

# Clover Connection



Cassie Anderson, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

## Spring 2017

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<http://hancock.osu.edu>

### Dear 4-H Family,

This is my favorite time of the 4-H year! The office is getting regular calls and emails of interested new 4-H families. I get to visit with volunteers as we conduct training for new and returning volunteers. The members of 4-H Council are working hard to support the program, and we just had our annual Camp Counselor Lock-in! A lot is going on and even more events will be happening very soon.

Marketing 4-H in Hancock County is one way it grows. Ohio and Hancock County 4-H Week is March 5-11. We will be kicking off the 4-H Year on March 6 from 6-8 p.m. in the Great Hall of the First Presbyterian Church at 2330 South Main Street, Findlay. How is your club celebrating 4-H Week? Check out our Hancock County Facebook page next week for challenges.

As new members join the program, how we create a welcoming environment is huge to retention. Setting up a welcome committee is a great place to start. A simple activity for the committee to plan is having members ready to greet guests and new members then invite them to sit and talk about 4-H. There is no bigger bummer than to be new somewhere and no one talks to you.

Inside this issue you will find information about upcoming events, scholarship opportunities for

camp and college, possible club fundraisers and much more. Be sure to share this information with brand new families!

I hope everyone is excited about Hancock County 4-H in 2017! I look forward to sharing another year with everyone.

Yours in 4-H,

## Cassie

Cassie Anderson  
Extension Educator- 4-H Youth Development

### Looking for information? Resources for You:

- <http://hancock.osu.edu> - Check our website for current opportunities, updates, and much more.
- [Ohio4h.org](http://Ohio4h.org) – Ohio 4-H opportunities & info
- [Hancock County 4-H on Facebook](#), Like Us!
- **4-H Family Handbook** (distributed to advisors & one per 4-H family)



**Calendar Update:****March** – events at Hancock Ag Service Center unless noted

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|----|---|
| 1  | Camp Counselor training, 6:00-9:00 p.m. DJFS conference room  |
| 2  | Goat Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.   |
| 6  | 4-H Kickoff and Shooting Sports Info Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church                             |
| 8  | Horse Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.  |
| 11 | Ohio 4-H Conference, Greater Columbus Conference Center   |
| 13 | L.E.A.D. Conference and Safe Use of Guns Workshop, 7:00 p.m., Riverdale School<br>Little Caesar Pizza Sale begins |
| 15 | Junior Leadership Club meeting, 7:00 p.m.   |
| 21 | Quality Assurance, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Van Buren High School  |
| 21 | 4-H Benefit Donations due to the office, ticket purchase deadline   |
| 22 | Camp Counselor training, 6:00-9:00 p.m., McComb School  |
| 24 | Early Enrollment due for Banner Club Bonus Points   |
| 26 | Shooting Sports meetings begin, various locations   |
| 28 | 4-H Advisory Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.   |
| 29 | New Volunteer Orientation and Youth Protection Training, 6:00-8:00 p.m.   |
| 29 | Safe Use of Guns Workshop, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Buffalo Trading Company  |

**April** – events at Hancock Ag Service Center unless noted

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|----|--|
| 1  | 4-H Benefit Dinner and Auction, 6:00 p.m., Sterling Center                       |
| 3  | Enrollments are due  |
| 6  | County Cloverbuds, 6:15-7:15 p.m., YMCA  |
| 6  | Goat Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.  |
| 12 | Horse New Member Orientation, 6:00 p.m.<br>Horse Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.      |
| 17 | Camp and Academic Scholarships Due   |
| 19 | Awards Committee meeting, 6:00 p.m.<br>Junior Leadership Club meeting, 7:00 p.m. |
| 22 | Spring Clean Up for Hancock County   |

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|----|---|
| 24 | Sewing Machine License Clinic, 6:00-8:00 p.m. |
| 26 | Camp Counselor meeting, 6:00-9:00 p.m.        |

**May** – events at Hancock Ag Service Center unless noted

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|----|--|
| 1  | Camp Registration Begins   |
| 3  | Camp Counselor training, 6:00-9:00 p.m.  |
| 4  | Pizza Sale Pick up, 4:00-6:00 p.m.   |
| 4  | Junior Goat Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.<br>Followed by Senior Goat Council meeting, 7:00 p.m. |
| 10 | Horse Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.   |
| 13 | Bike Rodeo, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hancock County Fairgrounds                                |
| 15 | Em-bel-lish and Fun with Clothes clinic, 6:00-8:00 p.m.                                      |
| 17 | Junior Leadership Club meeting, 7:00 p.m.  |
| 20 | Clothing Project Community Service Day, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.                                  |
| 23 | 4-H Advisory Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.  |
| 24 | Camp Counselor meeting, 6:00-9:00 p.m.   |
| 26 | Early Bird Camp Registration Due<br>Cloverbud Day Camp Registration Due                      |
| 29 | Memorial Day, Office Closed  |

**News****Volunteer Rescreening and Training**

If it is your year to complete a rescreening for a background check, you should have received a letter from the office with details on how to complete this process. Thank you to everyone who has already taken care of this requirement. All rescreening will be reimbursed with a receipt by Ohio State University. Rescreening should be completed by April 3. Please contact Cassie if you need more time.

Advisors are also required to complete yearly youth protection training. This is an important training for youth safety as well as protecting you, our volunteers. Training must be completed prior to the April 3 enrollment deadline. If you do not plan on being an advisor in 2017, please let the office know as soon as possible.

Youth Protection Training Opportunities include:

- March 13, L.E.A.D. Conference, 7 p.m., Riverdale School
- March 29, New Volunteer Orientation, first hour, 6 p.m., Hancock County Agricultural Service Center

There is also an online option. Contact Kathy Biery, biery.12@osu.edu, to schedule online training to be completed before April 3.

### Welcome New Volunteers

As of the printing of this issue please help me welcome the following new volunteers:

Charlotte Brickman – new club

Kaylynn Carpenter- Buttons and Bows

Nicholas Clevidence – Rock-N-Roll

Nathan Knicely – Freedom Reins and Junior Leadership

Tracy McIlroy – Jolly Jacksons

Lisa Swails – SoHanCo Livestockers

We have several more volunteer candidates in process, watch the May newsletter for the complete list.

### Enrollment for 2017

All clubs have their enrollment information for this year. Enrollment forms are due to the office in the provided envelop by April 3. Enrollments are due by March 24 for banner club bonus points. If a club needs more enrollment forms please stop in the Extension Office. We still have some Family Guides and Hancock County Handbooks available if your club runs out. One handbook per family please.

### Hancock County 4-H Handbooks

Have you checked out your Family Handbook yet? Inside you will find information about county and state wide opportunities, all of the requirements for this year's projects, and many of the forms you may need this year. This includes the camp scholarship form due April 15.



### 4-H Week

4-H Week for Hancock County and Ohio is March 5-11. We will celebrate in a variety of ways. Be sure to check The Courier on March 2 for the third annual 4-H insert. The County Commissioners will be signing an official proclamation for 4-H week. The first baby born during 4-H week will receive a special gift from the county program and all the other babies will receive a special burb cloth made by 4-H volunteers.

There will be daily challenges shared on Facebook and a large group of Hancock County volunteers and teens will be heading to the 4-H Conference in Columbus on March 11.

How is your club celebrating and letting folks know about 4-H? Window displays at local businesses, wear a 4-H shirt to school on a specific day, plan a service project that week are just a few ideas. Maybe you want to challenge another club for new member recruitment? Lots of fun to be had, the office would love to see pictures of your club in action during 4-H week!

### 4-H Kickoff

4-H Kickoff, open to all members, families and interested new families is March 6 at the First Presbyterian Church, 2330 South Main St., Findlay, from 6-8 p.m. We will have lots of activities, information, fun, and food to check out and enjoy.

Interested in 4-H Shooting Sports? The Shooting Sports instructors will be hosting an information session about the program and how to get involved. If you want to learn more, this session is highly encouraged.

There will also be a Rabbit Project Q&A session starting at 6:30 during the kickoff. This is a great opportunity to find out what the project entails.

### Congratulations Newly Elected Officers!

Congratulations to newly elected or soon to be elected club officers. Clubs, please forward me a list of your 2017 officers. We want to invite all of our youth officers to attend the L.E.A.D. Conference on March 13 at 7 p.m. at Riverdale School. We will have two tracks this year, new officers and officers with three or more years in the same role.

We would also like to congratulate the 4-H Council officers for 2017:

- President – Mitch Welty, McComb
- Vice President – Toni Altvater, Findlay
- Treasurer – Martha Boyd, Advisor At-Large
- Secretary – April Holland, Advisor At-Large
- Assistant Secretary – Beth White, Cory Rawson

### Hancock County Junior Leadership Club

Junior Leadership is open to all teens (they do not have to be current 4-Hers) that are 14 years old and a freshman in High School. The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center from 7:00-8:30 p.m. An average meeting starts with the officer led business portion and is followed by a program. Topics are determined by the club members. In 2016 topics included: communication skills, workforce skills, surviving college, cooking, and much more. The group also assists with many events throughout the 4-H program. Junior Leadership is a great club to have a direct say in what you want to learn, develop useful skills, have fun, and make a difference in our community.

#### MEETING DATES FOR 2017

March 6 (5:00 p.m.)	August 16
April 19	September 20
May 17	October 18
June 21	November 15
July 20	December 20

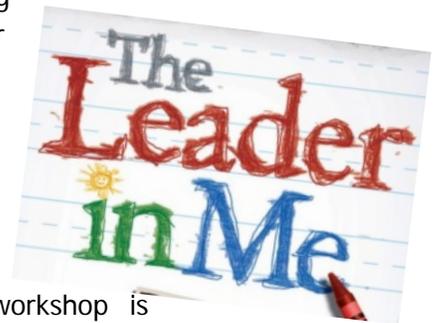
### L.E.A.D. Conference 2017

There is something for everyone at this year's L.E.A.D. Conference. The countywide training will be held March 13 beginning at Riverdale School. A special opening on parliamentary procedure by Riverdale FFA and pizza fundraiser information will be shared.

There will be sessions for all officers, a special session for officers with 3 or more years of experience in the same office, Team Building, Recreation, Youth Protection Training, Award Opportunities, Completing Livestock Books, New Family Orientation, and Cloverbud Leader training.

New this year we will also have a special session.

Taking a shooting sports project or Safe Use of Guns project? The Safe Use of Guns workshop will be held in conjuncture with L.E.A.D



Conference. This workshop is required of all first year shooting sports members and highly recommended for second year members. Attending the workshop completes the Safe Use of Guns project requirements.

### Little Caesar's Pizza Sale

During and prior to L.E.A.D. Conference clubs will be able to sign up to participate in the pizza fundraiser. The sale will begin March 13 at L.E.A.D. Conference and will go until April 10 when all orders are due by Club to the Extension Office by noon. Pizza pick up will be May 4 from 4-6 p.m. at the Extension Office. Clubs can plan on making approximately \$5.00 per kit sold, higher profit on some products. Great club and camp fee fundraiser. In 2016, we sold over \$23,000 dollars in pizza.

### Livestock Quality Assurance Workshop

All members with livestock projects, including rabbits and poultry, are required to participate in a yearly quality assurance workshop, unless you have

successfully tested out. Two dates have been scheduled for Hancock County – March 21, 7 p.m. at Van Buren High School and June 3, 10 a.m. at the Hancock County Fairgrounds. This is a requirement of the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Other dates from surrounding counties are listed in the 4-H Calendar in the back of your Handbook or on our website. If attending in another county, it is the participant's responsibility to contact the county for details and to contact the Hancock County Extension Office to get the required documentation to take with you.

### Horse Project Orientation

Any 4-Her that is taking a horse project for the first time needs to complete the orientation program. It will be held April 12, 6 p.m. at the Extension Office. Parents are encouraged but not required to attend. If you cannot attend orientation contact the office to make arrangements for a make up program.

### County Cloverbuds

Details are being finalized for the 2017 County Cloverbud program. Cloverbuds are youth ages 5-8 and in Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. County Cloverbuds meet April 6, October 5, and December 7, from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

Cloverbuds and their adult partner are invited to have fun getting physically fit at the April 6 meeting. We will meet at the YMCA downtown facility in Findlay, 6:15 p.m.

Weather policy – if Findlay schools cancel, there will not be a Cloverbud meeting. Questions, feel free to contact Beth Marshall at 419-422-5322.

Cloverbud Day Camp is scheduled for June 15, 2017. Registration due May 26.

There will also be a Cloverbud Experience Show and Tell program August 10, 6 p.m. at the Extension Office. Cloverbuds will bring an item to share about their Cloverbud year.

NEW this year: Cloverbuds can complete their own Cloverbud Book about their 4-H Year. This book is available at the Extension Office for \$6.00.

If you would like to be a part of the County Cloverbud program, please complete a current enrollment form and drop it off at the Extension Office.

## Opportunities

### Chamber Agri-Business Committee Holds Annual Bulk Sausage Distribution

The Agri-Business Committee of the Findlay•Hancock County Chamber of Commerce will take orders for their annual whole hog bulk sausage sale beginning March 1, 2017. Sausage is sold either seasoned (salt and pepper) or unseasoned. Donation for the sausage is \$9.00 per 3 lb. bag. Orders will be available for pick up Saturday, April 8 from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Legacy Lawn and Pet, 6566 Township Road 236, Findlay. Donations benefit the Agri-Business Scholarship Fund for area students pursuing a degree in an agricultural related field. Orders may be placed at the Chamber, 123 East Main Cross Street, Findlay or by calling their office at 419-422-3313.

For more information, contact The Findlay•Hancock County Chamber of Commerce at 419-422-3313 or via email, [lpoland@FindlayHancockChamber.com](mailto:lpoland@FindlayHancockChamber.com).

### Service Opportunity – Keep America Beautiful Great American CLEAN UP

April 22 will once again be the annual spring clean-up day for the county. Club registration forms are enclosed. This effort is sponsored by the Hancock County Solid Waste Management District. They will provide trash bags and a lunch on Saturday for all participating organizations. Be sure to take pictures for your Club Community Service Award!

### Hancock County 4-H Camp June 25-29

Camp Counselors are working hard planning this year's 4-H camp! Campers will take part in solving a "Mystery" in addition to all of the other fun at 4-H Camp. Early bird registration is only \$160. Camp packets will be mailed out late April to eligible youth.

## Camp Scholarships Available

April 15 is the deadline for Camp Scholarships. The 4-H Council has received generous donations to support 4-H Camp. Don't let the camp fee be a barrier in sending someone to camp. Any Hancock County 4-H member is encouraged to apply. The application is in the Family Handbook and is on the website at <http://hancock.osu.edu>. No late applications will be accepted.

## 4-H Scholarships

4-H Council is pleased to announce this year's academic scholarship opportunities for graduating seniors and 4-H alumni currently in college. We will be awarding at least 4 scholarships:

- Real World Scholarship, \$500, renewable for up to 4 years.
- Denise Tebbe Memorial Scholarship, \$500 one time award priority to members with dog or horse projects
- 4-H Council Scholarship, \$500 to a graduating senior.
- 4-H Alumni Scholarship, \$500 to an alumni currently enrolled in college.

Additional opportunities may be available this year.

Forms are available on our website, <http://hancock.osu.edu> and are due April 15.

## Upcoming Clothing Project Clinics

Beginning Sewing Project members mark your calendar for April 24 from 6-8 p.m. at the Extension Office. Joyce Schroeder, our Master Clothing Educator, and some older teen volunteers will host the Sewing Machine License Clinic. Participating in this clinic will complete a section of your project book, help you explore and become familiar with your machine, and ask questions as you start a fun sewing experience. Members are asked to bring their machine, sewing basket, and sewing buddy. We do have some supplies if you are not quite there yet.

A second Clinic will be May 15 starting at 6:00 p.m. This clinic will focus on the projects *Fun with Clothes* and *em-bel-ish* and the activities members

will be exploring. This is a great way to get a jump on your project, learn techniques you will need and get lots of hands on experience with a great support team. Members are asked to bring their sewing basket, machine (if needed), and sewing buddy.

More info to come! Sewing members, put May 20 on your calendar for a sewing community service project day at the Extension Office.

## Junior Fair Items

### Dairy Feeder Tagging – Vaccinate – Weigh-In

The Dairy Feeder tagging is July 15 from 8:00-11:00 a.m. in the Buckeye Building at the fairgrounds.

Members planning on attending the State Fair with their Dairy Feeder must have their calf tagged before June 1. State Fair calves may be tagged at the fairgrounds on May 22 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Contact Lynae Stacy (419-722-6096) if you have any questions.

### Possession Dates for 2017

Possession dates for livestock projects are located in the 4-H Handbook. Members are also strongly encouraged to have a copy of the Hancock County Fair book once it is released. It is the member's responsibility to be in good standing of Junior Fair rules to be able to participate.

## Celebrations

### Member Celebrations

Congratulations and job well done to all of the teens submitting State Achievement Records. Sixteen youth submitted forms this year. Members were chosen to represent the county for the State Awards and to attend many different trips and opportunities.