



PREBLE County

MIAMI VALLEY EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

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PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Taking market livestock projects, 365 youth participated in **Quality Assurance Training**. Youth solved a mystery while learning about good production practices during a CSI-themed training. Sessions were led by youth and adult volunteers who helped participants with hands-on activities to reinforce the information presented.
- Six Preble County youth volunteers with the assistance of four adult volunteers committed to planning and conducting a traffic safety program. Goals of the **4-H CARTEENS** program include reducing the number of repeat juvenile traffic offenders, decreasing the number of teen traffic offenders and increasing teen awareness of traffic/vehicular safety. Seventy court-ordered youth attended one of six classes. Community partners included law enforcement officers from the Eaton Police Division, Preble County Sheriff's Department and the Dayton Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.
 - CARTEENS board members gave back to the community by participating with the Eaton Police in a holiday community service project. CARTEENS board members also provided a holiday sweet treat to approximately 165 individuals in the local law enforcement community as a thank you for their service.
- Eleven Preble County 4-H members and three adults joined together to attend the "**Road to History and Government.**" On the four-day trip, 4-H members had the opportunity to tour national monuments and museums, participate in educational programs focused on government and history and attend the 57th Presidential Inauguration. During the

trip, Carolyn Lukensmeyer (the first executive director of the National Institute for Civil Discourse, the founder of AmericaSpeaks, and chief of staff to Ohio Governor Richard F. Celeste from 1986–1991) spoke about the importance of becoming involved in civil discourse. Lukensmeyer credited 4-H with helping her develop her own public speaking skills.

- Thirty-five young adults were trained to be **4-H Junior Camp Counselors**. Training included characteristics of campers, risk management, professionalism, roles of a camp counselor and other life skills. Youth counselors gained experience in organizing and conducting a large activity. They also learned about working together as part of a staff to make sure a job gets done.
- Young people know **4-H Camp** is fun, and youth development experts know 4-H Camp helps build critical life skills for both campers and youth counselors. 4-H Camp helps build teamwork, communications and leadership, cultivating the job readiness skills employers look for, all while giving campers a chance to connect to nature. In Preble County, 90 campers participated in this experience.
- Seven hundred eighty-one 4-H members in Preble County gained valuable life skills through completing **4-H projects** in many different interest areas. Goal setting, skill building, community service and leadership are all part of the project experience. Members apply their knowledge by participating in judging events and other evaluation activities.
- Building a relationship with a caring adult is one measure of the effectiveness of a youth development program. In Preble County, 166 **adult volunteers** taught, mentored, cared for and led 4-H members in club and project work. These adults



provided organizational support for 4-H Clubs throughout the county.

- In partnership with Preble County Farm Bureau, an educational area was created for the **2013 Preble County Pork Festival**. Educational displays related to agriculture and activities were available for the attendees. The Pork Festival was also the location for the Preble County 4-H Advisory Committee's Ice Cream Tent fundraiser. 4-H members and adults from throughout the county come together to raise money to support 4-H programming.
- Twenty-eight teens learned and practiced leadership and program planning and evaluation skills as members of the Preble County **Junior Fair Board**. These teens conducted livestock shows and special events, and they worked behind the scenes for over 800 youth exhibitors at the Preble County Fair.