

4-H Focus

OCTOBER 2023



Welcome to the 2023-24 4-H Year!

Enrollment for the 2023-2024 4-H year is now open. Please remember that you must enroll in 4honline each year to be considered an active 4-Her. Please also remember that all adults who serve as a leader/volunteer within our 4-H program need to also enroll annually through 4honline. Below are quick points to help you through the process.

- * Please go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> to get started
- * If you are a returning family, use your log-in and password from last year. Do not create a new account.
- * Remember to update family address, phone numbers and email addresses. The Extension Office uses this information on a regular basis to contact your family. If the information is not correct, you may miss important information throughout the 4-H year.
- * Reminder that 4-Hers will not be active until payment of the annual \$15 fee is received and processed by the State Office. We strongly encourage families to pay with a credit card instead of by check. A check can significantly delay your enrollment.
- * For more detailed information on enrollment and a direct link to 4honline, please take a look at the instruction guides available on 4honline and on our website: leavenworth.ksu.edu.
- * Like always if you have questions or need assistance, please contact the Extension Office: (913)364-5700.

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Leavenworth County 4-H Council

During the September meeting for Leavenworth County 4-H Council, the 2023-24 officers were elected. The new officers are:

President: *Malia Pebley*

Vice President: *Jadyn Bollin*

Secretary: *Brookelin Pierce - Connel*

Treasurer: *Helen Habjan*

Reporter: *Sarai Parsons*

Please join me in congratulating these 4-Hers! For those who may not be as familiar with Leavenworth County 4-H Council, council is made up of 4-H representatives from each community club across our county. This group of 4-Hers attend a business meeting bimonthly and sit on a youth committee that plans different countywide events throughout the 4-H year like 4-H Club Day, the fun event at county fair and the Achievement Celebration that is held every November. Representatives of council are elected at their community club to serve in these countywide positions. It is strongly encouraged that 4-Hers are 12 years of age or older. Ten and eleven year olds may serve only if older 4-Hers are not available. Seven through nine year olds are asked to wait until they are older to serve on council.

County
Council



“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.”

-John Maxwell

What is it all about anyway?

The 4-H cloverleaf symbol is a well-recognized emblem but have you ever stopped to think about what is behind the emblem? As you have recited the pledge for the 100th time or even for the 2nd time, have you ever thought, “What does this mean?”

The purpose of 4-H extends well beyond the county or state fair and each H of the emblem represents an integral part. Providing educational strategies and opportunities for youth, in partnership with adults, to develop life skills is truly the goal of 4-H.

I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking – The first line of the 4-H pledge speaks to the importance of developing critical thinking and problem solving. This is a skill that can be modeled by adults and mentors but must be practiced by the youth to improve.

I pledge my HEART to greater loyalty - This section of the pledge is all about self-discipline, integrity and communication. Making time to work on projects, care for livestock and complete record books are activities that reinforce self-discipline. Handling successful and not-so-successful events and being responsible for your own projects builds integrity. Communications skills are relevant in every field, every job and every relationship. Practicing communication skills with fellow 4-H members, club leaders, judges and the community are necessary as this doesn't come naturally or easily for everyone.

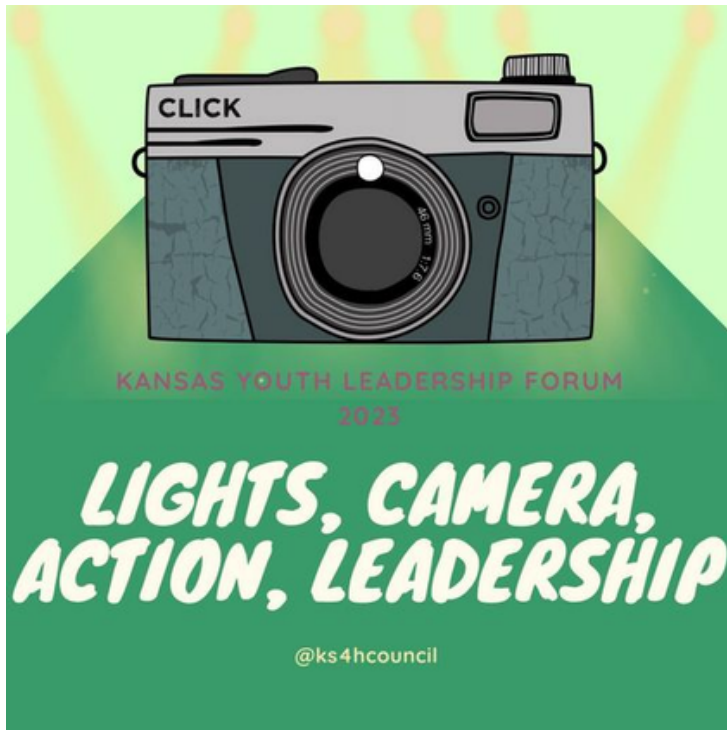
I pledge my HANDS to larger service - The third line of the 4-H pledge speaks to service and servant leadership. Raising people who are comfortable and willing to accept leadership roles in organizations is crucial for the continued growth and success of our communities. Not everyone, however, is comfortable with their “leadership” on display and leaders can have a huge impact - positive or negative! Watch a young person who may not be comfortable presenting in front of a large group quietly show another how to wash a calf, show a pig or finish a hem “just right”. That is servant leadership!

I pledge my HEALTH to better living – In a world increasingly critical of agricultural practices, it is important to know where their food comes from and to make good choices in regard to healthy eating and a healthy lifestyle. Being the best version of ourselves contributes to the success of all around us.

The activities of 4-H teach life skills such as the ability to clearly and concisely present material to an audience, understand meeting structure for efficient and productive meetings, and updating records from record books to checkbooks and budgets.

We are all competitive and want to do well but often the learning process and life skills are more important than a judge's opinion on a given day. Life skills- That's what it's all about!

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)



Kansas Youth Leadership Forum or KYLF is an opportunity to build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more.

In addition, the 2024 State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected and up to six National 4-H Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF.

This event is open to all 4-hers age 14—18 (4-H age).

KYLF will be held November 18 - 19, 2023 at Rock Springs 4-H Center.

If you are interested in attending, registration deadline is October 16, 2023.

Fee to attend KYLF is \$200.

For more information and to register, go to:
<https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/index.html>

Each spring and fall, Tractor Supply helps raise money for 4-H programs through the sale of Paper Clovers in their stores. In the most recent campaign we raised over \$981,000 nationwide. 90% of funds raised go back to state and local 4-H programs to support youth by providing hands-on learning experiences through projects in STEM, agriculture, healthy living, and civic engagement.

4-H Clubs can support the campaign through different ways. Clubs can have a booth outside the store and help sell clovers or can simply be present to help customers. Contact our local Tractor Supply to set up a time for your club to support this great program.

This year's fall Paper Clover program will start October 4, 2023 and will run through October 15, 2023. For more information please contact your community leaders or the Extension Office.



4-H Achievement Celebration - November 4th

The Leavenworth County 4-H Council would like to invite all 4-Hers and their families to our annual 4-H Achievement Celebration on November 4th at Tonganoxie Christian Church. We will open the night with a dinner starting at 5pm and then an awards ceremony to celebrate all our 4-Hers' success over the past 4-H year. This event is a time of fellowship, fun and a great way to close the previous 4-H year and open the door to the next year.

If you are new to our program you may want to know who and what kind of awards are given at our Achievement Celebration. Those youth who completed record books and project report records may be eligible to receive a project pin in the project area where they submitted a book. This celebration is where members receive their membership pins if they applied for and met all the requirements. The evening will also be filled with other special recognitions.

Leavenworth County Council hopes you will consider joining us for the special celebration. We look forward to seeing all your wonderful faces as we say goodbye to the 2022-23 4-H year and hello to the 2023-24 4-H year!

If you plan to attend, please contact the Extension Office to RSVP by October 31st.



Record Books

I know what you are thinking “We just did record books”! It is never too early to start preparing for record books for next year. Simply print off the membership application you want to work toward, your permanent record and project report forms now. That way you know what requirements you need to work on and have a form where you can take notes and records as you complete activities instead of waiting until the end of the year and trying to remember what all you accomplished. Printing out forms now can also help you plan your 4-H year such as your project talks and demonstrations, your leadership and citizenship opportunities and an extra activities you may want to do within a specific project area. If you need assistance understanding forms or where to locate forms, please give the office a shout. We are hear to help you!!



Club Financial Reports Due November 1st

Each club who has a bank account is required to turn in a financial report each year. At minimum we need a completed treasurers book. It is required to include the following within your book.

- Bank Statements
- Budget (page 9)
- Yearly Summary of Club Finances (page 24)
- 4-H Club/Extension Affiliated Group Annual Financial Report (page 29)
- Required signatures (page 30)

I want to remind everyone that this is a requirement and not optional. If you are a chartered club and have a bank account you need to complete these documents. Not completing these documents can and will affect your club charter. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Upcoming News and Events

Junior Producer Days

Save the Dates!! Plans are underway for the K-State Junior Producer Days in the spring. These are one-day educational events, hosted on the K-State campus in Weber Hall, through which families can learn about the selection and management of youth livestock projects. Youth, parents, extension agents, ag teachers, project leaders, and other interested parties will be invited to register and attend. These events are designed as family learning opportunities. We host two a year – beef and sheep in even years and swine and meat goat in odd years. Therefore, next spring is the year for junior beef producer day and junior sheep producer day. The dates are below to get on your busy spring calendars. Stay tuned for the tentative program and registration details to be released in the next few weeks!

K-State Junior Beef Producer Day – March 2

K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day – March 16

Annual Livestock Judging Clinic and Contest

Mark your calendars. The annual Livestock Judging Clinic and Contest is scheduled for December 2, 2023. Butler County Judging Team will once again join us for this event. This event is an all day event. It will start with a judging clinic and end with a livestock judging contest with awards. Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks will be provided to all registered participants. More information will be coming soon. Don't miss out on the opportunity to work with one of the hottest judging teams around!



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

New 4-H Year State Level Changes

Project Name Changes

There are a few project name changes that will occur in 2024. For example, clothing and textiles will now be two different projects. One will be for construction and one for what we know as buymanship. Also Architectural Block Construction is getting a new name. Livestock projects are going back to one project instead of a sperate project for breeding and market, as well as a few other changes. You can find the list of projects and what has changed here: https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/project-guides/2023_2024%20Project%20Listing.pdf

Introducing 4-H Project Partnership Teams

For over a century Kansas 4-H has been deeply rooted in volunteer and teen leader involvement. Throughout the years, we have had various groups and committees, most recently Kansas 4-H Action Teams, working across the 4-H project areas to deliver programmatic opportunities, make recommendations for project advancement, and the list goes on. It was time to re-evaluate the structure of these teams and how we move forward. These teams have played an integral role and will continue to do so, but with a new name and broader view. The Kansas State 4-H Team has reviewed the Kansas 4-H Action Team guidelines and rebranded this volunteer opportunity to be Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams. These teams will be able to provide opportunities for more 4-H project areas.

The Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams are:

- Animal Science
- Communication & Expressive Arts
- Consumer & Family Science
- Discovery Days
- Engineering & Technology
- Leadership & Personal Development
- Natural Resources
- Plant & Environmental Sciences

With this restructure, everyone interested in serving will need to apply for a 4-H Project Partnership Team. We will be looking for a variety of expertise around the projects that fall under each 4-H Project Partnership Team.

For more information on the Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams, please go to the KSRE [website](#) where you will find additional details, the [link to the application](#), and the role description.

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**Kansas 4-H T-Shirts
Online Order**

<https://tinyurl.com/2023KS4HTSHIRT>

Order by
December 1,
2023

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FOR THE KANSAS
4-H YOUTH
LEADERSHIP
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2 Design Options
for 2023

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K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact (Sonya Murphy) two weeks prior to the start of the even at (913-364-5700). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.