

Suggestions for Newspaper Articles

1. Send your articles to the newspaper as soon as possible after your meeting. People don't like stale news!
2. Remember that young people like to see their names in print. Include names in your article whenever possible.
3. Your articles let the community know that 4-H is active in your county.
4. Let the local newspaper know when your club plans a "big event" and invite them to come take pictures. If they cannot come, take pictures with your own camera and send them with your article about the event. Or, check to see if the paper has a community camera that they will let you borrow to take pictures of your event. Remember that small town newspapers have few employees and cannot always come to your activities, but that does not mean that they do not want the news!
5. Take credit for your efforts. Sign your name to the article and include your phone number so the paper can contact you with further questions.
6. Be sure to keep copies of the articles you write and record them on your "My Record of 4-H Achievement" pages.

Include in your article such things as:

1. Name of 4-H Club
2. Date/time/place of meeting or event
3. Who presided over the meeting.
4. Who led pledges to the flags.
5. Mention that the secretary's report, roll call, and treasurer's report were given.
6. Mention all things decided upon by the club members. (Do not include who made motions, etc. or the amount of money given in the treasurer's report.)
7. Always mention upcoming events. This will serve as a reminder to the members and parents when they read it in the newspaper.
8. Give credit to anyone who:
 - a. Gives a demonstration or speech;
 - b. Has taken a trip and gives a report to the club;
 - c. Gives a Health & Safety Report;
 - d. Serves refreshments; or
 - e. Leads singing and/or recreation.