

4-H FOCUS

HANCOCK COUNTY

December 6, 2023

To each and every one of our 4-H members, advisors, family members and friends of 4-H,

As we sit here listening to our favorite holiday tunes, we are reminded of how grateful we are to have you in our wonderful program.

4-H is rooted in relationships, youth development, and growth and you are the ones who help bring it to life. Every day we are blessed with the new energy, new perspectives, and new friends you bring to our county each year.

We wish all the blessings returned to you during this holiday season and the year to come. Can't wait to grow with you in 2024!

Have a Happy Holiday Season and great New Year,

Lauren, Kathy and Edy 😊

Lauren Burner-Kitzler

Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development



Dates To Remember:

Dec 7	Cloverbud Meeting, 6:15pm	Jan 2	New Volunteer Applications due
Dec 11	Meat and Cheese Pick-Up at the Extension Office, 2-4:30pm	Jan 4	Jr / Sr Goat Council, 7pm
Dec 22	Office Closes at 3pm	Jan 7	Camp Counselor Zoom
Dec 25-26	Office Closed	Jan 10	Horse Council at OSU, 7pm
Dec 29	Office Closes at 3pm	Jan 13	Market Steer tag-in at Buckeye Building, 9-11am
Jan 1	Office Closed	Jan 15	Office Closed
Jan 1	Market Steers must be in ownership of the member	Jan 15	DNA/EID kits due for State Fair

Month of Giving

December is the Month of Giving and it revolves around people making a difference in society by helping others. Do you have some extra clothes or food you want to give away? Use this month to ensure your hand-me-downs reach those in need! You can also take part by buying a gift for someone all while giving back to charity in the process. Donating to charities and helping others has a therapeutic effect and can make you happy. It's a positive cycle that leads to the betterment of society. Your donations can help to reduce poverty if it's improving the living conditions of even a single family. Be a part of the change and donate as much as you can!



Toledo Walleye has invited you!

Do you like watching players fly by you on skates as they chase after the puck and try to slip it past the goalie? Well come join other area 4-H and FFA Members at a Toledo Walleyes Game. The Toledo Walleyes will host 4-H and FFA Nights this season on February 25 and March 1!

Sunday, February 25 - Kids Takeover Night- \$17 ticket (<https://fevo.me/kids4hffa>)

The kiddos are taking over! This kids-focused night will include specialty jerseys designed by local children at ProMedica Russell J. Ebeid Children's Hospital and a Spike squishy pillow giveaway, presented by ProMedica.

- Pregame Gates 6:00-7:15pm
 - Giveaway is the first 1500 kids who are 12 and under.
- Game starts at 7:15pm

Friday, March 1 - STEAM Night- \$17 ticket (<https://fevo.me/ffaand4hkids>)

- Pregame Gates 6:00-7:15pm
 - Giveaway is the first 1500 kids who are 12 and under.
- Game starts at 7:15pm



Ohio 4-H Conference

Let our office know by January 20 if you would like to attend the Ohio 4-H Conference. There are sessions for volunteers and member. Registration forms to come.

This year, we have many volunteers and advisors being recognized for their years of service! If interested in attending or finding out if you will be recognized, please reach out to our office!

Ohio State Fair Beef Cattle

If want to participate in Beef Cattle at the state fair, you will need to complete the DNA Kit/EID Tag. You can pick up the state fair DNA Collection kit and cards from our office. The kits and cards MUST be received at the OSF by January 15.

Horse End of the Year Banquet

Saturday January 13 at the Fostoria YMCA. Doors open at 5:30pm. Dinner at 6pm. Be sure to bring a dish to share and your own beverage. Please RSVP to you Club's horse advisor. Watch your mail for more information.

4-H Benefit Dinner

DATE CHANGE!! The 2024 Hancock County 4-H Benefit Dinner will be held February 17, 2024, at the Old Mill Stream Centre. Please be aware of this date change. Stop by the extension office to reserve your seat for this “Eclipsical” event. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and available for purchase beginning January 2. Cash or check made payable to 4-H Advisory Council of Hancock County. Advisors should have received a letter for requests of club donations and their due date.



Calling all Club Organization Advisors

Please ensure you have completed your short informational survey from our office. The organizational advisor should be the only person completing this and allows **our office to get valuable information for the upcoming year. The email came November 8 via 4-H online. If you have any questions, please reach out to our office.**

Camp Gift Idea

Looking for another Christmas gift idea for your children or grandchildren, we have the best idea for you! Starting Black Friday, November 24, come in to purchase a Camp Gift Certificate for your favorite camper or counselor to add to their stocking or as an extra gift under the tree. Early bird camp price is \$200, BUT purchases can be made in increments of \$5. Bring your cash or check made payable to OSU Extension.



4-H Enrollment:

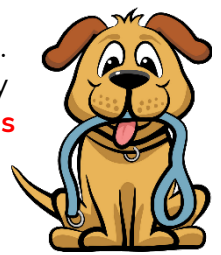
4HOnline: Now is the time to start re-enrolling or enrolling for the new 4-H year!! This is open to all advisors, volunteers, and members. Go to <https://v2.4honline.com>. Remember that if you have ever been in 4-H; last year, 5 years ago, or even 9 years ago, please do NOT make a new profile! If you can't find yours, please contact the office and we will be happy to assist you.

New Volunteers: Are you interested in joining our 4-H team of volunteers? Be sure to contact our office for more information. All applications are due to our office January 2!

Volunteer Rescreening: Information has been sent out to those advisors who need to be rescreened. Keep an eye out in your mailbox for the letter and instructions.

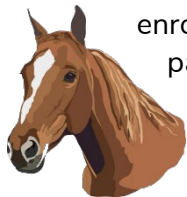
Members: When you enroll, please upload a current school type photo of yourself at <https://v2.4honline.com>. There are almost 800 of you. We will not use this photo for any purpose other than to remember who you are and what you look like. If you go to camp, you will still need to submit a photo with your health forms.

Members with Dog Projects: Starting in 2024, you will need to submit your paperwork online. Once you have enrolled your projects for the year, you can submit your paperwork after January 1. Submit your paperwork under the Animal tab on <https://v2.4honline.com>. Anything in **RED is a State Required** field or document. Hancock County also requires the completed Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate. This document



should be entered under the Vaccination Record area. Hancock County also requires the 2024 Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Dog Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims. Enter this document under the County Document area. There will be a help document provided after January 15.

Members with Horse Projects: Starting in 2024, you will need to submit your paperwork online. Once you have enrolled your projects for the year, you can submit your paperwork after January 1. Submit your paperwork under the Animal tab on <https://v2.4honline.com>. Anything in **RED is a State Required** field or document. Photos will need to be current with the 4-H member included. No parts of the 4-H member. No pictures from 2023 or before. Don't forget the 2024 EquiSTEP will also need uploaded once completed. There will be a help document provided after January 15.



Winning 4-H Plan: The Winning 4-H Plan (W4HP) assists parents /guardians in requesting accommodation plans to meet the needs of Ohio 4-H youth with disabilities. Would you like more information on how to request the Winning 4-H Plan? You can find more information at <https://go.osu.edu/Winning4HPlan>.

This is an option during your enrollment. If you click yes during enrollment, you may receive an email from the state 4-H Office on the W4HP process.

Attention Horse Exhibitors: All exhibitors who plan to participate in a ground roping class at the state AND county level, **MUST** be enrolled in ground roping AND complete the correlating Ground Roping Project Book.



Attention Volunteers:

Volunteer/Advisor Kick-Off

Saturday, January 20, 2024, 9am-12pm

Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 6-8pm



***Every advisor is required to attend one of the kick-offs to comply with the state mandate.*

2024 Family Guide

Exciting 4-H news! The 2024 Family guides will be coming soon to your mailbox! Be on the lookout from January 9 through January 18 for your 2024 Family Guide. There are new projects along with a few changes for this upcoming year.

New Projects:

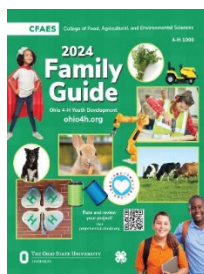
- 186 Gymkhana
- 187 Roping
- 210 Assistance Animals in Action
- 356 Relationships 101

Updated Projects:

- 179R Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows
- 201R Dog Resource Handbook
- 228R Rabbit Resource Handbook

Discontinued Projects:

- 185 Equine Reproduction and Genetics
- 352 Keeping Fit
- 486 Dashboard Dining
- 529 Wired for Power, Level 3
- 530 Entering Electronics, Level 4



Gifts to Hancock County 4-H

As 2023 comes to an end, please consider including Hancock County 4-H youth development in your giving plans.

You are part of a special 4-H community. As volunteers, alumni, and supporters, you have the power to change the lives of youth across Ohio by providing them with opportunities to inspire curiosity, fuel adventure, develop lifelong skills, and grow into true leaders. People like you, who believe in 4-H, equip young Ohioans with the tools they need to be successful long after they age out of the program. During this giving season, reflect on what 4-H has done for you and others you know. Would you consider donating to help ensure this program continues to grow and thrive for future generations?

Gifts to Hancock County 4-H will qualify for a tax deduction in this calendar year, meaning that any donation made before December 31 is deductible for 2023.

A gift to Ohio 4-H is an investment in our youth and in our community's future. Please consider giving to our county's 4-H fund at ohio4h.org/countydonation.

Thank you for helping to make the best better!



Family Stories

Each time they stop in, or we see them at an activity, we so enjoy getting to know our advisors a little better. We wanted to continue learning about family traditions and stories from our advisors and share how 4-H has impacted their lives from the moment they started until today.

Imelda, by Edy Gierke



Imelda

Imelda, as a 67-year advisor, it is no surprise that most people know the name and face of Imelda Ream around the Hancock County 4-H Community. The question is, how well do you really know this amazing advisor and her 4-H story? Like many of us, Imelda began her career in 4-H as an 8-year member of the Klassy Klippers 4-H Club. Imelda learned later in life that her dad and uncle were in 4-H and maybe that is why there was a strong encouragement for her and her siblings to participate.

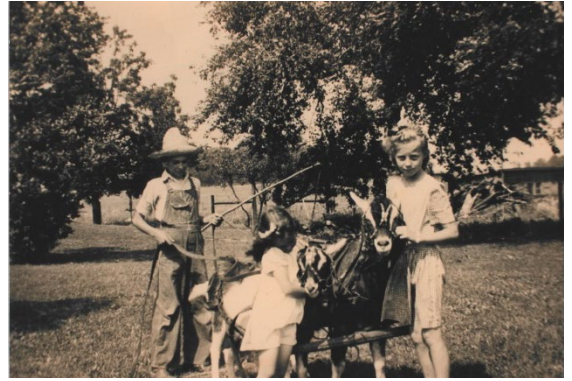
As a member, Imelda took a variety of projects. In her first year, she remembers taking a sewing project that let her sew a tea towel and pin cushion. Of the things she remembers most about her first year of 4-H is having to give a project demonstration. At the time, giving this demonstration felt like life or death but today she still reminds her kids, that she survived that

experience, and that it is good to step out of your comfort zone and take on public speaking. Imelda's second year of projects let her explore more in the world of sewing by making a blouse. She was also allowed to checkout cooking where she took the project, "Soups, Salads, and Sandwiches". Imelda remembers loving this



Imelda

project and wishes they still had it today for members to take. Through the years, her projects continue to develop her skills and love for 4-H. Creating memories along the way, that will stick with Imelda for a lifetime. One of her memories that brings up a smile and good laugh is her experience with animal projects. Imelda wanted to be like her siblings and take livestock. Unfortunately, she did not have as good of luck as her siblings did. In her one and only year of taking a dairy calf, the calf died before she took it to the fair and Imelda swore off taking any livestock to the fair again.



Imelda with her siblings and their goats

As Imelda grew through the 4-H program, she partook in a variety of activities from fair, to the square dances, attending Jr. Leadership Club meetings out at Camp Berry to representing Hancock County at 4-H Club Congress. Both Imelda and her sister attended club congress in 1952 where they got to shake A.B. Graham's hand. She remembers Mr. Graham being a very nice man and his passion/love for 4-H.

During her time in 4-H, Imelda remembers her family being big fair people. Her brothers showed big dairy calves, they made floats for the parade every year and even remembers her husband showing jersey calves at the fair.



Imelda & Larry ready for fair

After aging out of 4-H, Imelda continued her life with her husband Larry who she married in 1954. Little did I know, Imelda's husband, Larry, was also a 4-H member back in the day of the Orange Champs 4-H Club.

Imelda and Larry had 4 kids, 2 boys and 2 girls who also partook in 4-H in 2 clubs, Lucky Star for the girls, which is still around today, and Liberty Eagle for the boys.

All of Imelda's kids had great experiences in 4-H and even participated in the State Fair



Imelda & Larry

multiple times. Though the hustle and bustle of the state fair created many memories, Imelda remembers enjoying the sights and sounds of the All-Ohio State Fair Band and All-Ohio State Fair Choir that performs daily throughout the fair. Imelda also remembers the many horse shows at the state fair that she would watch with her children. She remembers taking her children late at night to the Colosseum to see the big horse shows and the horses having huge fancy collars on for their time in the ring.



Imelda preparing for band

A little history on Lucky Star, it was started by Ruth. Soon after, Imelda's sister, Dee came in and helped Ruth lead Lucky Star. After Ruth's kids aged out, Dee asked Imelda to help her lead the club in 1956 and Imelda has been there since. Before even her kids were old enough to participate in 4-H, Imelda was back in the 4-H world leading youth as she still does today.

After her children aged out of 4-H she remained a 4-H advisor because she believes 4-H gives kids something to be a part of. She says "4-H is beneficial to be a part of and allows members to build a strong base to build upon throughout life and gives kids something to strive for". Imelda believes that 4-H helps develop life skills while also giving healthy competition. As an advisor of Lucky Star, Imelda loves being with the kids

and seeing how they grow and evolve from a little Cloverbud into young adults and even advisors themselves. Not only were her 4 children in 4-H but 12 of her 13 grandchildren were in 4-H and took a variety of projects while participating in different clubs including her own.

To this day, Imelda still shares stories of all the events her club has participated in. A big event she remembers is taking her club on camping trips with Ann Burner. Imelda and Ann would go down to Mohican with 21 girls, and 4 other parents. They went horseback riding, canoeing, sang camp songs, put on a talent show, and even had the girls cooking their own food. When the club became co-ed, they stopped going on club camping trips but encouraged members to attend the county 4-H camp.



Imelda and her children

Imelda is still an active advisor of Lucky Star today and enjoys the many events that the county and state puts on yearly. Through her 67 years as a 4-H advisor, Imelda has seen and experienced many parts of Hancock County 4-H. Some of her recognitions include winning an award in 1979 as an Outstanding 4-H Alumni for Hancock County and was recognized as the very first Hancock County 4-H Hall of Fame winner in 2013. Though you may have only known the name and/or face of Imelda Ream in the past, now you know just a bit more of one of the people who has been a big part of Hancock County 4-H.



Important digital media

Website: <https://hancock.osu.edu>

Please be patient while we are restructuring the website. If you can't find something, please don't hesitate to ask. We'll be happy to help.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OSUEHancock>

We've merged our 2 Facebook pages so you only need to look in 1 place for information.

4-H Enrollment: <https://v2.4honline.com>

Enrollment is open. Remember, if you've been in 4-H before and can't find your profile, please don't create a new one. Ask us for help instead.

OSU Extension, Hancock County

7868 County Road 140, Suite B

Findlay, Ohio 45840

Phone: 419-422-3851 Fax: 419-422-3866

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm

hancock.osu.edu