



WALNUT CREEK EXTENTION DISTRICT

4-H NEWSLETTER

● Growing Leaders ● Building Communities ● Making a Difference

785-798-5020

rdeines@ksu.edu

www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu

Clover Kid All Stars



Josie Nichepor is following her dreams. She performed her debut rodeo as a trick rider, in August. Congratulations Josie.

Clover Calendar

September

9 ALL KSF Entries due by Noon
10 KSF Judging
11-20 Kansas State Fair
14 Rush Community Leaders
15 Ness 4-H Record Book Workshop
23 Rush 4-H Record Book Workshop
30 4-H Record Books Due at noon

October

1 Happy 4-H New Year
4-11 National 4-H Week
10-11 48 Hours of 4-H Week
15 KYLF/KVF Registrations Due
17 Rush 4-H Achievement Ceremony
18 Ness 4-H Achievement Ceremony
31 Happy Halloween

Let's End Strong & Start Even Stronger!

September marks the close of another 4-H year. As the Kansas State Fair comes around and 4-H record books are completed, it's time to reflect on the year we've had — tell our 4-H story, celebrate our successes, and put the final touches on our 4-H records.

Then comes October, when we welcome a NEW 4-H year! October is a time for enrollment, promotion, recruitment, and setting goals for the next phase of our 4-H journey. During October, we celebrate **National 4-H Week and 48 Hours of 4-H**, making the entire month a wonderful opportunity to promote 4-H, invite new families to join us, and start fresh. A new 4-H year means new opportunities — new projects to explore, new events to attend, new friendships to make, and new skills to learn. It's a chance to Learn, Do, and Grow!

As we wrap up the year, all 4-H members are encouraged to complete their Personal Page, Permanent Record, 4-H Story, and photos that capture their year in 4-H.

Want to be considered for one of the 4-H Project Awards presented at our 4-H Achievement Celebrations? Be sure to complete your Project Records, Pin Applications, Scholarship Applications, and other award applications that are available.

All forms and applications can be found at www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu.

Parents, the new 4-H year is also a great time to consider stepping into a NEW leadership role!

Our 4-H program needs volunteers to serve as 4-H Club Leaders, Project Leaders, committee members, and event/activity helpers. Each of you brings a unique set of skills, experiences, and talents that can make a difference in the lives of our 4-H members.

You don't have to know everything — you just have to be willing to share what you know, learn alongside our youth, and help them grow.

I am excited about both — the opportunity to celebrate all we accomplished this year and the possibilities waiting for us in the new 4-H year. There are stories yet to be told, goals yet to be reached, leaders waiting to grow, and memories waiting to be made. Here's to another year of learning, doing, growing, leading, and making a difference through 4-H!



Lane County 4-H Clover Connection

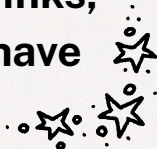
620-397-2806

144 S Lane, Courthouse, P.O. Box 487, Dighton KS 67839



**Lane Co 4-H Achievement
Banquet will be
Sunday, November 1st at 5:30pm
at the fairgrounds.**

**Eager Beavers are in charge of
theme and decoration and Shields
Jayhawks are in charge of Drinks,
Bread and making sure we have
paper goods.**



Families are needed to help
move the CLOVERS
during National 4-H Week
Clover the Yards Fundraiser.
Please Text Robyn if you can help
one evening during 4-H Week.



**Kansas State Fair Entries
need to be in the office NO LATER
than noon on Wednesday,
September 9th.**

**Remember release forms all
need to be signed and paperwork
attached.**

**4-H Sunday will be celebrated
October 4th at the
First Christian Church
at 10:15am
More details coming Soon!**



Lane County 4-H Council Christmas Tree Fundraiser

We are getting our trees from
Delp Christmas Tree Farm in St. John, KS

4-5 ft tall trees - \$65.00
5-6 ft tall trees - \$75.00
6-7 ft tall trees - \$85.00
7-8 ft tall trees - \$95.00

Payments and Reservations can be
made at the Lane Co. Extension Office.
For more information, contact
Tia McClure 620-295-0849 or
Robyn Trussel 785-798-5020



We will once again be selling
Christmas Trees for the Lane Co
4-H Program this year, start
spreading the news and telling
people they can call into the
office and place their orders.



Ness County 4-H Clover Connection

785-798-3921

503 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Ness City KS 67560

Ness County 4-H Achievement Ceremony will be held Sunday, October 18th at 2:00pm at the Ness County Fairgrounds



Clever Clovers will meet Tuesday, Sept 8th at 6:00pm at the 4-H Building we will help you work on Record Books. Busy Beavers 4-H Club will meet Sunday, September 13th at 5:00pm at the 4-H Building

4-H Council will meet following Achievement Banquet.

For 48 Hours of 4-H, October 11th we will be helping our Senior Centers with Projects. Watch for more information.



4-H Group Financial Audits

Each 4-H account has to have an annual financial audit completed, we are asking that these be turned in on September 30th along with your end of the year information. Please make sure you complete this form

https://www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu/4-h/documents/KSU_4-3%20Annual%20Financial%20Report.pdf

attach a copy of your October 2025 and your August/September 2026 bank statement, have 3-5 individuals in your group look over the form and sign off on it. Then turn into Robyn so that the Walnut Creek Extension Board can approve them.



Tuesday, September 15th
Robyn will host a 4-H Record Book Workshop from 5-7 at the 4-H Building. Come get help if you need it.



Items needed for 4-H

Displays, if you have a 4-H poster, photos or other projects we would like to borrow some items for a window display during National 4-H Week.



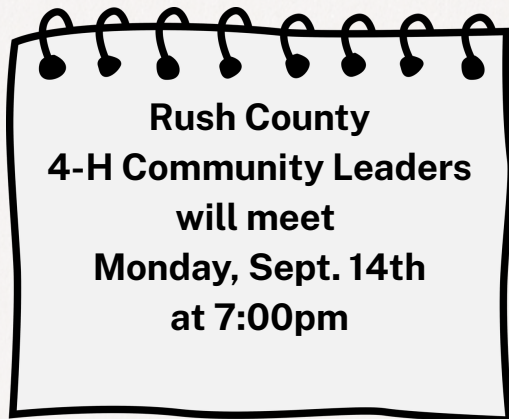
Rush County 4-H Clover Connection

785-222-2710

702 Main St, PO Box 70, LaCrosse KS 67548



**Rush County 4-H Achievement
Celebration will be held
Saturday, October 17th at 6:30pm
at the City Auditorium in LaCrosse**



Club Meetings

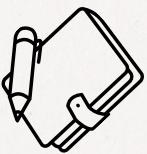
Lone Star Rangers
Sunday, Sept 13 at 3pm
at the Bison Community Building

Otis Go Getters
Monday, Sept 21 at 6pm
Trinity Lutheran Church Otis

Rush Co Roadrunners
Monday, Sept. 7 at 6pm
LaCrosse City Auditorium

Walnut City 4-H Club
Sun. Sept. 20th at 6pm
Rush Center

**Need help with your record books?
Come work with Robyn on
Wednesday, Sept. 23 from 5-7pm
at the Extension Office.**



Looking for junior leaders that do not play sports,
that would like to help with some after school
activities. Call Robyn and let her know you are
available.



**We will soon be advertising
for a part time program assistant
if you know anyone that might
be interested. Please share
their name with Robyn.**



**2027 Rush Co Fair
August 4-7**



4-H In Action

Kansas State Fair Kick-off

Kansas State Fair kicks off this week with 4-H Judging on Thursday, September 10th and opening day will be Friday, September 11th.

Good luck to all 4-H exhibitors at the Kansas State Fair! You have worked hard all year, and we are so proud of you. If you have entries going to the KSF you receive 2 gate tickets, these are available at the office for you to pick up. If you do not plan to attend please let me know as we have a few families looking for extra tickets.

Results will be posted on the Kansas 4-H website once available after the judging days have finished. After the fair is over, static exhibits will be transported back to your local office. We will email you once items and ribbons are ready for pick up after fair.

NEW Year Enrollment

The NEW 4-H year starts October 1st. It is time to be having those conversations with your kiddos on what projects they will want to participate in for the 2026-2027 4-H year. I encourage you to wait until National 4-H Week, October 4-10th to enroll, this gives them a few days to work out the kinks of the new year.

Reminder that each of our 4-H Councils' will pay for your child's enrollment fee, ASAP I will share each County enrollment code with you. When you sign-up on 4-H Online you will enter the CODE as your payment. DO NOT PAY for your own children. DO NOT put in a Credit card! We will take care of ALL Walnut Creek District 4-H Enrollments.

Volunteer Enrollment

ALL volunteers that work with our kiddos, such as Club Leaders, Project Leaders, parents that drive for 4-H events, ALL need to complete 4-H Online enrollment this next year.

Kansas 4-H is challenging us to have ALL of our volunteers registered, this shows Kansas Legislation the true picture of what kind of impact we are making on Kansas Youth.

PLEASE when you are signing up your children, please enroll yourself and your spouse so that we can count you in our numbers.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum

Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2027 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.

Objectives:

- Broaden your understanding of the meaning of leadership and the qualities of a leader. Practice leadership skills you can use in other situations, like your local club, school and community and Improve interpersonal communication skills.

When: November 21-22, 2026

Where: Rock Springs 4-H Center

Who: Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2027

Deadline: October 15th



4-H End of the Year

4-H Records

Keeping accurate records is a way of life. By filling out 4-H record books, you are learning a practical skill that you will use in the future. Record books allow us to look back, to evaluate our accomplishments and to set goals for self improvement. Record books are generally judged on 50% project work, 25% leadership within a project and 25 % citizenship within a project.

What is included in the 4-H Record Book

- Personal Page
- 4-H Story
- Permanent Record
- 4-H Pictures
- General or Animal Record

All things Record books and Awards can be found <https://www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu/4-h/record-books.html>

Personal Page - This is what I like to call the cover letter of your 4-H Record Book, it includes your personal information and the projects you were enrolled in, in ABC order. Along with a photo of the 4-H Member. Make sure EVERYONE signs it.

General or Animal Record - depending on your family's preference you can do 1 or 2 or one for each project you were enrolled in. Growing up we did every project, as an aunt, helping my nieces we select one livestock and one general project to complete each year.

4-H Story - You only need to write a story if you choose the option of Completion of Year (Personal Page, 4-H Story, Permanent Record and Pictures). IF you choose to complete a General/Animal Record your 4-H Story is section 8 of the form.

The 4-H Story tells about your 4-H experiences, in your own words. The story should include an introduction, tell about what you learned, what you did, what were your successes and challenges, did you meet your goals, and thank those who helped you along the way etc.

4-H Pictures - Pictures tell a 1000 words to a judge that doesn't know anything about you. Pictures should try to be action photos, and should include a good caption that explains what the photo is. The older you get photos should include learning project pictures, leadership pictures and citizenship pictures.

Permanent Record - This form starts with you your first year of 4-H and continues to grow with you each year. This form is an overview of your 4-H Career. It shows the judge that you are a well rounded citizen and that you are active in 4-H, school, church and community.

Record Books are DUE by NOON on Wednesday September 30th.



4-H End of the Year

4-H Awards

4-H Awards are optional but this is what we celebrate at the 4-H Achievement Ceremonies/Banquets.

Achievement Pins - Each year you are in 4-H you can apply for an Achievement Pin these start with Membership and increase to Gold Guard. With each application a 4-H member needs to accomplish a few more experiences that helps 4-H members grow in the project work, their leadership and their acts of citizenship.

Membership
Bronze
Clover
Emerald
Silver
Silver Guard
Leadership
Gold
Gold Guard
Kansas Key Award

All 4-H Members in Good Standing are eligible for the **Outstanding 4-Her award**, regardless of age. A 4-H Record Book is required from the applicant. Cloverbuds are not eligible.

Lane County will select Top 3 Juniors, Top 3 Intermediates, Top 3 Seniors and Outstanding Boy and Girl from this form.

Ness County will select Junior Boy and Girl and Senior Boy and Girl from this form.

Rush County will select Top 5 Juniors and Top 5 Seniors from this form.

Club Officer Notebooks

At the end of the 4-H year, three officers need to turn in notebooks as part of your Club Seal Application. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Reporter are all responsible for turning in a notebook that shares the history of your 4-H Club. Notebooks should be NEAT and COMPLETE, to tell your club 4-H Story. These books will be judged and an Award given to the BEST book in each county in Walnut Creek Extension District.

You can find the information to include in the officer notebooks at <https://www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu/4-h/documents/Officer%20Notebooks%20Check%20Sheet.pdf>

Club Summary

Each Club should complete a Club Summary that shares how active your 4-H Club has been this year. The Club summary form can be found at <https://www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu/docs/summary.pdf>

Annual Financial Report: Each 4-H Club should complete an annual report, this form should be completed by the Treasurer and the Club Leader and then a committee within the club should review and sign-off for accuracy. Please attach your Oct 2025 bank statement and your August or September 2026 statement. Turn this in on September 30th.



4-H Week is our week to shine, to promote, recruit, say thank you and be PROUD to be a 4-Her. Each challenge has points and the 4-Hers with the most points at the end of the week WIN Fun Prizes!!! Submit your entries by texting pictures to Robyn at 785-798-5020. Winners Announced at each County Achievement Ceremony.

- ★ Monday - Kansas 4-H Go Green Day, wear green - 2 points
- ★ Show your Green, be proud hang Christmas lights on your front porch or change your porch light to a green light bulb for the week, place a 4-H Clover on your front door - 10 points
- ★ Enroll in the 2026-27 4-H year - 5 points
- ★ Every day you wear a 4-H Tee is worth - 2 points
- ★ Create a 4-H Promotional Flyer and post it in your community - 5 points
- ★ Send me your FAVORITE 4-H Picture of you - 1 point
- ★ Send me a 30 second video that shares a 4-H project, something you have learned in 4-H, how 4-H has impacted you or a promo "Why YOU should join 4-H - 10 points

Be watching your email/text messages as we are starting to schedule the school assemblies with each grade school and will ask members to help us share your favorite part about 4-H, bring a small 4-H project to share and help hand out our 4-H promotional items for National 4-H week.

Flat Chris/Christie Clover 4-Her Fun October Activity

This activity is based off of the book "Flat Stanley" by Jeff Brown and several adventures that Stanley takes. If you don't know the story take time to check one of these books out at your local or school library, or find one to read online.

1. Create your Flat Clover 4-Her or a fun Bitmoji to go on a 🍀 4H adventure with you and your family during the month of October.
2. 🍀 4-H is all about meeting new people in your local club, across your county, in your state and on a national or international level! Who will you and Flat Clover 4-Her meet? (Remember to be SAFE!)
3. 4-H is also about hands on experiences and learning, what will you and Flat Clover 4-Her learn and do?
4. Take a photo of you and your 🍀 Flat Clover 4Her together doing "4-H Things" and send your pictures to Robyn at 785-798-5020 or rdeines@ksu.edu
5. These Flat Clover Adventures will help us promote 4-H this month. I hope to use them to tell our 4-H story, share with others and hopefully get some new members to join in on our 4-H FUN!
6. If you have any questions, you can contact me for further information.

Some fun ideas you might try:

- Share your pets and 4H Livestock as you do your chores
- Do a 4H project and include your "Flat Clover 4-Her"
- Video you reading your favorite book to "Flat Clover 4-Her"
- Share 3-5 places in your community (school, church, favorite place to hang out, a bike trail, etc.)

Robyn Trussel, 4H Youth Development Agent, rdeines@ksu.edu 785-798-5020

Shooting Sports Volunteer Training

October 24-25 Full Trainings and Registration link at the bottom of this article.

To attend this training you MUST:

1. Be enrolled in 4Honline as a volunteer for the specific 4-H project you are training in.
2. Have a current complete background check within the past 3 years.
3. Be approved by your local Extension Board
4. Complete the National 4-H online modules. These modules are a ONE TIME ONLY training (until it is updated by National 4-H Shooting Sports). If you have done this previously for another discipline, please contact me and I will verify your previous training. If you need to do the training, this will cost \$20 on a credit card and the link will be sent to you after registration.
5. Be prepared to practice firearm safety and integrate positive youth development concepts that will help youth thrive.

This training is strictly for 4-H volunteers and staff 14 years of age or older. The delegates who complete this training will be certified as Level 1 County Instructors for their local units.

Deadline for entry will be Monday September 28th. No late registrations will be accepted because of printing time. Before you take part in this unique learning experience, there are some things of which you should be aware. This program is geared toward developing your youth development coaching and teaching skills in the area of shooting sports. Our goal is to prepare you to return to your home county and serve as an instructor who will encourage youth to develop life skills, which will prepare them for life, using the tools of the discipline you will be certified in.

Fee for training: \$200 Full Training, there is scholarship help provided.

Arrival/Departure

Please check-in (place to be announced later) at 7:00-7:45 am; Full Training and/or 2-3 Updates start time = 8:00 am Saturday - 4 pm Sunday, Participants are required to be at the entire training, including all Discipline and General Sessions to receive certification.

Lodging

Please find your own lodging. There is a block of rooms reserved at the Sleep Inn for a discounted price of \$139 from \$159 (mention 4-H Shooting Sports) It is set up for October 23-25. Please specify the dates you need a room. Guests may reserve their rooms online using the link below or by calling the hotel directly at 620-223-2555.

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/CV34G6>

Meals

Meals will be provided Saturday Lunch and Supper, Sunday - Lunch.

Dress

Be sure to wear shoes that do not have any openings. Eye and ear protection are required, please bring your own, if possible and clearly label them with your name or initials. Questions If you have questions, please contact Chandra Plate cplate@ksu.edu or 620-388-7157



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Extension
Walnut Creek District

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