson and allows for dialog among myself and the participants.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought along a unique situation in terms of food security. By sharing local food resources provided by the community such as free produce box distribution, food pantry hours, and free meal sites, it has helped ensure proper nutrition during uncertain times. Along with these local resources, I have dropped off recipes from Celebrate Your Plate, Ohio State’s SNAP-Ed nutrition resource and <https://www.choosemyplate.gov/> at food pantries and other partner sites.

## OSU Extension Office Update

Due to restrictions as a result of the coronavirus, the OSU Extension staff has been working through a hybrid plan of teleworking and being in the office. The OSU Extension Office is now open 5 days a week, with staff in the office on a rotational basis. Typically, there is one staff member in the office per day. Clientele wishing to meet face to face with a staff member should contact that person individually to set an appointment. Currently virtual programming is the preferred delivery method as directed by OSU.

As part of OSU Extension’s technology changes, the office has switched to a different phone system. Our office phone number is now **419-910-6050**, Fax - 419-910-6051. The following numbers are direct lines to staff members:

- Sarah Amelung, Program Assistant, SNAP-Ed - 419-910-6054
- Maryann Andrews, Office Associate - 419-910-6055
- Beth Miller, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development - 419-910-6056
- Brigitte Moneymaker, Extension Associate, Water Quality - 419-910- 6057
- Lori Now, Program Assistant, 4-H Youth Development - 419-910-6058

<p><b>Elizabeth M. Miller</b> Extension Educator 4-H Youth Development</p>	<p><b>Brigitte Moneymaker</b> Water Quality Extension Associate</p>
<p><b>Maryann Andrews</b> Extension Office Associate</p>	<p><b>Lori Now</b> Extension Program Assistant</p>
<p><b>Sarah Amelung</b> Extension Program Assistant, SNAP-Ed</p>	



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