

4-H FOCUS

HANCOCK COUNTY

March 9, 2022

Good afternoon 4-H Families,

It is 4-H Week! Have you invited your friends to join you in your club? Did you promote 4-H at school or in your neighborhood? 4-H Week lasts through March 12. You still have time to tell your friends your favorite things about 4-H.

4-H Benefit donations are due by March 11. The planning committee requests that each club donate at least three items to the auction, a ceramic mug with NO lid, and a case of water. We encourage you to include items made by members and/or advisors and/or parents.

We are about halfway enrolled in Hancock County. Thank you to the 458 who have completed your enrollment. If you forgot a project or want to update your profile, please email [me](#) and I can send your enrollment back to you for editing. If you haven't completed your enrollment yet, we are experiencing

In an effort to keep things moving forward as 4-H gears up for the year, I will try to send a 4-H Focus weekly. Along with that though, I apologize upfront for missing the mark at times and thank you for your patience as we work through limited staffing together.

Do you want the latest 4-H Calendar? Go to go.osu.edu/hancock_4hcalendar for the latest date on everything. Anything updated will be in green to easily see the changes.

If you have questions, please call the office at (419)422-3851 and we will do our best to answer your questions or point you toward a good and valuable resource.

Just a reminder for all... If you are not feeling well or have symptoms of an illness, please stay home from meetings or activities. We want to be sure that you can rest and recuperate, as well as make sure we are providing a safe and welcoming experience to those in the Hancock County 4-H Program.

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Dates to remember:

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| March 9 – Horse Council | March 21 – Shooting Sports Information Meeting – 6:30pm |
| March 12 – Ohio 4-H Conference | March 22 – Endowment Committee – 3pm |
| March 14 – L.E.A.D. Conference – Van Buren School – 7pm | March 22 – 4-H Advisory Council – 7pm |
| March 14 – Little Caesars Pizza Sale begins at L.E.A.D. Conference – 7pm | March 23 – Camp Counselor Meeting – 6-8pm |
| March 15 – Cross County Forms due to Extension Office | March 24 – Shooting Sports Blue Ribbon Meeting – 6:30pm |
| March 15 – BCI fingerprinting must be completed | March 29 – Quality Assurance – Cory Rawson School – 7pm |
| March 16 – Junior Leadership Club – 6:30pm | April 1 – 4-H Enrollment Due, Winning 4-H Plan Due |
| March 17 – Shooting Sports Blue Ribbon Meeting – 6:30pm | April 2 – Winter Workshop at Camp Ohio for counselors (Optional) |
| March 18 – Early Enrollment – Bonus Points for Banner Club | April 2 – Hancock County Endowment Banquet & Auction |

PROJECT WORK:

Enroll now for 2022! You can now enroll for this year at oh.4honline.com. Enrollment deadline is April 1, 2022. If you have any questions, please let us know! More information can also be found at <https://hancock.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-enrollment-and-completion-requirements>.

Do you want to know more about a project? The county handbook will be uploaded later this week to go.osu.edu/hancock_handbook. You can also go to Project Central located at go.osu.edu/4hprojectcentral and look up project by subject. Project have the first 10-12 pages of books there where you can get an idea what the project will be like to complete. Members across the state can leave reviews on the projects and you can decide for yourself if you think it's a project you'd like to take.

Shooting Sports information meetings have begun. If you are considering a shooting sports project, please plan to attend 6:30pm on March 21 at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center. Current Shooting Sports projects available in Hancock County are: Archery, Crossbow, Living History, Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun. Come learn the who, the what, the where, and the when.

Shooting Sports Blue Ribbon Meetings – Something new for all Shooting Sports Projects. On March 17 at 6:30pm, they will be discussing your special interest topic report, documenting your progress, and record keeping 101 so bring your project book. There will also be time spent on gun safety and safe gun handling. March 24, also at 6:30pm, topics will include great posters and auxiliary displays that pop, range etiquette and commands, how to work in shooter/coach pairs, and what to wear on the range. Both of these meetings take place at the Extension Office.

Sewing Clinics – Joyce Schroeder, Master Clothing Educator, is offering sewing clinics this year. All clinics are from 6-8pm and are being held at the OSU Extension Office at 7868 County Road 140, Findlay. Be sure bring your adult sewing partner. RSVP to 419-422-3851.

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| April 12 - Tips on How to Decorate a T-Shirt | June 6 - Buttons Closures Zippers Questions |
| May 3 - Sewing Machine License | June 21 - Sewing Help Night, Bring judging questions, Narration Sheets |
| May 17 - Pattern Layout & Cut Seam Finish | |

OTHER NOTES:

Club Financial Statements were due on January 31. We are still missing a few clubs. Forms and instructions can be found at https://ohio4h.org/volunteers/volunteers/club-leaders/finances/clubaffiliate-yearly-financial-summary?_gl=1%2A1rniurf%2A_ga%2AMTlwNjk5NjIwMi4xNjExMjM4ODU5%2A_ga_4P9WPSHVFC%2AMTY0MTk5ODAzOS40NC4xLjE2NDE5OTgwNTUuMA

LAST CALL Volunteer Rescreening (Camp Counselors too) - Information has been sent out to those who need to complete their background check. If you didn't receive a letter and think you may need rescreened, call into the office, and we can check to see if you are on the list. Please be sure to complete your 4-H Online enrollment (oh.4honline.com) prior to getting fingerprints taken. Receipts should be turned into the Extension Office for reimbursement and state paper trail. Rescreening must be completed by March 15, 2022. If you do not plan on returning as a volunteer, please let us know. Background checks are taking a minimum of 55 days to get back.

4-H Camp Ohio is building a new high ropes course for 2022 and camp needs your help (or anyone who may LOVE 4-H Camp!) Every donation will help youth build confidence, communication, and teamwork as they complete 12 obstacles 30 feet above the ground. For more information and to donate, visit <http://go.osu.edu/campohioropes>. Updates regarding the status for the \$120,000 goal will be posted periodically on 4-H Camp Ohio's Facebook page.

L.E.A.D. Conference (Learn, Educate, Advise, and Discover): L.E.A.D. Conference will be held March 14 at 7:00pm at Van Buren School. L.E.A.D. offers sessions for club officers to learn about their position, adult sessions for both parents and volunteers, and this year we are going to offer Policy 1.50 (youth protection) Training for advisors and camp counselors.

Sessions to be Offered:

- President / Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Community Service
- Reporter / Historian (looking for volunteer)
- Recreation
- Health / Safety
- Energy / Litter
- New Member Orientation
- Policy 1.50 (for volunteers or camp counselors)
- Cloverbuds
- Shooting Sports
- 4-H Awards and Achievement Opportunities

Save the Date on April 2 for the Hancock County 4-H Benefit Dinner. Tickets are available for \$25 per person and must be purchased by March 18. Tables of 6 are available to be reserved. Donations are being accepted until March 11. Contact your advisor with donations or donation ideas. Donations need to be dropped off at the Extension Office by March 11. The Endowment Committee has asked that each club donate 3 items, a ceramic mug with no lid, and a case of bottled water.

4-H Camp Counselors have decided on a theme. *"Gettin' Wild Western Style"*. They are excited and planning and getting ready for you. Keep an eye out for updates. Camp will be June 25-29 this summer.

Scholarship Application will be available sometime in March. Camp scholarships and academic scholarships will be due April 15.

Take A Leap - Thanks to a grant from the Ohio 4-H Foundation, "Take a Leap: Career Readiness Day" will be held at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on Saturday, April 2 from 12pm-4pm. This event is open to any 4-H member ages 13-18 and is completely FREE!!! Several Teen Leadership Council members have been planning this event and are excited to facilitate this opportunity for their peers. This day is jam-packed full of opportunities for participants with some highlights listed here:

- Learn about 4-H opportunities at the state level
- Rotate through career preparation workshops covering topics such as resume writing, interview skills, entrepreneurship, goal setting, and more
- Network with peers who are also interested in preparing for their future

Participants can register at go.osu.edu/taketheleap by March 19.

Celebrating 4-H on Earth Day! ODNR is looking to partner with 4-H youth and clubs the weekend of April 22-24 at selected Ohio state parks.

We are encouraging Ohio 4-H'ers to submit proposals to share demonstrations, project work and programs focused on Earth Day appropriate activities. This is a great opportunity to showcase what 4-H is all about!

Clubs and members can find participating parks and apply to present [here](#). Selected projects will be recognized at ODNR's Natural Resources Park at this year's Ohio State Fair.

Read more about it [here](#).

JOANN Promotion - Believe it is or not, it is time for another JOANN promotion. If you are new and not familiar with this, National 4-H has developed a partnership with the company JOANN and we do a campaign each spring to help raise money for 4-H. This year the campaign has already started and will run February 1 – April 30.

Key Info:

- Ohio will receive back 70% of the **in-store** campaign dollars raised.
- Online purchases go back to National 4-H because their system can't track by state.

Ohio 4-H Night and the Dayton Dragons is back. Families can purchase tickets directly at <http://www.go.osu.edu/ohio4hdaytondragons>. Tickets are \$10. The game is at the Day Air Ballpark in downtown Dayton. The game will be on Saturday, May 7 starting at 7:05pm with gates opening at 6pm. Please be sure to line up behind the outfield lawn area (Lawn D) by 6:15pm to participate in a pre-game parade of all the 4-H counties in attendance that evening. For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact your Dragon representative: Carl Hertzberg – carl.hertzberg@daytondragons.com.

MacKenzie Scott's gift to National 4-H Council of 50 million dollars!! What an exciting time for 4-H! What are the plans for the funds? The National 4-H Council board has a taskforce put together including alumni, a teen, Extension people, etc. to work on this task. They have given themselves a 6 month timeline to come back to the board with recommendations. So more will be learned over time but Jennifer Zirangelo, President and CEO of Nation 4-H Council, did say they are considering all sorts of options with both current spending and endowments.

Jennifer said she still is in complete shock and this gift is very satisfying. She was felt all 4-H professionals and 4-H volunteers should feel proud that 4-H Youth Development is seen worthy of this investment by someone outside of the program. This a high dollar gift compared to what was given to some other organizations. This is a big deal for our organization to be selected for this investment.

So a huge shoutout to all of you for the work you do every day!

This gift was shared on the Foundation Facebook page, but in case you missed it, here is the link to learn more: <https://4-h.org/about/blog/national-4-h-council-receives-transformational-50-million-gift-from-mackenzie-scott/?fbclid=IwAR1hyDJPjlsqSykLlwQwaZyYNichrDski7k9r2RmkQdaQSiO1DLrqELLK4w>

Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser – We are excited to announce we are offering the Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser once again!! Club advisors can pick up packets for your clubs beginning March 14 at the L.E.A.D. Conference. They will be available at the Extension Office after March 14. Pizza sales end April 11 so remember to ask your family and friends to help support Hancock County 4-H.

LIVESTOCK:

Members with Horse Projects: It's 2022 and you will need to complete Quality Assurance for Horses. We will offer a session during the March 29 Quality Assurance at Cory Rawson School. If you have other animal projects besides horses, you will need to complete both sessions.

Quality Assurance will be held March 29 at Cory Rawson School and will begin at 7:00pm. All members with livestock projects are required to complete Quality Assurance. Get this date on your calendar. We are offering 2 sessions this year, March 29 at 7pm and June 4 time TBA.

YQCA: For those of you who have completed their Quality Assurance through the online platform and wish to continue to do so, it will be transitioning to a new platform. ONLY members age 12 as of January 1 and older may complete YQCA. In the past, this has been a \$12 course Please see the note below from Lizz Share with regards to the updates of YQCA.

Hello,

If you or family members have elected to use YQCA's online platform to complete your QA this year, we have some important updates:

- YQCA will no longer be working with RegistrationMax and will be transitioning to a new platform. They are preparing for the move to the new platform which will launch on March 23, 2022!

What this means for youth that use YQCA to complete their 2022 QA requirement:

- **Each youth that has a current and valid certification (taken from October 1, 2021 to now) will need to download their certificate before March 23, 2022.**
- *If you plan to use YQCA but haven't purchased the course, please wait until March 23 when the new platform is launched. YQCA will host a webinar open to the public announcing the change and answering user questions sometime in March. This will be followed by a final webinar that will provide a tour of the new and improved online experience. As these dates are announced, we will pass them along.*

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Quality Assurance Test-Out Option is available from now through March 15. For those of you who have been waiting patiently to take the test, please call the office at 419-422-3851 to schedule your test time. Any member 15 years old as of January 1 who has completed at least one in-person Quality Assurance session may choose the QA test out option. You must pass the test with at least a 76% to excuse you from QA training for the duration of your 4-H/FFA career. If you do not pass this test, you must attend an

in-person Quality Assurance session or complete YQCA, AND you must wait until the following February to retest.

Lamb and Wool Queen Application is available at <https://hancock.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/junior-fair> for those who are interested. Please read the application for requirements. Applications are due Monday, March 28 by 4pm to the Extension Office or the Senior Fair Office. Interviews will be held Sunday, April 3, before the banquet.

Scholarships are available at <https://hancock.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/applications-and-forms>. You can find the Academic Scholarship made possible through the Hancock County 4-H Endowment Fund and the Hancock County Memorial Scholarship Fund AND the Denise Tebbe Memorial Scholarship Application made possible through the Denise Tebbe Memorial Scholarship Fund. All scholarships are due April 15.

Have a great rest of your week and stay safe.