



Clover Clips

A newsletter for Johnson County 4-H families.

February 2024 Issue

Page 2

- * Important Deadlines

Page 3

- * Children's Art Show
- * Grants Available
- * Food Safety Class
- * Food Fare

Page 4

- * Join Council Committees
- * Council Rep Information
- * 2024 Fair Theme Contest

Page 5

- * Rock Springs Camps
- * Officer Training & Project Videos
- * Makerspace Lab Available
- * Project Report Resources
- * Save these dates...

Page 6

- * Countywide Knitting Group
- * Countywide Sewing Group
- * Hunting Skills Meeting
- * Leathercraft Class

Page 7

- * YQCA Requirements
- * Advice from Mr. 4-H

Page 8

- * Junior Producer Days
- * Apply to be a Host Family

Page 9

- * Starter Flock Program
- * Apply for Scholarships
- * Alpha of Clovia House
- * Youth in Action Awards

Reporter's Corner

Page 10

Page 11

- * February/March Calendar

Leader Update

Page 12

- * 2024 Enrollment
- * Requirements for Club Volunteers
- * Join JoCo 4-H BAND
- * Club Leader Resources
- * Support for Families

County Club Day

Johnson County's 4-H Club Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 24, at Pioneer Ridge Middle School in Gardner. **This is a NEW LOCATION!** The school's address is 16200 S Kill Creek Rd, Gardner.

Club Day is an opportunity for 4-H'ers to showcase their acting, dancing, public speaking, demonstration, parliamentary procedure and musical skills. A link to the Club Day Guidelines is posted at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/club-days.html. Registration has closed but feel free to stop by that day and watch your fellow 4-H'ers show off their skills! Events start at 8:30 a.m.

Club Day Concessions — The Johnson County 4-H Ambassadors will be sponsoring concessions during Club Day. The Ambassadors do a lot for Johnson County 4-H and the community by presenting to local 4-H clubs, sponsoring events for 4-H'ers, and being advocates for 4-H in a variety of local events. Selling concessions during Club Day is a way for the group to raise funds to continue providing these opportunities. Please stop by with your family to enjoy some delicious food and support the Ambassadors!

Judging Activities — Would you like an opportunity to gain some experience in judging 4-H projects? Johnson County Extension Agents will be offering judging activities in Family and Consumer Sciences, Food and Nutrition, Horticulture, and Natural Resources from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. during Club Day. Not only is this a perfect time to learn about these projects and dip your toes into judging experiences, but this activity can also be applied to award and membership applications for your Record Book.

Regional Club Day — 4-H'ers receiving a Top Purple ribbon placing will be invited to participate in Regional Club Day which will take place on Saturday, March 23 at Paola High School.

And remember, 4-H'ers who are 4-H age 9 and older that receive a purple ribbon for a Demonstration, Illustrated Talk, Project Talk, or Poetry/Prose are eligible to enter in the Kansas State Fair.

Updated Achievement Pin Applications

Achievement Pin Applications have been updated and should be used for the current 4-H year. Kansas 4-H Member Achievement pins are designed to recognize 4-H members as they reach milestones throughout their 4-H journey. The pins are awarded in a series. As a member's 4-H journey progresses, the achievement pin requirements expand to challenge individuals to explore and engage in more opportunities to develop life skills. The new forms are fillable PDFs and a link to the forms is posted on the Johnson County 4-H website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources/record-books.html.

Important Deadlines

Adding/Dropping Projects and Enrollment Status

The project add/drop deadline for new and returning 4-H'ers is May 1. 4-H members must be enrolled in the project by May 1 and be approved in 4-H Online to be eligible to exhibit in the corresponding project area at the Johnson County Fair. Project enrollment is an important component of the project experience. 4-H families can update this information any time in 4-H Online by simply clicking the Edit button in the Projects tab within the 4-H member's profile. This option will be available through May 1 and after that the system will not allow any changes to be made to a 4-H member's projects. If you have questions about project enrollment or the May 1 deadline, please contact your club leader or the Johnson County 4-H office.

Ks Junior Livestock Show & Ks State Fair Livestock Nominations

4-H members planning on showing their animals at the Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS) and/or the Kansas State Fair must submit nominations to the KSU Youth Livestock office. Market Beef nominations are due by May 1. Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep, and Meat Goat nominations are due by June 15. Information pertaining to Kansas Livestock Nominations and the process can be found at www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/.

YQCA Certification Requirement - As a reminder, YQCA certification is required to participate at KJLS and at the Kansas State Fair. See page 7 for more information about YQCA Certification.

Johnson Co. Fair 4-H Horse Show & Ks State Fair 4-H Horse Show

Johnson County Fair— 4-H members must properly identify their horse either by (a) registering the horse with a breed association in the 4-H member's name or an immediate family member's name by June 1 of the current 4-H program year, **OR** (b) identifying the horse with a Kansas 4-H Horse Identification Certificate by June 1 of the current 4-H program year. ***Whichever identification method is chosen, the 4-H member must either have a copy of the Horse ID form signed by the 4-H agent or a copy of the horse's registration papers on file at the JoCo 4-H office by 5 p.m. on May 31, 2024 (since June 1 is a Saturday).***

Horseless Horse Project - 4-H members participating in the Horseless Horse Project must turn in a completed Johnson County 4-H Horseless Horse Certificate to the JoCo 4-H office by 5 p.m. on May 31, 2024 (since June 1 is a Saturday).

Kansas State Fair— 4-H members currently enrolled in the 4-H Horse Project must meet three requirements in order to be eligible to compete at the Kansas State Fair 4-H Horse Show. One of these requirements is the horse must be properly identified for the Kansas 4-H Horse Project. This can be accomplished by either (a) registering the horse with a breed association in the 4-H member's name or an immediate family member's name by June 1 of the current 4-H program year, **OR** (b) identifying the horse with a Kansas 4-H Horse Identification Certificate signed by the local 4-H Agent by June 1 of the current 4-H program year. ***Whichever identification method is chosen, the 4-H member must either have a copy of the Horse ID form signed by the 4-H agent or a copy of the horse's registration papers on file at the JoCo office by 5 p.m. on May 31, 2024 (since June 1 is a Saturday).***

3-Year-Old Snaffle Bit Project Nominations - The 3-year-old snaffle bit project nomination/ID Certificate is to be postmarked on or before June 1 along with a \$10 fee. Nominations are made through the JoCo 4-H office and then sent to the State 4-H office, so plan ahead. More information about the 3-year-old snaffle bit project is in the Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook, which is posted on the Johnson County 4-H website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/livestock.html.

All forms can be found at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/livestock.html. Also posted on the website above is an example of a correctly filled out Horse ID Certificate. Note that it must only be one page (front and back). Please also take time to review the Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook, a link to it is posted at the website above.

Local Opportunities

Children's Art Show

Images Art Gallery in downtown Overland Park is sponsoring a Children's Art Show for youth in Kindergarten through 6th grade. The show will be held February 16-March 9, and there is no cost to enter. Simply fill out an entry form for each young artist (one piece of 2D or 3D artwork allowed per child) and deliver with artwork to the gallery. Artwork should be delivered by teacher/parent/guardian on February 10, 14, or 15, between the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The gallery is located at 7320 W 80th Street, Overland Park. The form and more information are available at www.imagesgallery.org.

Family members and friends are invited to the opening reception at the gallery on Friday, February 16, from 5-8 p.m. Art must be picked up March 10-14, during gallery hours. If you have any questions, contact Jennie Roberts at imagesartgallery7320@gmail.com or call the gallery and leave a message for Jennie and she will return your call.

Grants Available Through the Extension Education Foundation

The Johnson County Extension Education Foundation (JCEEF) is now accepting applications for 2024 grant proposals. JCEEF's mission is to support education through Extension. Their purpose is to support the Johnson County Extension Service by promoting awareness of the services and educational programs to citizens of all ages in Johnson County, encouraging educational and research programming and developing and recruiting financial support. The grant procedure process can be found at www.johnson.k-state.edu/foundation/grants.html. This year, there are two options to submit proposals.

1. Online at https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5dIC4prFrpEO3w.
2. Submitting a Word document, using the form at www.johnson.k-state.edu/foundation/grants.html.

The submission deadline is Monday, February 12, 2024. If you have any questions please contact Tara at tara.markley@jocogov.org or 913-715-7012.

Food Safety Training for 4-H'ers

Don't be the culprit! Stop foodborne illness before it begins. Did you know that keeping food safe is everyone's job, including yours? Every year 1 in 6 people in the U.S. will get sick with food-borne illness. Whether you are preparing food for Food Fare, the county or state fair, a fundraiser for your club, or even helping prepare meals at home for your family, you need to make sure that you are following good food safety practices and not letting incorrect habits sneak into the kitchen. Come learn from Nutrition, Food Safety and Health Agent Chelsea Reinberg and the Master Food Volunteers everything you need to know to make safe (and tasty!) food. This event will be held at the Extension office on February 21, 2024, from 6-7:30 p.m. There will be a presentation for youth in grades 3-6 and another presentation at the same time for youth in grades 7-12. Please RSVP at <https://forms.gle/n2MKW2hK2nhX4RC6A>.

***NEW DATE!* Food Fare**

The 2024 Food Fare will be held on the evening of Friday, March 1 at the Extension office. Food Fare is an opportunity for clubs to have a booth that showcases their creativity with food samples, decorations and activities based on a theme. This year's theme is "Alphabet." Participants of Food Fare will tour each booth, trying the food samples and participating in the activities. Each club has been assigned a letter of the alphabet at random. Visit the 4-H Food Fare website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/food-fare.html for details. If you have any questions about this event, please contact the Johnson County 4-H office.

Local Opportunities

Anyone Can Join a Council Committee!

Even if you are not your club's Council Representative you are still able to be part of any of the Johnson County 4-H Council committees. Below are very brief descriptions of some committees that are in need of extra help. Descriptions of all committees can be found on the 4-H Council website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/council.html.

Fair Concession Stand Committee—Work with the Food Stand Manager and Assistants to develop a menu and set prices; Help set-up and clean-up the Food Stand

Promotions/National 4-H Week Committee—Work with Tractor Supply Co. during spring and fall Paper Clover fundraisers for promotion of 4-H; Schedule countywide events during National 4-H Week; Help promote 4-H program throughout the year

Budget Finance Committee—Prior to Council meeting, review the financial report from the Extension Accountant to support the 4-H Treasurer; In August, work with Extension Accountant and Treasurer to create a budget for the upcoming year

County Wide Project & Scholarship Support—Review requests to approve funds to support 4-H Camp, Livestock, Shooting Sports, and other countywide projects/scholarships and project start-ups.

Nomination Committee—In October, work with Extension to obtain a list of Council Representatives and reach out to individuals for officer elections at the November meeting; At the November meeting, support elections by counting ballots

Policy Changes Committee—Review the County Council Bylaws annually and submit revisions for Council approval

Special Needs Committee—Providing help to 4-H families in need

Trips and Awards Committee—Review and revise the “Johnson County 4-H Award Procedures”
If you have questions, please email Lexi at Lexi.Ray@jocogov.org.

County Council Meetings and Committee Information

Each club needs to have two youth and two adults serve as the club's representatives at 4-H County Council. The meetings occur on the first Monday of odd months at 7 p.m. (unless it is a holiday). Elected officers will have meetings which occur on the first Monday of even months at 6:30 p.m.

Actively participating in two Council Committees is one of the requirements for Council Reps to receive their pin. Descriptions of each of the Council committees is posted on the 4-H Council website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/council.html. Please choose at least one Event Planning committee and at least one Review Committee to participate in this year. A link to sign up is posted on the 4-H Council website listed above.

2024 Johnson County Fair Theme Contest

The Johnson County Fair Board wants YOUR ideas for the theme and artwork of the 2024 Johnson County Fair! In cooperation with Extension, the Fair Board is holding a contest for 4-H'ers to create a theme AND to design the fair book cover art. Deadline for submissions is March 25 at 5 p.m. Your design can be hand drawn or digitally created but MUST BE ORIGINAL. One entry/idea per person. Please send your theme idea, artwork and contact information to Lexi.Ray@jocogov.org. In your email include: your name, parent/guardian's name, 4-H club, phone number and email. Please attach your artwork design in a JPG or PNG format if possible (the higher quality the image, the better). The Fair Board will vote on their top choice at their March meeting. The winner will receive a few fair associated gifts.

Local Opportunities

Rock Springs Camps

Registration for 2024 summer camps is open! For details on camps, session dates and fees, visit www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org. Johnson County 4-H's unofficial camp session is the Overnight Camp, Session 1, June 2-5, 2024.

There are a couple of new camps being offered this year.

- Mini-Camp—This is a shorter 3 day/2 night camp experience for 1st-3rd graders.
- Ranch Camp & Shooting Sports Camp—These week-long specialty camps are designed to build further skill development in campers' desired areas of growth.

Registration is also open for the Counselors in Training (CIT) and Leaders in Training (LIT) sessions. Both programs are free to current 9th-11th graders thanks to a generous donation to the Kansas 4-H Foundation. Youth interested in attending either program at no cost can complete the Letter of Interest at bit.ly/CIT-Interest.

Officer Training and Project Videos Available

If you weren't able to attend Officer Training in October, or would just like more tips about your officer position, visit the Officer Training website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/officer-training.html to view informational videos about many of the 4-H positions.

Explore different 4-H projects from the comfort of your home! Informational videos by 4-H'ers in the project are posted at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/project-club-resources/projects.html for you to watch when you choose.

Makerspace Labs at Local Libraries

The Olathe Public Library Indian Creek branch and Johnson County Library Central Resource branch both offer Makerspace Labs! These labs provide a space to explore, create, invent, build, and collaborate with others. Equipment and tools are for every skill level. Equipment includes: 3-D printing, embroidery, crafting, large format printing, laser cutting and engraving, sewing, music/sound/recording studios, and more. These labs are the perfect place to design and create new projects for fair! Costs, fees, and reservations vary between locations so please visit their website for specific information. Olathe Public Library—www.olathelibrary.org/services/makerspace. Johnson County Library—www.jocolibrary.org/makerspace.

Kansas 4-H Project Report Resources

Set goals, practice record keeping, reflect, and compete using Kansas 4-H Project Reports. All forms, along with video tutorials, can be found at www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/LocalRecordKeeping.html. Informational slides from our local training are posted at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources/record-books.html.

SAVE THE DATE!

Kansas 4-H Horse Judging Contest will be March 14 in Salina.

4-H Horse Show Judges Seminar will be April 12 in Colby.

Discovery Days will be June 5-7 on the KSU campus in Manhattan.

Johnson County Fair will be July 28-August 3 in Gardner.

Kansas 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest will be August 10 in Manhattan.

Kansas State Fair will be September 6-15 in Hutchinson.

48 Hours of 4-H will be October 12-13.

County Project Opportunities

Countywide Knitting Project

Learn the skills to begin knitting, or improve your knitting skills, by being part of the Countywide Knitting Project. Classes start at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Open Class Building on the Johnson County Fairgrounds in Gardner. Upcoming meeting dates are January 26 and February 23. To be added to the mailing list for meeting announcements, contact Sarah at kallansrudsarah@gmail.com. Sarah can also be reached by phone/text at 913-418-6030.

Countywide Sewing Project

Meetings are held at the Extension office every Thursday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. through July. Less experienced sewers will begin working on projects to enter for the fair. If you are an experienced sewer and just want to have a dedicated time to sew you are more than welcome to come. If you have any questions, please contact Martha Powell, countywide sewing project leader, at 913-302-5812 or mmp4powell@yahoo.com. Hope to see you there!

4-H Shooting Sports Hunting Skills Project

Want to learn skills in hunter knowledge, wildlife identification, compass and orienteering? Have fun in group activities learning about wildlife management? Hunting Skills is another Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports discipline offered in Johnson County. While it does have some shooting components available for those old enough and having an interest (Archery, Smallbore Rifle, Shotgun), it also provides knowledge about history, why we hunt, wildlife, ethics, etc. It is not required that you are a hunter, or even intend to hunt, though having that experience may be helpful.

Join us March 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Johnson County Extension office to start learning about the Hunting Skills discipline. Meetings include youth from surrounding counties who all enjoy the project. Youth involved in the discipline must get enrolled in the project. Opportunities may be available to attend local, state, and even a national competition.

Please contact Beth Alloway boa@k-state.edu or Arn Eccles arneccles@gmail.com to let them know you are coming or for more information.

Spring Break Leathercraft Class

Instructor Randy Cornelius will touch on the basics of leathercraft including some history of leather, how leather is made, and the basic seven tools used to carve floral designs on leather. This class is geared toward youth above the age of 12 and is simply an introduction for those who have never done leathercraft before. Hands on work of carving and tooling a design will be done on a leather coaster.

The class will be held on March 12, from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the Johnson County Extension office, and the fee is \$20 per participant. All the tools, leather, and other supplies will be provided. Each youth will also be supplied a leatherworking manual that is theirs to keep. Participants will need to bring two #2 lead pencils or a mechanical pencil, a 12" ruler, and a pair of scissors. The class is limited to 10 spots and preregistration is required at <https://conta.cc/3HzDDMY>. Email joco4-H@jocogov.org with registration questions. Contact Randy with questions about the class at RandyCornelius512@gmail.com or 913-731-8301.

County Project Opportunities

YQCA Requirements

What is YQCA? Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species youth livestock quality assurance program that focuses on food safety, animal wellbeing, and character development, through age-appropriate educational curriculum for ages 7-21. This program is an annual certification that grows with the youth, so the learning modules are different every year.

Who needs to be certified?

ALL Johnson County Fair Exhibitors: Youth ages 8 and older exhibiting in the beef, goat, sheep and/or swine project must be YQCA certified by June 15, 2024 in order to exhibit at the fair.

ALL Exhibitors at State Livestock Shows: Youth ages 7 and older who will be exhibiting market or breeding animals in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS) are required to obtain certification.

How do I get certified? Certification can be done by taking a minimum one-hour in-person training or an online training. Both types of trainings are registered for and paid for by going to www.YQCAprogram.org. All registrations and payments are handled through the YQCA website and must be done before attending either type of training. The online training is \$12 per youth and the in-person training is \$3 per youth. (If a family needs financial support, contact the Extension office.) Johnson County 4-H will hold two in-person trainings at the Extension office; one on Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. and the other on Saturday, June 8 at 10 a.m. Registration is required to attend a training. Please remember to print your YQCA certificate to bring to county fair.

For more information visit www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/livestock.html. Contact the Johnson County 4-H office with questions.



Advice from Mr. 4-H, Noah Kwasiborski

Question: *What is the value of competition? What have you learned through your competition experiences at 4-H Club Day and the county fair?*

The values that competition gives are great motivators to do well in what we are trying to achieve. I am going to tell you about what some of the values of competition are, and some of the ways competition has benefited me.

Just picture this, someone asks you to bake an apple pie which will be entered with other people's apple pies. All the apple pies are displayed for people to look at. Boy does that sound like a boring event at the fair! Imagine entering a project just so that it can sit out in the August sun for a week! I don't think that many people would be interested in joining 4-H if that was the case! Competition forces creativity, and to do their absolute best. The competition in most 4-H events is guided to be constructive, which encourages all of the participants! During most of the competitions that I have witnessed everyone is encouraging to each other, and excited to congratulate the winner! This gives a good foundation for how we should view competition our whole lives! We should be good competitors by being humble when we win, and encouraging to the winner when we don't!

What I have learned through competition at Club Days and the County Fair, is that I am the most motivated to do well and work hard when I know that my competition is good and I will have to work to win. Getting bad ribbons from a good judge who knows their craft and gives good comments motivates me to do better so that I can conquer my competitors in future years!

State Opportunities

Junior Beef and Sheep Producer Days

Junior Beef Producer Day and Junior Sheep Producer Day are taking place in March at K-State's Weber Hall in Manhattan. The junior producer day events are one-day family educational programs to learn about the selection and management of beef and/or sheep youth livestock projects, as well as a variety of aspects related to the animal science industry. Each day is dedicated to one species. Online registration information is listed below. All attendees must register, which includes both youth and adults. You must register by the deadline to receive a T-shirt.

In addition to the junior producer day events, an instructor-led YQCA certification class will also be offered at the end of the day for each program. You will need to indicate if you plan to stay for this optional class during the registration process. Then, more specific details on registering for the appropriate course through the YQCA website will be communicated with only those who plan to stay and attend. You will need to complete an extra step to register through the YQCA platform and pay the additional \$3/child fee. The junior producer day registration is independent from the YQCA class and does not include that additional fee.

A session over the state livestock nomination process will also be hosted at the end of each junior producer day for those who are interested. It will be offered for parents concurrently with the YQCA class. So, the adults can come learn about the state nomination process, while the kids go earn their YQCA certification for 2024!

Finally, there will potentially be an option for families who are participating in Junior Sheep Producer Day to tour the K-State Sheep and Meat Goat Center before or after that event. If that is something that interests you, please watch your email for details as March 16 gets closer!

<u>K-State Junior Beef Producer Day</u>	<u>K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day</u>
Date: Saturday, March 2, 2024	Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024
Registration Deadline: February 12	Registration Deadline: February 26
Cost: \$20/person by February 12 (\$25/person after February 12)	Cost: \$20/person by February 26 (\$25/person after February 26)
*Registration must be RECEIVED by February 12 to receive a T-shirt.	*Registration must be RECEIVED by February 26 to receive a T-shirt.
*Online Registration: https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND	*Online Registration: https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND

Host Families Needed for Summer 2024

Looking for fun and excitement this summer? Host a new friend from Japan in your home July 23-August 15. Kansas 4-H International Exchange Programs are offering hosting opportunities for 35-40 families this summer. Host families are needed who would be willing to host a Japanese boy or girl between the ages of 12-16. Host families with an American same-gender host sibling will be assigned to a matching delegate as soon as possible so that families and exchange delegates can communicate and get to know each other.

Any Kansas family with children aged 10-17, who is interested in the Japanese culture, may host. A separate bed is required, but not necessarily a separate room from the host sibling. Delegates are 100 percent medically covered with 4-H insurance and bring their own spending money. They can go on host family vacations, camping trips, or join their host sibling for summer camps and the county fair. The focus is everyday family life. Interested families can complete the application at www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/ to start the process. The Japanese Delegates' personal information forms arrive in February.

If you have further questions, please call Pam Van Horn, Kansas 4-H Japanese Exchange Coordinator, at 785-826-8917, or email pvanhorn@ksu.edu.

State Opportunities

Kansas Sheep Association Starter Flock Program

The Kansas Sheep Association (KSA) Starter Flock Program was initiated with the intent to encourage and assist young people to enter the sheep and wool industries and help sustain this important food and fiber industry and our American culture. Available for Kansas residents between age 12 and 25, it can be a good fit with 4-H members looking to start their own flock. Selected participants will receive up to six ewes (based on breed) purchased by KSA and will also be provided a list of producers who have volunteered to supply a ram. Applications must be submitted by mail or email by February 24. For full details and an application form, please contact Joe Hobbs at hobsshowlambs@yahoo.com or 402-278-0202.

Kansas 4-H Scholarships

The Kansas 4-H Scholarship process has been modified. These changes will take effect for the 2024-25 scholarship application process. Please review all of the documentation thoroughly at www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html. The deadline to complete the application process and for references to complete their submissions is March 1, 2024. The new scholarship process has combined the Kansas 4-H Scholarships and the Vanier Family Scholarship Program (VFSP) applications together. Applicants will select the scholarship program(s) they are applying for during the application process. If you have any questions about the changes or processes, contact Sarah Keatley at keatley@ksu.edu or 620-366-0035.

Alpha of Clovia Hospitality Weekend

Alpha of Clovia is a 4-H Cooperative Leadership House located at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS. Living at Clovia is a great opportunity as it is one of the only ways to live off campus for a female student's freshman year at K-State. It provides girls with a community of caring friends, accountability, and fun. There will be a hospitality weekend March 23 and 24, where high school girls of all grade levels can come spend the weekend and learn more about what it would be like to live in Clovia! The process of getting into the house includes submitting an application and reference letters and then an interview. If interested, email alphaofclovia@gmail.com or visit their Instagram @alphaofclovia.

National Opportunities

4-H Youth in Action Awards

The 4-H Youth in Action program amplifies the diverse stories and leadership of 4-H youth who are making a difference in their communities every day. It is a premiere community of 4-H'ers who are preparing for their future while showcasing how 4-H changed their lives and equipped them to change the lives of others. Each year, program participants receive an exciting year of media training and national opportunities to share their 4-H story and leadership. The four award winners will also receive:

- \$5,000 higher education scholarship
- All-expenses paid trips for each award winner and a chaperone
- An official reference letter from a National 4-H Council leader for educational/career purposes

Learn more about the application process at <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-youth-in-action-awards/>. Applications are due by April 1, 2024. There will be a webinar for applicants and parents on February 21 at 7 p.m. ET.

REPORTER'S CORNER

A Night to Remember

By Zamyra Stary, Happy Helpers 4-H Club Reporter

On December 19, 2023, the Happy Helpers 4H club had a combined special achievement celebration and meeting. A short meeting happened before the fun activities and food. During the quick meeting, everyone was given an opportunity to announce their favorite thing from 4H for the past year. Many fun projects were mentioned. The game for recreation that night was a “snowball collecting” game, where 4Hers were blindfolded and had to scoop up cotton ball “snowballs” with a spatula and place them on a plate. The winner was Isla D. After the meeting, there was ice cream with toppings, and an optional gift exchange for anyone who was interested. Families brought delicious snacks to go along with the ice cream. This December meeting and party will be a night for all club members to remember!



Blindfolded 4Hers try to scoop cotton ball “snowballs” onto their plates while others cheer them on.

Johnson County 4-H Horse Club

By Izzy Martinez, Johnson County 4-H Horse Club Reporter

The JoCo Horse Club had a very exciting meeting on January 3rd. One of our topics of talk though was this year’s Buckle Series with mentions of possible dates, location, buckles, and a few other things to start thinking about! One other thing a small group talked about at our meeting is K-State’s Horse Panorama Competition! Everyone who is participating in it has been working very hard in study sessions to make sure that they are all ready to test their knowledge. On January 10th, we met at Lakeside Stables to learn about chiropractic and acupuncture with horses. The demonstration was done on Gabby B.’s horse, Luna, who has been receiving chiropractor and acupuncture appointments. With that, we are all very excited for Panorama in February and for more planning with our Buckle Series!



Club Reporters, Your Article Can Be Featured Here!

Attention all club Reporters! Does your club have some exciting news or photos to share? Is there something you think the rest of the county should know that’s happening in your club? Then we have an opportunity for you! The *Reporter’s Corner* is a section within Clover Clips that features 4-H club Reporters’ articles/pictures. We would like to ask you to limit the article to 200 words and it must be submitted to Christin by the Clover Clips submission deadline. Check the 4-H Calendar on the Johnson County 4-H website for each month’s submission deadline.

February

- 1 - Countywide Sewing Group
- 5 - County Council Officers meeting
- 8 - Countywide Sewing Group
- 12 - Extension Foundation Grant Applications due
 - Jr. Beef Producer Day Registration due
- 15 - Clover Clips Submission deadline
 - Countywide Sewing Group
- 16-March 9 - Children's Art Show, Images Gallery
- 18-19 - Citizenship in Action, Topeka (pre-registration required)
- 21 - Food Safety Training class, Extension office
 - Youth in Action Informational webinar
- 22 - Countywide Sewing Group
- 23 - Countywide Knitting Group, JoCo Fairgrounds
- 24 - County Club Day, Pioneer Ridge MS, Gardner
 - KSA Starter Flock Program Applications due
- 26 - Jr. Sheep Producer Day Registration due
- 29 - Countywide Sewing Group

March

- 1 - Food Fare, Extension office
 - Ks. 4-H Scholarship Applications due, online
- 2 - Jr. Beef Producer Day, Manhattan
- 4 - County Council meeting
- 7 - Countywide Sewing Group
- 8 - Hunting Skills Project meeting, Extension office
- 12 - Leathercraft Class, Extension office (pre-registration required)
- 14 - Countywide Sewing Group
- 15 - Clover Clips Submission deadline
- 16 - Jr. Sheep Producer Day, Manhattan
- 21 - Countywide Sewing Group
- 23 - Regional Club Day, Paola High School
- 23-24 - Alpha of Clovia Hospitality weekend, Manhattan
- 25 - JoCo Fair Theme Contest Submissions due
- 28 - Countywide Sewing Group

Check out www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources for the 2024 4-H calendar.

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Johnson County

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Clover Clips Submission Deadline

The deadline for submissions for Clover Clips will be on the 15th of each month. If you have a submission that you would like to have considered for an edition of Clover Clips please send it to Christin at Christin.Bartels@jocogov.org.

Leader Update

Remind Families to Reenroll

4-H Online opened October 1 for families to reenroll current 4-H members and enroll new 4-H members. We asked that all returning 4-H members be reenrolled by November 1, 2023. **If families are not enrolled for the 2024 4-H year they are missing out on important correspondences from the Extension office as only contact information from the current year's enrollments is being used.**

The website for 4-H Online is <http://v2.4honline.com> and enrollment guides for families and volunteers are posted at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources/. As a reminder, the \$15 program fee will be paid at the time of enrollment within 4-H Online. (Adult volunteers and Cloverbuds will not be charged the fee.)

As a leader, if you have any questions about enrollment contact the Johnson County 4-H office.

Project Leaders and Volunteers must be Registered Volunteers

Adults providing supervision to youth at a 4-H program; making decisions on behalf of the 4-H program; having access to private data of 4-H members or volunteers; and/or handling funds as part of 4-H must complete the volunteer screening process, be accepted, and enrolled as a Kansas 4-H volunteer.

Volunteer applications and renewals are completed through 4-H Online. We asked that all returning volunteers complete their renewal by November 1, 2023. If a volunteer has not completed the renewal process in 4-H Online for the 2023-2024 year, they should not be volunteering for your club. Once the renewal process has been completed in 4-H Online and their profile has been approved they may resume their volunteer duties. If you have any questions please contact Christin Bartels.

Join Johnson County 4-H Club Leaders and Staff on BAND

If you are not already on the Johnson County 4-H BAND Page, we would love to have you join us! BAND can be downloaded as an app or used on your web browser and functions similarly to Facebook, in a private, invite only platform. Find handy attachments, documents, updated events, share ideas with Club Leaders and Extension Staff easily and post photos! Go to <https://band.us/n/a6a195t1E1sbl> for the invite code to join. If you have any questions contact Lexi at Lexi.Ray@jocogov.org.

Resources for 4-H Club Leaders

Please take time to review the forms, links and resources available on the Leader Resources page at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/project-club-resources/club-leader-resources/. Resources include information about the Annual Financial Report, requirements for the Club Seal, and the link to complete the Club Organization Report.

There are also more resources available to support 4-H clubs on the Kansas 4-H website at www.kansas4-h.org/resources/leader-resources/clubcorner/.

Families with Financial Difficulties

All youth in the community deserve to have the positive youth development experience offered in 4-H. If you have families facing financial challenges, preventing them from participating in a 4-H event, please contact the Extension office for support.