

4-H'ers make jewelry

By Karen Krien

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Once a week, Francis O'Leary, St. Francis, heads to the Extension office with supplies. For the next hour, he helps Emily Elfers and Kattie Jenik make jewelry. These projects will be entered in the 4-H arts and crafts division.



Both girls say they like making the jewelry. They have made a bracelet with telephone wire, a silver ring and, on Monday, were in the process of making a woven bracelet.

Mr. O'Leary has been crafting jewelry for years and taught classes. However, this the youngest age group he has ever helped. Mr. O'Leary also helps 4-H'ers in the shooting program where he is a leader.



MAKING JEWELRY — Francis O'Leary (middle) helps Emily Elfers and Kattie Jenik with their Arts and Crafts projects.

4-H teaches life skills

"I pledge my Head to clearer thinking, my Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service, and my Health to better living for my club, my community, my country and my world."

That is the pledge for the 4-H Clubs of America. Having very humble beginnings in the late 1800's and early 1900's in the rural schools by principals and superintendents who wanted to teach students practical applications to reading, writing and arithmetic.

At the same time, a body of scientific knowledge was accumulating in the agricultural colleges. However, the farmers of the time showed little interest in adopting some of the methods provided. So, professors began to look into the possibility of indirectly reaching the farmers through their children.

Early organization of the 4-H Clubs cannot be attributed to one individual or institution;

instead, it has resulted from the work of many pioneer leaders.

Teaching lifetime skills such as having an inquiring mind, making sound decisions, having a concern for their community and healthy interpersonal relationships, are just a few of many.

In today's busy everyday schedule, membership is on the decline, and in many communities around the country, clubs had shutting down.

However, many of today's successful business owners and operators were 4-H members. In addition, 4-H Clubs are one of the few organizations outside of schools that strive to have parental involvement.

Being a part of 4-H can be a time to leave work and bill paying worries for a moment and make some memories with family. Look into joining the local 4-H Club.



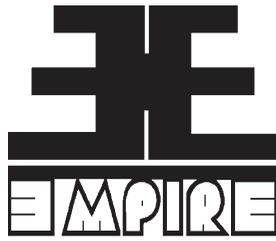
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