Representing Missouri at the 1944 National 4-H Congress was a thrill Walter (“Walt”) Wilkening never forgot. “One of my early ambitions was to help other boys and girls enjoy many of the benefits and pleasures of 4-H, including the Chicago trip,” Walt wrote. Through their commitment to 4-H, Walt and his wife have established the Walter T. and Norma R. Wilkening National 4-H Congress Endowment Fund. This is a milestone that will inspire others to help ensure Missouri’s representation at National Congress for many generations to come.

“Walt’s experience as a member of the 1944 Congress delegation had a significant impact on him, and it is the value of this experience that led him and Norma to embrace future Missouri delegations with a gift to establish this new fund,” said Executive Director Cheryl Reams.

For the farm boy from Cape Girardeau County, a trip to Chicago crowned Walt’s eight-year membership in 4-H, and kicked off his college career at the University of Missouri. “Those early years in Cape county 4-H led me in directions which I could not have dreamed,” Walt wrote. After college, Walt became a county extension agent, then spent 30 years with the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, as it is now known. Walt served the Missouri 4-H Foundation as treasurer, and he and Norma joined the foundation Heritage League. Following retirement, Walt and Norma spent 17 years in their “second career” as volunteers at 17 agencies in 15 American locations and two overseas.

“4-H has always filled an important need for the boys and girls in Missouri and elsewhere,” Walt notes, “and my guess is that even though we don’t have many youngsters on the farms anymore, that 4-H is perhaps filling an even more important role in the busy lives of today’s youngsters.”

4-H Spirit is published biannually by the Missouri 4-H Foundation. Incorporated in 1949, the foundation is a 501(C) (3) organization, which secures and manages financial resources for University of Missouri Extension 4-H programs.

With the help of supporters like you, 4-H county and state programs, camps and clubs continue to thrive. When you make a pledge or send a check in the enclosed envelope, your gift is tax-deductible.
Dear 4-H Friends,

It has been a whirlwind summer, and one that has been filled with great 4-H achievement and memories. We are excited about and grateful for the continued investment in Missouri 4-H by our long-time supporters, Walt and Norma Wilkening and the Missouri Beef Industry Council. Walt and Norma have established the National 4-H Congress Endowment Fund to help ensure the continued participation of the Missouri delegation each year. The Missouri Beef Industry Council has partnered with the 4-H Foundation to support MOVE Across Missouri. Thank you so much, Walt and Norma, and MBIC!

We are so proud to recognize Heartland Dairy, FCS Financial, the Missouri Dairy Association, and the Missouri Holstein Association for all they do to support the Missouri 4-H Dairy Judging programs and camps. Our 4-H youth continue to excel because these organizations are there to support them every step of the way, and we greatly appreciate these partnerships!

Many thanks to Leroy and Gladys Van Dyke and Ron Ditzfeld for their continued generosity and dedication to support Missouri 4-H members through the Country Gold Tour guitar auction at the 2010 Missouri State Fair. For the second time, Ron was the high bidder on the guitar, and we cannot thank him enough for partnering with the Van Dykes to support 4-H!

At the 2010 Missouri 4-H Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, more than 300 joined in celebrating the accomplishments of 50 inductees from 42 Missouri counties. During that celebration, it was with great pleasure that we honored Emmett and Alice Fairfax of Sedalia, for being the first members of the Foundation's Clover Club! Congratulations to the Missouri 4-H Hall of Fame Class of 2010, and thank you, Emmett and Alice, for your dedication to help secure the future for many generations of 4-H’ers and Hall of Famers to come.

Inside, enjoy “scenes” from our first annual Clover Classic Golf Tournament, and mark your calendar for June 7, 2011, when you can come out to play golf and benefit Missouri 4-H youth development programs! A very special thanks to Foundation Trustees Bob Idel, Jerry Dowell and John Raines, Foundation staff Kris Heitkamp, Linda Rock and Jeremy Wrinkle, the golf tournament committee, and the MU Extension youth staff, for making this such a successful inaugural tournament!

Thanks so much to each of you for your continued support of Missouri 4-H! Our new fiscal year is underway, so pledge your support to dedicated 4-H members today via mail, online at http://4h.missouri.edu/foundation/ or call us at 800-642-8041.

Warm regards,

Cheryl Reams
Executive Director
4-H’ers master dairy programs

University of Missouri Extension 4-H members join a proud tradition of dairy farming. While the first 4-H members learned how to feed, groom and care for animals, today they’re mastering animal nutrition requirements and herd health.

“We believe that it is very important for young people to learn how to feed an animal and care for it,” said Charlie Sharpe of Heartland Dairy, a 4-H Dairy Judging program supporter. “I think it’s also a great teacher of how to live. They learn a lot about the animal but they also learn how to relate to other young people.”

Heartland Dairy, FCS Financial, the Missouri Dairy Association and the Missouri Holstein Association support the Missouri 4-H dairy judging winners at regional and national dairy judging events and camps. Qualifying competition is held annually on the Missouri State Fair grounds.

“These judging events are a great hands-on learning experience for the 4-H youths to recognize desirable traits in dairy cattle, while interacting with other youths and adults,” said Bob Idel of FCS Financial.

Jodi Wright, executive director, Missouri Holstein Association said, “Dairy Judging teaches skills of decision making and oral reasons. These are valuable life skills for 4-H members that propel them to success in their chosen life fields. We are proud to support 4-H Dairy Judging.”

At the annual Southwest Missouri 4-H Dairy Camp, 4-H’ers care for dairy animals and learn about many aspects of dairy production. Campers work in pairs under the direction of adults, and take part in workshops to learn about judging dairy animals, dairy management, animal care ethics and showmanship.

“Campers have a great opportunity to develop their people skills. When they travel to camps and competitions, they get to network and share ideas with others. These learning experiences will help them in whatever career path they choose,” said Ted Probert, MU Extension dairy specialist, who coordinates the dairy camp with 4-H Youth Specialist Karla Deaver.

“We believe in the future of agriculture and in our agriculture youth,” said Dave Drennan, executive director of the Missouri Dairy Association. “4-H is a great vehicle to educate our kids and get them involved at an early age.”

Missouri Beef Industry Council helps 4-H MOVE Across Missouri

A partnership with the Missouri Beef Industry Council will help Missourians develop healthy lifestyles through friendly competition. Through a gift to the Missouri 4-H Foundation, MBIC will support the “4-H MOVE Across Missouri” program, which encourages youth and adults to eat healthy meals and get physical exercise. Top “movers” win county and state awards, but all participants benefit from the program.

“We are pleased to partner with Missouri 4-H to promote healthy lifestyles for both youth members and adult volunteers,” Whitney Wallace, MBIC consumer outreach director, said. “Living a healthy lifestyle requires several considerations, including physical activity and nutritious foods. We know protein is extremely valuable to bodies of all ages, along with many other essential nutrients beef has to offer. This partnership is a great opportunity to educate 4-H Move participants about the healthy ways to eat the beef we all love. As with all of the programs available through Missouri 4-H, this is an outstanding way to help Missouri youth develop healthy habits they can carry into the future.”
The Missouri 4-H Foundation raised more than $11,000 for University of Missouri Extension 4-H Youth Development programs at the inaugural Clover Classic charity golf tournament held in June in Columbia.

Twenty teams competed in the four-player scramble at A.L. Gustin Golf Course, winning cash and prizes donated by Bass Pro Shops, Burger’s Smokehouse, Drury Hotels, Courtyard Marriott, Jira Collection, Les Bourgeois Vineyards, Complete Custom Automotive, Successful Farming, A.L. Gustin and Perche Creek golf courses.


Players and friends enjoyed a barbecue, courtesy of Missouri Pork and Missouri Cattlemen’s associations, Sara Lee and Grindstone Wal-Mart associates, and posed for team photos with Truman the Tiger.

“We are thrilled with the great support shown by our 4-H Foundation friends and partners for the first annual Clover Classic Golf Tournament. Everyone had a great time while raising funds in support of the MU Extension 4-H Youth Development program, and we look forward to next year’s tournament,” said Cheryl Reams, Missouri 4-H Foundation executive director.

Hole sponsors included Bob and Pam Idel, Joplin Veterinary Hospital, Linda Scorse, Farmers Mutual Hail of Iowa, Kilgore’s Medical Pharmacy, Landmark Bank, Sydenstricker Implement Company, Patricia Koenigsfeld, Frank and Olive Graham, Bill and Betty Crouch, Missouri Corn Growers Association, Missouri Cattlemen’s Association, Missouri Pork Association, Brighton Agency, Missouri Ruralist, Kevin and Carol Langford, Brock and Nancy Lutz, Ozark Mountain Popcorn, Successful Farming and Paris National Bank.

Event sponsors providing gifts and services were Jerry Dowell, The Furrow, Missouri Department of Agriculture Agri-Missouri, Missouri Farm Bureau, Clay and Dana Haynes, Broadway Wal-Mart associates, MU Extension and Sam’s Club. Dr. Robert E. “Bud” and Betty Hertzog, and Missouri 4-H Director Ina Linville sponsored collegiate teams.

CLOVER CLASSIC golf tournament – Raising funds and having fun!

(Far left, teams from top to bottom) Monsanto “Wings,” FCS Financial, N.H. Scheppers and Missouri State Fair Foundation teams played in top form.

(Above, right) Truman the Tiger meets volunteers.

(Left) Jon Bishop competes in the Successful Farming putting contest.

(Below) Bill and Betty Crouch on the “front nine” refreshment cart.
Eighteen volunteers received the Frank Graham Leadership award at the annual Missouri 4-H Foundation Volunteer Recognition Dinner, held March 26 in Columbia. The winners receive a continuing education stipend, as well as public recognition for their service to 4-H.

**Awardees and counties:**
- Kim Bell, Lafayette
- Kelli Christy, Clark
- Carol Sue Copenhaver, Shelby
- Kathy Drake, Polk
- John Duncan, Andrew
- Barbara Dupree, Adair
- Debby Durbin, Marion
- Leonard Gnade, Lincoln
- Jeff Heuer, Cape Girardeau
- Cherlyn Lee, Lincoln
- Peggy Olsen, Cass
- Jeff Sanders, Lafayette
- John Schoen, Cape Girardeau
- Melissa Shires, Marion
- Mitch Thornley, Henry
- Scott White, Cass
- Cara Williams, Livingston
- McVae Wilt, Monroe

**Fairfax makes history again!**

Emmett and Alice Fairfax made history in 2007, with the first three-year pledge to Missouri 4-H, answering a challenge by the Missouri 4-H Foundation. This gift marked the beginning of the Clover Club, and has inspired hundreds of others to pledge their long-term support to Missouri 4-H.

Emmett’s 4-H history stretches back more than 60 years. It started in Pettis County in the 1940s, when Emmett joined the South Abell 4-H Club. Raised on a farm, Emmett was on the Livestock Judging Team that took first place in the 1949 state judging contest, and placed third in the American Royal Livestock Show. That year, Emmett served as state 4-H council president and National 4-H Congress delegate to Chicago, and won a trip to the National 4-H Camp in Washington, D.C., where he met President Harry Truman.

“It was a big deal for Emmett — the only time he left the state as a young man, except to serve in the Korean War,” said Alice. Her public service included membership on the Pettis County and state extension councils.

“Emmett and Alice are wonderful friends and loyal supporters to Missouri 4-H,” said Cheryl Reams, executive director of the Missouri 4-H Foundation. “Oftentimes it takes just one person or family to take the first step with a new program to build momentum, and for others to follow suit. We are very grateful to Emmett and Alice for doing this as the first members of the Clover Club. We appreciate their dedication to help secure the future for many generations of 4-H’ers to come.” 🌱
Missouri 4-H Hall of Fame honors 50 inductees

Making the best better for generations of Missouri 4-H’ers, 50 4-H luminaries joined the Missouri 4-H Hall of Fame on August 15. Inductees from 42 counties established a legacy totaling 1,664 years of service to generations of 4-H’ers. A record crowd attended the fourth annual event at the Missouri State Fair, cheering for mentors, colleagues and friends. The Missouri 4-H Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Missouri 4-H Foundation, FCS Financial Services and the Missouri State Fair.

2010 inductees and counties:
Mirenda Long, Adair
Hugh and Fran Nutt, Barton
Wesley and Sue Merritt, Bates
Elaine George, Boone
Carrie McBee*, Caldwell
Jan Leakey, Carroll
Chester Long, Jr.*, Cass
Nellie and Allen* Woodruff, Clark
Beverly Lehman*, Clay
Thelma Van Buren*, Clinton
Steve and Lucy Suthoff, Cole
Steve and Marsha Root, Cooper
George and Lula Smith*, Daviess
John Murphy, Dekalb
Paul Schoene*, Franklin
Christeen Birdsell, Gentry
Vicki Maples, Greene
Ann Cunningham, Grundy
Lois Selby*, Harrison
Bernardine Stockman, Howard
Esther Brandt, Jackson
Floyd and Dorothy* Youngblood, Jasper
Karol Meyer, Lafayette
Charles and Marilyn Brougher*, Lawrence
John and Phyllis Bracey, Lewis
Pat and Vivian Cody, Lincoln
Mike and Becky Sensenich, Livingston
Stan and Carla Grant, Macon
Browning Family/F&T Livestock Auction, Marion
Karen Conley, Monroe
Sarah Schad, Morgan
Jim and Loretta Russell, Newton
Thelma Brunkhoarst Kraft, Pettis
Charlie Becker, Pike
Dale Cox, Polk
Gary and Patsy Shipley, Putnam
Ann Wideman, Ralls
Jack and Maxine Thornburg*, Randolph
Marge Poe*, Schuyler
Stanley Hatfield*, Scotland
Carol Sue Copenhaver*, Shelby
Shirley Charles, Vernon
*awarded posthumously

Donors present Grand Champion Ham and Bacon to 4-H
The Missouri State Fair Governor’s Ham Breakfast was held August 19 and featured an auction to raise funds for Missouri youths. The Grand Champion Ham landed in the hands of the Missouri 4-H Foundation, thanks to a generous gift from LOWELL MOHLER and JIM MATHEWSON, who received the ham from winning bidders MURPHY BROTHERS ENTERPRISES and DITZFELD TRANSFER. STARLINE BRASS, INC. purchased the Grand Champion Bacon exhibited by DAVIS MEAT PROCESSING of Jonesburg, Mo., and donated it to the 4-H shooting sports program. With the grand champs, we’ll be able to raise funds, thank our donors and enjoy the taste of country-cured goodness. Thanks to our donors for these generous gifts!

If you do not wish to receive the 4-H Spirit in the future, please contact the foundation office at 1-800-642-8041, or by e-mail at 4hfoundation@missouri.edu.
**Country Gold Tour Auction**

Missouri 4-H and FFA members joined country music legend Leroy Van Dyke on the Pepsi Grandstand stage Aug. 18 at the 2010 Missouri State Fair. Van Dyke auctioned a guitar signed by the classic country performers on his Country Gold Tour, with proceeds to benefit youths in agriculture.

“I truly believe the future of American agriculture is in youth organizations such as 4-H clubs and the FFA,” said Van Dyke. “They are a positive force for the good of our country.”

(Below) Winning bidder was Ron Ditzfeld, center, surrounded by state 4-H officers and Pettis County 4-H’ers. State youth specialists Lori Gerke, left, and Missouri 4-H Foundation Trustee Kay Sparks (second row, right) joined the youths in thanking Ditzfeld for his generous gift.

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**Show the clover!**

Missouri 4-H members, former members and parents of 4-H members can order the 4-H license plate at local license bureaus, by following three simple steps:


2. Show proof that you are a member, former member or parent of a member of the 4-H organization (a letter can be provided by your local University of Missouri Extension center).

3. Pay $15 for each license plate set ordered plus the standard vehicle license fee.