4-H Creative Crafts

The 4-H Creative Craft Club in Marlboro County continues to have creative crafts every month. With the help of the 4-H volunteer, this club continues to have great participation and improve artistic personal development and leadership skills.

The 4-Hers create crafts that revolve around the season such as fall wreaths in the fall, holiday ornaments during December, and homemade soaps and lip balm for Mother’s Day. 4-Hers nominated and elected officers and have also participated in craft community service. Their most recent community service was re-creating past crafts and raising money for Texas 4-H.

The 4-Hers wanted to do something to help the 4-Hers who survived Hurricane Harvey. They made crafts and sold them at any price at the McArthur Farms Movie Night. The Creative Craft Club is a great example of 4-Her’s using their heads, hearts, hands, and health!

Precision Ag: Farmers get it!

Precision agriculture is a crop field management tool that accounts for variability in soil type, topography, and soil moisture. Using spatial-based data, growers can apply pesticides, nutrients, and water by location and amount needed. Agent Trish DeHond hosted a Precision Ag Mapping Course at the Marlboro County Extension office in February 2017. The Clemson Extension Precision Ag team provided software and helped map farmland, soil properties, and crop yields. Participants set up their own fields and added equipment, workers, and chemicals to the accounting sub-program (to track pesticide and fuel use, hourly wages, and equipment maintenance). They drew a field boundary using Google Aerial Image and developed a grid sample map for soil testing. After importing soil type maps, they developed management zones, uploaded soil electroconductivity (EC) data, and compared soil EC and soil survey prescriptions. Soil lab and yield monitor data was imported to create grid sampling and zone-based prescription maps. With their new skills at soil zone prescription mapping, these farmers can better manage pesticide and nutrient inputs and improve stewardship of the environment.

http://www.clemson.edu/marlboro
Taking Home the Blue Ribbon

A 4-H Marlboro stand out this year is Chloe English. She is a 5th grader at McColl Elementary/Middle School in McColl, South Carolina. Last year she became an active member in the craft club, is now president for the 2017-2018 4-H year and a member of the cooking club. She may still be recovering from the East Carolina Agricultural Fair; she participated in the rabbit project and entered a painted pumpkin.

Chloe placed 1st place for project book, 3rd place for interview, won 1st overall Jr. Grand Champion and got a blue ribbon for her age division for her painted pumpkin. She is also the Marlboro county and Pee Dee Region winner for 2017 4-H Small Garden Project.

Chloe is an outstanding 4-Her and is doing an awesome job at representing Marlboro County. Her 4-H agent, Erika James, is very excited for the growing potential in Chloe and all of the 4-Hers in Marlboro County.

Commercial poultry, swine, and dairy cattle producers are required by South Carolina to maintain a confined animal manure management (CAMM) certification. Producers are required to obtain 10 CAMM recertification credits every five years. With the poultry industry being the largest agriculture commodity in SC, it is vital to offer these recertification credits throughout the state. Over 45 producers have taken advantage of having CAMM courses offered in Marlboro.