How would you make the best better in Wyandotte County?

Written by Jessie Carr, 4-H Youth Development Agent

Everyone in the 4-H world, whether a member, a volunteer, a staff member or supporter, has a responsibility to make the best better through a variety of avenues. Growing Wyandotte County 4-H requires a great amount of collaboration. Our members, volunteers, partners, community members and more are all a vital part of the growth of our program. We have seen a tremendous amount of growth in our 4-H program over the last year and as we continue to grow, we want to hear from YOU.

Send 4-H Staff an email and let us know: How would YOU make the best better in Wyandotte County?
**IMPORTANT DATES**

**September**
- 4-H Clubs are to elect new Club Officers, who take office in October.
- **Sept 6** – Labor Day – KSRE Office Closed

**October**
- 1 – Happy New 4-H Program Year! 4-H member and volunteer enrollment for the 2021-2022 year begins in 4HOnline
- 1 – Annual Forms Due (submit forms digitally to carrjessie@ksu.edu or submit paper copies to Jessie Carr at KSRE WyCo office)
  - 4-H Club Organizational Forms from each WyCo 4-H Club
  - 4-H Member Record Keeping and Project Report Forms
  - 4-H Member Individual Achievement Plan Pin Application
- 3-9 – National 4-H Week
- 9-10 – 48 Hours of 4-H

**November**
- 1 – Annual Forms Due (submit forms digitally to carrjessie@ksu.edu or submit paper copies to Jessie Carr at KSRE WyCo office)
  - Annual Financial Review Form (must be completed by each 4-H Club, Projects and Advisory Groups w/bank accounts) (must include banks statements and w/supporting documents)
  - Treasurer’s Record Book to be submitted w/Financial Review Form
  - 4-H Clubs By-laws Review with addition of Dissolution Clause must be included
  - 4-H Clubs Secretary Records
- 30 – returning Wyandotte County 4-H’ers must be re-enrolled in 4HOnline. Wyandotte County 4-H Enrollment policy.

---

**Wishing you all the best!**

**FAREWELL, DEBRA!**

After 6 years of supporting Wyandotte County 4-H’ers as the 4-H Program Assistant, Debra Sweeten is saying her goodbyes and beginning the next chapter in her life! Debra’s last day is Friday, September 3rd.

Debra has made a great impact on Wyandotte County 4-H members, volunteers, supporters and more throughout her time as the program assistant. She has provided both technical and adaptive support to WyCo 4-H through program delivery, outreach, member, and youth support, serving as interim 4-H agent and more. She has helped keep WyCo 4-H up and running smoothly and has spent a lot of time working "behind the scenes" to do just that.

We asked Debra what her favorite parts of being the Wyandotte County 4-H Program Assistant were and she said:

“Teaching, at schools and other community organizations, animal science programs about dog bite prevention and safety around animals, including zoonotic diseases.

Helping and watching the youth interactively learn leadership, decision making and communication skills because I know these skills will be used throughout their lives.

Interacting with the youth and their adults, seeing the excitement, coupled with nervousness, as they perform at Club Days and showcase exhibits at 4-H Fair.”
WYANDOTTE COUNTY 4-H STAFF CHANGES

Program Assistant, Debra Sweeten’s time with Wyandotte County 4-H is quickly coming to an end and we will miss her! Until the program assistant position is filled, the 4-H Department will be staffed by only 4-H Agent Jessie Carr. Please direct all emails, calls, questions and more to Jessie. Response times may be longer than normal, but I (Jessie) will work as quickly as possible to support you! Thank you for your patience!

WYANDOTTE COUNTY 4-H MEMBER NAMED AN INVISALIGN CHANGEMAKER AND AWARDED $5,000!

Tabitha Burt and Elise Collins have continued to inspire and educate residents of Wyandotte County and beyond through their Fight the Food Desert! Raise Chickens in Urban K.C. project. Tabitha recently used their project to enter the Invisalign Changemaker contest and was one of 100 youth selected as a recipient of $5,000. Invisalign Changemakers is a partnership with National 4-H Council that helps to celebrate and highlight teens who are making great impacts in their community. Congrats to Tabitha and Elise! Check out Tabitha’s Changemaker profile here!

WYCO 4-H’ER SELECTED AS HORTICULTURE WINNER

Submitted by Janet Winkler, Youth Chairman, Wyandotte County Master Gardener Association

The WCMGA 2021 4-H Trophy recipient is Leanna Larson, for her Grand Champion Vegetable presentation. Larson also received Grand Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons for her Zinnias, as well as blue ribbons. Larson is 13 years old, and a member of the Piper 4-H Club.

After being cancelled last year, it was nice to return to having a live Wyandotte County Fair and 4-H Showcase experience. The Horticulture Vegetables and Fruits division had seven 4-H exhibits and 16 Open Class exhibits. The Horticulture Floral divisions had 22 4-H entries and 46 Open class ones. KSRE Master Gardeners Janet Winkler and Lynn Wild, along with Debra Sweeten, 4-H Program Assistant, assisted Lynn Loughery, KSRE WyCo Agent, Horticulture, in advising on the presentations and helping record and affix the ribbons. As usual it was an enjoyable experience.
Growing Wyandotte County 4-H is always the top priority as yearly planning takes place. With this in mind, the decision to not have an active Wyandotte County 4-H Council during the 2021-2022 program year has been made. Instead, this will be a strategic planning year to help rebuild, create a new foundation, and promote 4-H council. This decision was made with guidance from KS 4-H staff and is based on low participation in 4-H council from our county 4-H members. The goal, for this strategic planning year for 4-H Council, is to work toward creating a space for 4-H’ers to engage, practice leadership, and take ownership of Wyandotte County 4-H. While we may not have all the answers, we are happy to hear your questions and gather initial feedback at this time. 4-H families will be updated throughout the off year. Opportunities to collaborate on this important strategic planning for WyCo 4-H Council will be shared soon!

**LOCAL RECORD KEEPING AND PROJECT REPORT FORMS**

Record keeping and Project Reporting are valuable skills taught to members of the Kansas 4-H program. Members are encouraged to keep a permanent record of all 4-H and Non-4-H Experience and are encouraged to summarize their experiences on the Kansas 4-H Project Report Form for project recognition.

Achievement Pins and Scholarships Achievement Awards
Achievement awards take optimum advantage of the 4-H experiences, recognize the accomplishments earned by 4-Hers and are awarded yearly at the end of the 4-H year. Applications due by October 1, to be turned in with youth Record Keeping and Project Report Forms to 4-H staff at KSRE WyCo Office.

**4-H END OF THE YEAR REMINDERS!**

- **Annual forms are a state and local requirement in order for clubs to stay in good and active standing.**
- Annual Forms can be found on the Wyandotte County 4-H Page under 4-H Club Resources and Forms. Annual forms can be submitted digitally to carrjessie@ksu.edu or paper copies can be delivered to Jessie at the KSRE WyCo office.

Due October 1

- **4-H Club Organizational Form** - Newly elected officer’s names, and the rest of the form must be filled out and submitted.

Due November 1

- **4-H Club and Project Financial Review Forms** - 4-H Clubs, Projects or groups who have a bank account or eIN number, need to annually complete a Financial Review. Notice, the treasurer and check signers cannot be the reviewers. This specific review form must be used, as it is the only financial review form approved by Kansas State University. (PDF)
- **4-H Club Treasurer’s Record Book** - 4-H Club Treasurer must use the 4-H Treasurer’s Record Book throughout the year and submit it annually. (PDF)
- **4-H Club Secretary’s Meeting Minutes** - 4-H Club Secretary is to use the 4-H Secretary’s Record Book throughout the year and submit it annually. (PDF)
- **4-H Club By-Law Reviews** - Newly elected Club President, along with Club Leader and others in the club must review the club’s bylaws annually. Copies of the reviewed or revised By-laws, signed and dated by the reviewers and by the newly elected Club President and Club Leader are to be submitted.
  - Effective immediately, all 4-H Clubs are to add the following to their Club bylaws: “Upon dissolution of the (insert club name) 4-H club, the members agree that all tangible real property, including money and equipment, shall become the property of any recognized 4-H or Extension organization and/or a percentage to all. The last official duty of the club’s organizational leader shall be to transfer club assets and club records to the extension office.”
UPCOMING DEADLINES (STATE 4-H)

October
- 1 - Youth Leadership Council/National Conference applications
- 15 - KYLF early bird registration

November
- 1 - KYLF regular rate registration
- 1 - Outbound Exchange applications

KANSAS YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

Submitted by Beth Hinshaw, July 15 Ks 4-H Tip sheet
https://www.kansas4-h.org/tipsheet/announcement/?id=75898

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF) will be held November 20-21, 2021 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. KYLF is for youth ages 14-18 before January 1, 2022. KYLF will feature leadership workshops, Youth Council Elections, and opportunities to learn and have fun. There will also be an option for coming Friday evening and having breakfast Saturday morning for those coming from a distance. Registration will open in late August/early September. Registration deadline is October 15, 2021 at an early bird rate or before November 1 at the regular rate. Once registration is open, a note will be sent to the KSRE system.

SAVE THE DATE NOW FOR 48 HOURS OF 4-H!

The weekend after National 4-H Week, is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project and join the 48 Hours of 4-H Service Challenge, October 9-10, 2021. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers and 4-H Alums too!
https://www.kansas4-h.org/tipsheet/announcement/?id=75897