



The Voice of 4-H

The Vernon County 4-H Family Newsletter



4-H CLOVERBUD MEMBERS POSE WITH THE FAIRESTS DURING THEIR FIRST-EVER SUNFLOWER GROWING CONTEST AT THE COUNTY FAIR

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Life Lessons Learned

Emery Bork - 4-H Educator

Who knew that growing sunflowers in the summer of 2023 was going to be such a challenge? I certainly didn't foresee a drought in our midst as I designed the announcements, eagerly emailed Cloverbud families, and tracked down some giant sunflower seeds at Walmart to send to participants in May.

However, the drought was only one of the factors that these young people faced while trying to grow either the tallest sunflower or the sunflower with the largest seed head. These K-2nd graders had to deal with pests, loose cattle, deer, and my error: the post office machines broke the seeds, so many were not viable!

After some email communications, a few more trips to Walmart, almost all of them were on stage at the Vernon County Fair in September to receive an acknowledgment of the hard work and the lesson of resiliency learned. Most of them even had a sunflower in tow!

We are excited to run the program again next year, with a few tweaks. I am very proud of these youth, and while not perfect this year, they learned to try their best, experienced bouncing back after a loss or difficulty, and cheered each other on--all skills 4-H is here to help our young people encounter and learn.



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Photo Happenings



CLOVERBUDS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH JUDGES DURING THE FAIR ABOUT THEIR PROJECT ENTRIES.



A RIVERSIDE BADGER SHOWS OFF HIS SUNFLOWER PROJECT AT A CLUB MEETING



THANKFUL FOR THE FAMILIES THAT SIGNED UP TO VOLUNTEER EITHER AT THE FOOD STAND OR SHARING 4-H WITH PASSERBY AT THE FAIR



DAVIS DIGGERS MEMBERS LEARN ABOUT DIFFERENT TYPES OF FUR AT A CLUB MEETING



4-H EDUCATOR, EMERY, BAKED, DECORATED AND DONATED 3 LARGE SHEET CAKES FOR THE MEAT SALE BUYERS DINNER TO EXTEND HER APPRECIATION TOWARDS THE COMMITTEE AND ALL THEY DO FOR VERNON COUNTY 4-H MEAT ANIMAL PROJECT MEMBERS

Updates: What you need to know

Time to Re-Enroll: November 15th

The re-enrollment deadline is coming up quickly. If you are having trouble, reach out to our office as soon as possible. When you do not re-enroll in 4-H, you don't get mass emails, or newsletters, and are NOT covered under our insurance. This is the last newsletter that will be sent out to the old mailing list from 2022-23. If you don't re-enroll by June 1, 2023, you will be ineligible to exhibit at the fair, even if your family meets attendance requirements.

1. If you had an account in 2022- 2023, go to <http://wi.4honline.com>.
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. Click Sign-In If you have forgotten your password, click "Reset Password?" to receive an email with a link to set a new password.
4. You will be at the Family Member List Screen.
5. To re-enroll a youth member, click on Enroll Now and skip to Youth Member Enrollment.
6. To re-enroll an adult member, click on Enroll Now and skip to Adult Enrollment.
7. To add a new youth or adult member, click on the Add Member button and skip to Adding a New Member to the Family.

Scan here to re-
register:



Trip Award Information :

Vernon County 4-H wants to send our youth on trips! Each eligible youth was emailed information on all of the opportunities offered for their age group, as well as an application for financial support from our Leader/Parent Federation. The funding application is due November 15th!

Nominate Yourself For Parent/Leader Federation:

Each year during the awards banquet, we elect new officers for our Federation. What is Federation, you may ask? It's a governing body of 4-H club leaders, adult leaders, and youth that make decisions for county-wide programming, and handle our county's 4-H budget. We meet one time per month, every 3rd Sunday at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in running for these positions, or would like to know more, please reach out to our office.

Attendance Policy If your family is interested in exhibiting their projects at the Vernon County Fair, which is hosted by the Vernon County Agricultural Society, your youth must attend 50% of your club's meetings. Your youth can make up two missed meetings in order to reach their quota by participating in other 4-H programming. Ask your club leader or the Extension Office for a copy of the attendance policy in its entirety.

Arts Fest: The first weekend in March is the host for our annual Arts Fest, which focuses on exhibiting/performing in the following projects:
Art

Photography

Singing/Vocal

Band Instrument Performance

Other Instrument Performance

Piano

Demonstration Speaking

Forensics: Poetry, Storytelling, Group Theatre, Speech Memorization, Prose and more.

****Please note that due to feedback, we will move Clothing Revue back to a summertime date in order to allow for more time to sew projects.**

Start planning your entries now! Registration forms will open starting in the middle of December.

County, State & Nationwide Happenings



**ORNAMENT STITCH
AND STACK DAY**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND - 10:00-11:30 AM
VIOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

CROSS-STITCH FUN CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

BUILD LEGO® ORNAMENTS, FREE BUILD AND EXCHANGE YOUR LEGO® KITS!!

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED HERE:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/STVEOK7DHCDRUIX89](https://forms.gle/STVEOK7DHCDRUIX89)



4-H SPACE CAMP

APR 18-22, 2024
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA
U.S. SPACE & ROCKET CENTER

EXPERIENCE:
LIFE AS AN ASTRONAUT,
WORKING AT NASA,
EXPLORE PLACES BEYOND EARTH!

OPEN TO YOUTH IN GRADES 6-8

Registration
opens **Nov 15th**
in **4HONLINE**



Cooking with Meat Project Box

Information you should know:

- Grades 3 & Up can participate
- All youth in all counties are eligible to participate
- Kits will be sent to county offices for distribution first week of January -- please keep this in mind before ordering a box

What's Included:

- meat probe
- cutting board
- bamboo skewers
- internal temp magnet
- cooking with meat book

Register open until
December 15th:



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To order your free Cooking with Meat Project Box:



2023 Annual Awards Banquet: Please mark your calendar for our annual awards banquet. This year it will be held at the Retreat Sportsman's Club on Sunday, 21st. This year's theme matches our youth challenge theme: international! Did you know that 4-H is in over 80 countries. We will have a taco bar, Cloverbud Graduation, and more! Please pencil in the date, a registration email will be sent out soon--specifically for families with graduating Cloverbuds for t-shirt sizes.

To register to attend the banquet:
<https://forms.gle/mG5vNFhMAD1bB4kZ6>



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Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so 10 days before the program activity so that proper arrangements can be made.



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