



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

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Department of Environmental Science and Technology

October 2, 2017

Sponsor of National Youth Engineering Challenge and Maryland 4-H Engineering Team Travel,

Our Maryland 4-H youth learned a lot during their experience at the 67th National Youth Engineering Challenge (NYEC) in Lafayette, IN. This year we were there on September 24 – 26 with travel on September 23 and 27, 2017. For some it was a first time to fly, first national competition and out-of-state educational event, and first time out on their own to gain confidence among their peers. The event is more of a life educational experience than just a competition.

This year the program started at 1 PM on Sunday afternoon with a team project - a design, build and test exercise for an electric motor powered micro-pulling tractor. The tractor could weigh up to roughly 7.6 pounds and pulled a weight sled with up to 130+ pounds of weights on it. The exception to this was the robotics and aerospace teams who began their own design and build exercises. Later the micro-pulling tractors had a competition in which the best tractor pulled nearly the full weight. Figuring out gearing and tires was a challenge. A second challenge was building a mouse trap powered car from scratch; the best went over 23 feet.

It was a busy but enjoyed schedule with orientation and mixers on Sunday, individual competitions on Monday, educational workshops/experiences on Purdue Campus Monday afternoon, educational field trips on Tuesday to a wind turbine farm and Subaru (SIA) and the Awards Banquet Tuesday evening. The educational workshops and field trips added new learning experiences and perspective on what they could accomplish and what others do in industry. The youth met peers from other states and shared experiences. In team competitions they worked together to accomplish their tasks.

Events at the NYEC included aerospace, bicycle, electric/energy, lawn tractor, robotics, small engines, tractor and welding. I am also enclosing thank you notes written to you Tuesday evening before we came home. We were a tired but happy team at that point. We thanked over a dozen state and national donors in that effort.

We, the Maryland Engineering Team, wish to thank you for your past and future support.

Sincerely,

David S. Ross
Professor Emeritus; Extension Agricultural Engineer (retired)
Coordinator of Maryland 4-H Engineering Team
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Thank You

blood sugar is a common
condition. It is caused by
not having enough insulin
in the body. Insulin is a
hormone that helps the
body use sugar for energy.
Without enough insulin, the
body cannot use sugar
properly. This can lead to
high blood sugar levels.
High blood sugar can cause
problems like blurry vision,
thirst, and frequent urination.
It is important to keep blood
sugar levels under control
to avoid complications.
A doctor can help with this
by checking blood sugar
levels and giving insulin
if needed.

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Dear Mr. Mike,
I am writing to you from the 2017 National Youth Engineering Challenge in Lafayette, IN on September 24-26, 2017. I was in the tractor driving contest and attended educational workshops and fieldtrips. I learned about Purdue's agricultural engineering program while at Purdue. I enjoyed the wind farm experience, learning about a new form of farming. I wanted to thank your organization for giving me the opportunity to come out and enjoy this experience.

Henry Brummett

Carroll County, MD