



Clover Clips

A newsletter for Johnson County 4-H families.

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4-H Families,

Happy New Year! As we all welcome in 2021 let's take a few moments to reflect on the things that we have experienced in 2020 - most of us can "Zoom" with the best of them now; we probably have come to appreciate the natural beauty that is in our own backyard, neighborhood and county (anyone else a novice birdwatcher now?!); and it's likely we've all realized some things that we took for granted before this year.

2021 will still have some adjustments to 4-H activities, but the 4-H team encourages you to take the experiences you've had in 2020 and make the best better in 2021 - set up a few Zoom meetings to introduce 4-H'ers in your club to a project you are excited about; get started in a new project yourself (Did you know there is a Wildlife Project?!).

Most of all we wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe year to come!

-Ami, Christin & Molly

2021 County Club Day

Club Day will be done completely virtual for 2021. 4-H'ers will prerecord their presentations and submit them via a YouTube link. There will be no group events this year. To help in planning for judges, please register by Friday, January 29, 2021. The registration link is posted on the Johnson County 4-H website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/club-days.html. Video submissions will be due by Monday, February 15, 2021.

To help you prepare, resources can be found on the Johnson County 4-H Club Day page linked above and newly created resources are available at www.kansas4-h.org/projects/personal-development/communications.html.

Food Fare

For 2021 we are excited to present to you *Food Fare Reimagined!* This year each club will work to create a Food Gift Package that will be delivered to local community heroes of the club's choice. Think about an individual or organization that might appreciate some homemade goodies (nurses/doctors, first responders, fire fighters, etc.). Every year there is a theme and that has not changed this year! The Food Fare theme for 2021 is *Board Games*. The purpose of this event is to provide clubs an opportunity to demonstrate citizenship, food safety, creativity, and food science skills. A representative from the club must sign up with your selected theme at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA8AD28A0F49-food>. And remember, no repeats so be creative!

Please read the guidelines and safety measures in place for this event on the Johnson County 4-H website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/food-fare.html. If you have any questions please contact the Johnson County 4-H office.

Important Reminders

Please Complete Re-enrollment Now for 2021

The new 4-H Online system opened October 1 for families to re-enroll current 4-H members and enroll new 4-H members. We asked that all current 4-H members be re-enrolled by November 1, 2020. **If your family has not re-enrolled yet please do so immediately.** If not re-enrolled, your family will miss out on important correspondences from the Extension office as only the contact information from 2021 enrollments in 4-H Online will now be used. The new website for 4-H Online is <http://v2.4honline.com>.

Enrollment guides for families and volunteers are posted on our 4-H website at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources/. If you have any questions about enrollment please contact your club leader or the Johnson County 4-H office. 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.)

Extension's COVID-19 Programming

With the rising number of COVID-19 cases, Johnson County Extension has decided to limit in-person programming from November 23, 2020 through January 31, 2021 for the safety of all Extension participants, volunteers, guests, and professionals. **This applies to any Extension program delivered by staff, volunteers and representatives of Extension.** Please check for an email from Ami on November 20, 2020 for more information. If you are a program leader seeking an exception, please contact Ami.

What does this mean for 4-H families?

- 4-H Club Meetings should be delivered virtually. Please contact the Extension office to set up Zoom meetings or if you need any support.
- 4-H project work can continue within the family unit or virtually. This includes most countywide project meetings.
- Continue to prepare your individual talks, musical pieces, and performances for 4-H Club Day. Group practices need to be postponed.

With the continued disruption of 4-H programs due to COVID-19, membership pin applications, club seals, and member record book score sheets will be adjusted and modified for 2020-21. If your club or program has an attendance requirement for running for office, club scholarships, etc., there should be an option for individuals to participate virtually during the 2020-21 year. Clubs cannot set attendance requirements to participate in showcase opportunities such as Club Day or Fair.

SAVE THE DATE!

Fantastic 4-H Camp will be June 6-9 at Rock Springs 4-H Center.

Campference is tentatively scheduled for June 27-30.

Johnson County Fair will be July 25-31 in Gardner.

Local Opportunities

Winter Wonders—Understanding Animal Behavior Class

Do you wonder what animals do in the winter? Would you like to know more about our furry neighbors and how they survive when nobody is looking? Come join this hands-on experience that will help you see the winter world in a whole new way! Youth in grades 3rd-5th are invited to join the Junior Extension Master Naturalist program for three winter learning sessions.

Session 1: January 31 - In-person kick-off at Ernie Miller Nature Center

Session 2: February 1-27 - Online Resources and Extended Learning Opportunities

Session 3: February 28 - Virtual celebration

The cost is \$20 per child and registration should be completed at <https://bit.ly/jmnwinterwonders>.

Seeking a Coach for Science Matters Team

As a Science Matters coach, the adult volunteer will guide a group of teen leaders to identify, explore, and develop science-based solutions to agriculture-related issues with the goal of presenting at the Science of Agriculture Challenge next September. Read the position description and information about the Challenge at www.kansas4-h.org/projects/science-engineering-and-technology/science-of-agriculture/. Contact Ami if you are interested.

County Council Meetings

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. County Council officers have meetings which occur on the first Monday of even months at 7 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Ami.

Kansas 4-H Project Report Form Resources

Project Report Forms are replacing Kansas Award Portfolios (KAPs) for project recognition. This is a way for 4-H'ers to share the learning and contributions in a specific project area while developing their skill for record keeping. Links to the forms and guidelines are posted on the Kansas 4-H website at www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-library/awards-and-recognition/ProjectRecognition.html. Supporting videos are coming soon! Contact the Johnson County 4-H office with any questions.

Kansas 4-H Policy Highlight of the Month

Did you know... The 4-H program must be open to all youth and youth may enroll in 4-H at any time. 4-H programs cannot discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, genetic information, military status, or veteran status. For more information, see section 2.3: Kansas 4-H Non-Discrimination and Disability Accommodations Process in the Kansas 4-H Policy Handbook (www.kansas4-h.org/about/policy-guide.html).

County Project Opportunities

Register for Training with the Tail Waggers 4-H Dog Project

Johnson County 4-H Tail Waggers Dog Project is now accepting registrations for the 2021 Training season. All registration materials must be submitted no later than January 2, 2021. A mandatory orientation meeting for new Tail Waggers will be held on Wednesday, January 6. Obedience and Showmanship training sessions will be held on Wednesday nights (6:30-8:30 p.m.) at the Johnson County Fairgrounds, starting January 13. Further details are available in the Information/Registration packet posted at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/countywide-projects.html. Contact Donna Holloway at 913-433-6752 or Pat Rawitch at 913-681-0406 with questions.

Be a Part of the Countywide Knitting Project

Looking for a relaxing, indoor 4-H project for the winter months? Learn the skills to begin knitting, or improve your knitting skills, by being part of the Countywide Knitting Project. The Countywide Knitting Project has meetings planned for January 8 and 22. The meetings will be held virtually. Please contact Sarah at skallansrud@yahoo.com to be added to the email list and then watch your email for exact meeting dates and times.

Countywide Livestock Program

Save the date! The Countywide Livestock Program is starting the new year off right with more opportunities to learn about livestock! The next educational session will be held on January 13 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. In this session 4-H'ers will learn more about animal nutrition, the importance of animal feed and hear from a special guest on career opportunities related to livestock! Meeting details and the Zoom link will be sent out closer to the date of the session. If you would like to be added to the email list to receive further information about the Countywide Livestock Program and educational sessions, contact Molly at molly.maddy@jocogov.org. **You do not need to own livestock to join this program! All 4-H families of all experience levels are welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting and sign up to receive information!**

Countywide Sewing Project

Meetings for the Johnson County sewing project are tentatively scheduled to begin on February 4, 2021. Meetings typically are held at the Extension office on Thursdays and start at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are open to new sewers, youth that have sewn previously and even experienced sewers with great skills! Youth will learn all the basics, brush up current skills and get ready for the fair. If you have any questions contact Martha Powell, county sewing leader, at mmp4powell@yahoo.com or 913-302-5812, or the Extension office.

New Resource for Kansas 4-H Projects

4-H Clover Classroom is an online classroom to help youth explore 4-H projects and is open to anyone interested in learning more about the different project areas within Kansas 4-H. The online activities have been developed for different skill levels. So, for example, even if you've never done photography before, the lesson will give you some things to get you started in photography. Some of the initial activities include getting to know your camera; learning about pollinators in the garden; and knowing the differences between quick bread and yeast bread. The lessons that are currently available are based on the most popular 4-H projects in past years, according to enrollment and more activities will be routinely added in the future. The online materials are free and if printed materials are preferred there is a small fee for those.

With a lot of people home for the winter holidays this would be a great page to go to and start exploring some new projects. A bonus since the activities are online, family members in different locations could participate together in an activity like baking, for example. The classroom is located on the Kansas 4-H website at Kansas4-H.org under the Resources tab.

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?

Johnson County Fair Exhibitors: All youth age 7 and older exhibiting in the beef, goat, sheep and/or swine project must be YQCA certified by May 1 of the current year in order to exhibit at the fair.

Exhibitors at State Livestock Shows: All youth age 8 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.YQCA.org and logging into the system through 4-H Online using your current login information. All registration and payment is 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. Dates for in-person trainings in Johnson County will be announced at a later date. Online certification is highly encouraged. **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.

National Opportunities

National Youth Summit Series

The 4-H National Youth Summit Series brings together high school students for three days of hands-on activities and workshops, led by leaders and educators in these fields. For 2021, these events will be held virtually. Participants will have the opportunity to work alongside students and experts with shared interests, as well as learn and strengthen technical and leadership skills.

Healthy Living Summit - Online, February 11-14, 2021 - *Registration Opens Soon*

At the National Youth Summit on Healthy Living, high school students develop the knowledge and skills to address issues surrounding nutrition, physical fitness, wellness, and emotional well-being. Working alongside professionals in family consumer science and healthy living, students will create action plans they can implement in their communities to teach other youth about what they have learned.

Agri-Science Summit - Online, March 4-7, 2021 - *Registration Opens Soon*

At the National 4-H Youth Summit on Agri-Science, high school students develop the skills and knowledge needed for the challenges facing agriculture, food security, and sustainability. Students will work with each other and experts in the agricultural community in this collaborative, hands-on educational setting.

For more information visit <https://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-summits/>.

State Opportunities

Citizenship in Action 2021

Citizenship in Action will be a virtual event in 2021 and is currently still in the planning stages. Possible programming on February 14 and 15 could include any of the following activities. On Sunday afternoon (tentatively 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.) a community conversation, including deliberating and finding common ground. The Sunday afternoon session could also potentially be a local conversation as a community of 4-H members. On Monday afternoon (tentatively 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.), an opportunity to hear how others decided to make a difference and then develop a plan to do the same.

Registration should open in early January and will be due Monday, February 1, 2021. More information will be posted soon on the Kansas 4-H website at www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/citizenship-in-action/.

Junior Swine Producer Week and Junior Meat Goat Producer Week

The KSU Junior Producer Days will be hosted virtually as week-long educational events in 2021. There will be a few presentations throughout the week, with each of the programs wrapping up on Saturday morning. Informational flyers with a tentative agenda are posted on our Johnson County 4-H Livestock page at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/livestock.html. All of the sessions will be recorded and shared with those who register, so families may participate at their own pace and as their schedule allows.

The junior day events will be free this year, thanks to gracious sponsors, but all participants will still need to register. This includes both youth and adults. Families also need to use an email address that is checked on a regular basis, as that is the method of communication that will be used to share links and specific details with attendees.

Kansas Junior Swine Producer Week — February 15-20, 2021

Register at <https://bit.ly/KSUJrSwineWeek> by February 8, 2021.

Kansas Junior Meat Goat Producer Week — March 15-20, 2021

Register at <https://bit.ly/KSUJrMeatGoatWeek> by March 8, 2021.

2021 Kansas 4-H Scholarships

****New Process for 2021!**** Applications for ALL 2021 Kansas 4-H Scholarships will be collected online. The deadline to complete applications and submit recommendation letters or references is March 1, 2021. Please note that you will now be required to upload some files that would have previously been emailed. The Kansas 4-H Scholarship Application information is posted at www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-library/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html. Listed below each scholarship application link are the required files that you will need to upload in addition to completing the application. Contact the Johnson County 4-H office with any questions.

REPORTER'S CORNER

Sharon 4-H Club Educational Tour at Sharps Farm and Country Hayrides

By Hannah McCormick, Sharon 4-H Club Reporter

The Sharon 4-H Club of Johnson County met on December 1st for their annual Educational Tour. This year's tour took place at Sharps Farm and Country Hayrides. The members enjoyed a taco bar, smores, a campfire, and a hayride. Belgium horses pulled the 4-H'ers on their hayride. After the hayride, members were able to ask Rod and Terry Sharp questions about the horses. Did you know that Belgium horses can live to be in their twenties!?

Following the educational tour, Sharon 4-H Club held their monthly meeting. The program for the meeting was the Pinning Celebration. 4-H pins can be earned by completing certain requirements outlined by 4-H. Many members of the Sharon 4-H Club received a pin. Aidan and Keen both earned a leadership pin for the positions they held the previous year. At the end of the meeting, Sharon 4-H had their Secret Santa exchange. It is worth noting that Keen and Kael donated the presents they received to Mission Southside, an organization that helps groups, businesses, and individuals to bring hope to Johnson County, KS through the meeting of both physical and spiritual needs.



Great Plains Awards Tour 2020

By Leah Kwasiborski, Great Plains 4-H Club Reporter

This month, the Great Plains 4-H Club had the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of their club members in a new and exciting way. Because of the cancellation of the normal 4-H achievement banquet and having face-to-face meetings extremely limited, the junior leaders of the Great Plains 4-H Club decided to celebrate with their club members in a safe, fun, and creative way. Great Plains celebrated with front porch awards! The junior leaders went in two groups to deliver the different awards to the club members. They announced the awards that the family had received and took a photo of each family with the 4-H banner. The Junior Leaders had a great time celebrating all the amazing things that club members had accomplished this year.



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.

REPORTER'S CORNER

It is Better to Give Than to Receive, Right?

By Kennedy Graham, Prairie Moon 4-H Club Reporter

Throughout my thirteen years of life I have always been taught that “it is better to give than to receive.” But with that saying I have found myself wondering what this really means, particularly during 2020. So, I looked at what the experts had to say about it.

In a 2017 article published by two psychologists from the University of Pittsburg, Tristen Inagaki and Edward Orehek, discovered that chemically there are two hormonal rewards associated with giving. The first chemical benefit is that the “feel-good chemical” named Dopamine is released whenever we give to others and this helps to improve our self-esteem. Secondly, our “stress hormone” named Cortisol actually decreases whenever we give and anything that we can do to decrease our stress level has to be beneficial.

Of course, the idea of it being “better to give than to receive” didn’t originate in 2017. In fact, it is a guiding principle in all three of the world’s most popular religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. As of the most recently published data by the Pew Research Center in 2019 in America approximately 65% of those surveyed identified as Christian, 2% surveyed identified as Jewish, and 1% surveyed identified themselves as Muslim. Combined, then, an overwhelming majority of the U.S. population’s moral and ethical identities stem from a religion that believes that it is, indeed, “better to give than to receive.”

Combining the psychological experts and the religious experts together we can plainly see that it is, in fact, “better to give than to receive,” which is exactly what the members of the Prairie Moon 4-H Club have continued to do, even throughout this global pandemic known as COVID-19. We have members who cheerfully volunteered to don their masks and socially distance themselves to ring the Salvation Army’s signature red kettle bells on Black Friday outside of the Gardner Wal-Mart in order to collect funds from shoppers who were eager to exercise their ability to “give rather than to receive” on the day known traditionally as the busiest shopping day of the year. Prairie Moon 4-H Club members have also donated new and unwrapped gifts to the Toys for Tots program organized by the U. S. Marines this holiday season.

In all of my research; however, I didn’t come across anywhere that specified that this generosity needed only to occur during the months of November and December. With that being said, I would like to leave the reader with this challenge. What can YOU do to authentically incorporate the generosity that we feel at this time of year into your daily way of living in 2021?

Resources:

Inagaki, T. K. & Orehek, E. (2017). On the benefits of giving social support: When, why, and how support providers gain by caring for others. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 26, 109-113.

Pew Research Center, Oct. 17, 2019, “In U.S., Decline of Christianity Continues at Rapid Pace”



Claire and Kylie ring the Salvation Army bell.



Kenna, Janessa, and Alana donate to Toys for Tots.

REPORTER'S CORNER

Oxford Hustlers Help the Community

By Victoria Olberding, Oxford Hustlers 4-H Club Reporter

Helping in our community has been difficult during the pandemic, but the Oxford Hustlers 4-H Club has continued to find ways to serve. Some of the ways we have helped our community are by putting together a Thanksgiving basket, collecting money for Adopt-a-Family, and bell ringing for the Salvation Army. The Thanksgiving basket was donated to a family at Bluejacket-Flint Elementary School. It contained food items for a feast and several gift cards. Since we were unable to donate items for the Adopt-a-Family project, we donated money for a gift card that will be given to Project Eagle and then to a family with young children. After making a few modifications, club members participated in the annual bell ringing for the Salvation Army. There is a lot of need in our community, and our club members continue to enjoy participating in community service.



Happy Helpers Celebrate Achievement

By George P. Delancy, Happy Helpers 4-H Club Reporter

The Happy Helpers 4-H Club held a drop-in Achievement Celebration at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Olathe on Saturday, November 21st. Members and their families dropped by in the afternoon hours to receive their Membership Pins and other awards from the 2019-2020 4-H year. A larger event had been planned, but with new 4-H guidelines released because of COVID-19 the event was changed to allow for less interaction. Along with their awards, members received a



goody bag of snacks and decorated a mask to show their personalities. Pictures were taken in a photobooth type setting to remember the event and celebrate the many achievements. Happy Helpers celebrated their two graduating seniors and thanked their two outgoing adult leaders for their service to the club.

January

- 1 - New Year's Day, office closed
- 2 - Tail Waggers Training Registration due
- 4 - County Council meeting, Zoom
- 8 - Countywide Knitting Group, Zoom
- 13 - Countywide Livestock Program Educational Session, Zoom
- 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, office closed
- 22 - Countywide Knitting Group, Zoom
- 29 - Club Day Registration due online
- 31 - Winter Wonders Class at Ernie Miller (pre-registration required)

February

- 1 - County Council Officers meeting, Zoom
 - Citizenship in Action Registration due
- 8 - Junior Swine Producer Week Registration due
- 11-14 - Healthy Living Summit, online (pre-registration required)
- 14 - Food Fare Gift Package Submissions due, online
- 14-15 - Citizenship in Action, online (pre-registration required)
- 15 - Club Day Virtual Submissions due, online
- 17-20 - Junior Swine Producer Week, online (pre-registration required)

Check out www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources for the 2021 4-H calendar.

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Johnson County

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Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision or hearing disability, contact the Johnson County Extension Office at (913) 715-7000.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service.

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Follow us on Social Media:

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Or click the icon below:



Clover Clips Submission Deadline

The deadline for submissions for Clover Clips will be on the 15th of each month. If that date falls on a weekend or holiday please check the 2021 4-H Calendar at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources for the deadline for that 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 Re-enroll

The new 4-H Online system opened October 1 for families to re-enroll current 4-H members and enroll new 4-H members. We asked that all current 4-H members be re-enrolled by November 1, 2020. **If families are not enrolled for the 2021 4-H year they will miss out on important correspondences from the Extension office as only contact information from the current year's enrollments is now being used.**

The new website for 4-H Online is <http://v2.4honline.com> and enrollment guides for families and volunteers are posted on our 4-H website 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.

Kansas 4-H Policy Handbook Clarifications

The Kansas 4-H Policy Handbook was updated in November 2020 and it is available at www.kansas4-h.org/about/policy-guide.html. If you missed the Leader Policy Check-in, please contact Ami for the recording.

The following need to be completed by 4-H Leaders:

- Review, sign and submit **Certification of Non-Discrimination**
- Work with your club to review/revise/approve the **Club Bylaws** and share with the Extension office by March 2021
- Encourage volunteers to complete the **Volunteer Screening Process**
 - Club Account signatories should be Registered Volunteers
 - Social Media pages should be administered by Registered Volunteers
- Add @jocoks4h as an administrator for **Social Media Pages**

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 current volunteers complete their renewal by November 1. If a volunteer has not completed the renewal process in 4-H Online for the 2020-2021 year, they should not be volunteering for your club. Once the renewal process has been completed in 4-H Online and their profile is "Active" they may resume their volunteer duties.

Youth under the age of 18 do not need to complete the volunteer screening process. (There are a few exceptions such as camp counselors.)

If you have any questions please contact the Johnson County 4-H office.

New Resource for 4-H Club Leaders

The newly created training "4-H EZ: Recipe for Community Club Success" includes six videos, handouts, and resources that go with the videos. Volunteers watch the videos and review the handouts and resources designed to help create a better club experience. The training is set up so that it can be completed all at once or over time. The videos are available on the North Central Region 4-H Volunteer Development's website at <http://bit.ly/4-HEZ>. Click on the heading of each section to go to the video. First sign in, then you can click on the video link. At the end of each video volunteers are asked to reflect on something learned and offer suggestions for future training opportunities.