

Clover Connection

Chisholm Trail District - Dickinson County
4-H Youth Development News & Updates
March, April, May, and June
Spring 2024

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Lots of Information Here

Please note that this is a multi-month newsletter covering what's left of March, April, May, and June. Keep it handy for reference the next several months. It will only be sent via 4HOnline and posted on our website. Please let us know if you would like us to print you a hard copy. The CKFF edition and July/August newsletter will arrive mid-June. As always, contact our office with questions (785-263-2001), watch for emails from 4HOnline, and our social media. We are glad to help!

76th Annual 4-H Basketball Tournament

The 4-H basketball committee of the Dickinson County 4-H Council hopes your clubs are looking forward to the upcoming tournament on **Saturday, March 9th** at the Chapman District Gym, 622 N Marshall, Chapman. Brackets and rules are posted at on the Chisholm Trail District 4-H events page at: https://www.chisholmtrail.k-state.edu/4_h/events/Events.html

CKFF Clean-up

CKFF Clean-up is scheduled for **Sunday, March 10 starting at 2 PM** at the fairgrounds. We have LOTS of leaves to remove from the fairgrounds, so bring your rakes, shovels, work gloves, and old bed sheets!

Special thanks to those providing large equipment like trucks, skid steers, and loaders, it makes the work that much quicker. In order to increase efficiency, club clean-up assignments have been made and are listed below. Every DK 4-H member who plans to participate in the fair is expected to help with clean-up. This is a team effort!

- **Concession Stand Square and Sterl Hall** – Fragrant Hilltoppers, Jolly Jays, Mt. Ayr Go-Getters
- **Large Livestock Arena, barn 2 (new barn), center walkway** – Navarre Boosters and Willowdale
- **Small Livestock Arena, hog barn, dairy goat barn, west alleyway** – Chapman Shamrocks, Detroit Ramblers, Sand Springs Rustlers, Solomon Wranglers
- **East side of Pine Street including horse barns, arena, rabbit/poultry barn** – Holland Sunflowers and Newbern Wideawakes

Chisholm Trail District 4-H Day

Great work by all who participated in our second annual district-wide 4-H Day. 81 club members participated with 106 presentations given throughout the day. There were 55 participants in life skills judging. Best of luck to those representing us at Regional 4-H Day in Clay Center on March 23rd!

May 1 and June 1 Deadlines Fast Approaching

- Nomination deadline for steers and market heifers exhibiting at the Kansas State Fair or the Kansas Junior Livestock Show. **The nomination process is completely online, do your homework now! **
- 4-H Project Drop/Adds - must be done on [4HOnline](#). No project changes may be done after **May 1st**!
- Bucket calf IDs. Form may be found on our [4-H forms page](#).
- Horse ID papers must be in the Extension Office by **June 1st**. This is a state rule and there will be no exceptions! [Form available here](#). Beat the rush, get them in early!

Drop/Add – May 1

Please login to 4HOnline (<https://v2.4honline.com/>) and make sure your listed projects are correct before **May 1**. Keep in mind that market livestock projects with tagging dates prior to **May 1** (such as market beef and swine) cannot be added after the tagging date because of fair rules specifying a minimum number of days of care/feeding required.

DK 4-H Foundation Phone-a-thon and Donate Day

A huge thank you to those who signed up to help with the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation's Phone-a-thon! The funds raised will help with camp and other event scholarships for the entire year. **If you miss getting a call and your family would like to donate, please contact our office.**

Donate Dickinson County Day is being hosted by the Community Foundation on **Friday, March 15**. Donations made online or at the Community Foundation that day will be doubled for the DK 4-H Foundation up to \$5,000! [Donate here!](#)

Dickinson County 4-H Foundation Event Scholarships

Due to the generosity of supporters during events like the Phone-a-thon and Donate Day, the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation is able to provide scholarships to help all of our members attend not just 4-H camp, but other area, regional, state, and national 4-H events that interest them. The Foundation will cover up to 50% of the cost of 4-H events for enrolled members and adult volunteers that have completed the screening process. If the event cost is less than \$100, the event scholarship will cover up to \$50 of the cost. Event scholarships must be repaid entirely if unable to attend or if behavior warrants removal. Take advantage of this opportunity and be sure to return detail-packed thank you cards we can share!

4-H Camp at Rock Springs

Registration is now open for all sessions of 4-H camp at Rock Springs Ranch! The Dickinson County 4-H Foundation is committed to making camp financially accessible for all of our 4-Hers. Thanks to financial gifts from Friends of the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation as well as a gift from The Allen and Evelyn Knopp Family (who are also DK 4-H Alumni), the first 43 4-Hers attending overnight, specialty, or mini-camp at Rock Springs Ranch the summer of 2024 will receive \$300 toward their camp registration fee! Apply now at <https://bit.ly/4-hcampscholarshipapp>.

The Knopp family believes in the Rock Springs Ranch camp experience so much that they are also providing a \$200 scholarship for a limited number of non-4-Hers to attend camp. If you have non-4-H friends that would enjoy camp as much as you do, they can apply for a scholarship at: <https://bit.ly/non4-hercampscholarshipapp>.

Learn more about camp at Rock Springs Ranch at <https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/>.

Fully paid scholarships to attend Leaders in Training (LIT) sessions are available for those going into 10th or 11th grade and Counselor in Training (CIT) sessions for will-be high school seniors. Check out more information today at <https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/sessions-rates/>. More information is also available on our [district 4-H events page](#).

Regional Project Award Screening

Great work by all who submitted project records to regional screening. We were well represented by Kaylee Livingston in beef, Renatta Heintz in clothing and entomology, Allison Rose in fiber arts, and Tucker Stroda and Joss DePew in leadership. Best of luck to those who were selected as state project semi-finalists: Renatta Heintz – Entomology; Allison Rose – Fiber Arts; and Alex Young – Dairy (MN).

Spring into Volunteering

The Association of Kansas 4-H Volunteers is hosting "Spring into Volunteering" in Salina on the K-State Campus on **Saturday, April 20**. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the day will conclude at 3 p.m. This is for anyone serving as a 4-H Volunteer or considering it! The goal is for volunteers to go home recharged, excited and ready to try some new things in their volunteer roles.

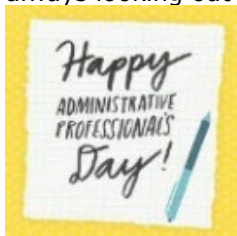
Sessions for the day include: Understanding the 4-H Thrive Model, Record Books, Facilitating Sparks in SPIN Clubs, Hands-on Learning Techniques, and more!

Registration for the day is \$20 and includes materials, snacks, and lunch. This fee will be covered by the DK 4-H Foundation for volunteers who have completed all steps in the volunteer screening process. **Online registration is due April 5, 2024.**



Thank You Megan, Barbie, Cheryl, and Dorothy!

Wednesday, April 24 (office professional's day) is the date designated this year to let Megan, Barbie, Cheryl, and Dorothy know how much we appreciate the work they do for the Chisholm Trail District. Megan and Barbie work hard to learn everything they can about Dickinson County 4-H, Cheryl handles all of our 4-H financials from the Marion County office, and Dorothy is learning more about Chisholm Trail District 4-H every day. They are always looking out for you, let them know you notice!



Congratulations Graduates!

Best wishes to those finishing high school. Thanks for your commitment to 4-H and to making the best better!

College Scholarship Opportunities

All Dickinson County 4-H Foundation scholarships have an **April 1st** deadline. There are 10 memorial scholarships available in addition to five \$1000.00 scholarships awarded by the Foundation. Other related scholarships:

- Sand Springs 4-H Scholarship (current or family membership in the club)
- AFA Scholarship
- Mary Louise Hoffman Scholarship
- Tokach Family 4-H Achievement Scholarship (must be a state project winner – request application)

More information and applications may be found online at https://www.chisholmtrail.k-state.edu/4_h/forms_and_applications/dickinson_forms_apps/index.html.

4-H Leadership SQUAD

All 4-H members 6th grade and up are invited to be a part of this dynamic group! Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month in February, April, June, and August. Participants promote the 4-H program, learn leadership skills, and put leadership into practice! Contact group advisors Shawna Riffel (riffelclan@eaglecom.net) or Becky Chase (r_ruthstrom@yahoo.com) with questions or just come to the next meeting!

Next 4-H Leadership SQUAD Meeting

When: **Monday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.**

Where: KSRE Office, Meeting Room

Who: any 4-Her 6th grade and up interested in learning about and practicing leadership skills!

Volunteer Screening Process

Our 4-H program relies on volunteers to accomplish our Positive Youth Development goals. As a part of our commitment to these goals is the desire to provide a safe environment for learning. To help accomplish this, Kansas 4-H screens volunteers who work directly with youth. As a potential or current volunteer, we ask you to complete the screening process. This process will be accomplished through 4HOnline. As you set up your profile, the system will take you through the registration process. If it's your first time applying, please complete the [Outside Background Check](#) and contact Jill for a new volunteer interview.

NOTE: once completed initially, the outside background check only needs to be completed every three years and can be accomplished by letting our office know to re-submit your information.

Online Volunteer Orientation

The Volunteer Orientation needs to be completed by everyone applying to be a 4-H volunteer. It only needs to be done one time. **You will need to be enrolled as an individual in your family's 4HOnline account in order to access the training.** Instructions are available at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-online/docs/Volunteer%20Orientation%20Training.pdf>. The course consists of video modules and quizzes. Please let our office know when you have completed the orientation.

National Volunteer Week - April 21-27

National Volunteer Week is almost here. This special week offers opportunities to thank some of America's most valuable assets — our volunteers — and to recognize the myriad of ways they improve our communities. National Volunteer Week reflects the power that volunteers have to "inspire by example" — volunteers both encourage those they help and motivate others to serve! Ways to celebrate may be found at: <https://www.pointsoflight.org/nvw/>. Thank you to our Dickinson County 4-H volunteers!

**Club Community Service Grants**

Congratulations to those clubs receiving club community service grants this year from the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation! Community Service Grants of \$4660.00 were awarded to five clubs supporting special projects including Holland Sunflowers – installation of acoustic panels at Navarre Community Center, Jolly Jayhawkers – installation of PA system in Woodbine, Solomon Wranglers – hosting of "Operation Gorilla Family" and the repainting of fire hydrants in Solomon, Fragrant Hilltoppers - maintaining bird feeders at a nursing home, and Newbern Wideawakes – to maintain a little food pantry. Thank you for making a difference in your community!

Wild Bill Buckle Bonanza (Beef!)

Will be held **April 6th**, this show will be open statewide and have county classes. See the [flyer](#) for more information.



Youth for the Quality Care of Animals *REQUIRED for ALL market livestock exhibitors*****

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training is required for all 4-H/FFA members exhibiting market livestock - beef, sheep, swine, and meat goats - at the Central Kansas Free Fair and all youth exhibiting livestock at the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show. This training may be done in person or online.

In-person training will be held on **Wednesday, April 10 at 6:30 PM** at the K-State Research and Extension – Abilene Office Conference Room. Online training may be done at any time, but should be completed prior to July 10, the pre-entry deadline for CKFF, or prior to nominating livestock for state shows (May 1 - cattle, June 15 - swine, meat goat, sheep). To register for YQCA please fill out the form at <https://bit.ly/YQCAREGISTRATION> to receive instructions on how to register online (required for both in-person and online training).

We still have some coupon codes sponsored by ADM Cares for both in-person and online training. These will be given out on a first come, first served basis.

Food Safety of Frostings and Fillings - REMINDER

Research has been done and resources are available as you make decisions about frostings and fillings to use with fair exhibits. Food safety is essential and not all frostings and fillings are safe to store at room temperature. Resources on this topic may be found at: <https://www.rrc.k-state.edu/judging/index.html>. Please note that safety calculations must be done by the exhibitor prior to judging. Our 4-H foods judges will not have time to make recipe calculations.

County Committees

The list of county committees was included in the December/January Clover Connection. Hopefully you've noted the committee you are on and are committed to be an active member of that committee! Please contact Jill for details.

Dickinson County 4-H Council

Date: Monday, March 25

Time: 6:45 pm – officers, 7:30 pm – full council

Where: KSRE Abilene Office Meeting Room

Resources New and Made for You!

Check out the [Kansas 4-H Club Corner](#) for tools and resources for club support. [Kansas 4-H Clover Classroom](#) for 4-H project information and challenges.

Online ZBooks Available for 4-H Record Keeping

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 project experiences on the Kansas 4-H Project Report Form for project recognition. To help you through this process, please refer to the Guide to Kansas 4-H Project Recognition. Couple of items to make note of:

- Youth may choose to use either record keeping option: a.) the fillable PDF Project report forms or b.) the online ZBooks software
- The Permanent Record is included in ZBooks. If you choose to keep records with ZBooks, do not feel like you have to transfer over all of your previous years' activities into the online Permanent Record. Start with this year and attach it to your previous document.
- Click [here](#) for instructions and video tutorials for using ZBooks

CKFF Livestock Tag Sponsorship

Casey and DaLean Barten have volunteered to sponsor tags for all livestock species. Please let them know how much we appreciate their generosity by sending a letter of thanks to them at: Bluestem Embryo Transfer Center, 735 900 Ave, Carlton, KS 67448.

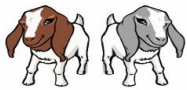
Advanced Beef Reproduction Workshop

FRIDAY, MARCH 15 afternoon

High School Age or Older for members interested in beef reproduction

Hosted by Bluestem Embryo Transfer Center (BETC)

Register ASAP by contacting our office.



Market Lamb and Market Goat Weigh-in

When: **Tuesday, May 7th, 5:00 -7:00 p.m.**

Where: **Central Kansas Free Fairgrounds**



Wild Bill (Sheep, Swine, and Meat Goat) Showdown

When: **Saturday, May 11th**

Where: **Central Kansas Free Fairgrounds**



State Livestock Nominations

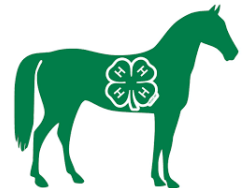
Updated information on nominating livestock for the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show is available at: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/>. The process is **completely online**, so please check out the required steps now so you don't miss anything.

Swine Tagging

All market barrows must be at the fairgrounds for the **ONLY** tagging date – **Tuesday, April 30th, 6-8 p.m.** Swine will be tagged on the trailer with ear notches recorded. To address disease concerns, families will be encouraged to tag their own animals, plastic boot covers will be worn, and taggers will be disinfected and dried between trailers to prevent cross-contamination. Those with farrowing operations will receive more information in the mailed/mailed tagging letter. Contact our office with questions.

Kansas State 4-H Horse Judging Contest Kansas 4-H, Kansas Quarter Horse Association, and EquiFest of Kansas are teaming up to host the 2024 Kansas State 4-H Horse Judging Contest. The Contest will be held March 14, 2024, in conjunction with EquiFest of Kansas in Salina.

Two contests are available- an open contest and a 4-H contest. Kansas 4-H members age 9-18 are invited to participate in the 4-H contest, and may also participate in the open contest. Youth of any age are eligible to participate in the open contest hosted by Kansas Quarter Horse Association. Cost to enter the first contest is \$15. Registration for both contests is \$25. Coaches should register teams and individuals [here](#). Registration closes March 8th.



Discovery Days

This popular event will be held **June 5-7** on the K-State Manhattan campus for youth ages 13-18 before January 1. The Dickinson County 4-H Foundation will provide 50% scholarships for attendees. Registration and more information will be available at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/discovery-days/index.html>.

Tri-County Fair Information

The Tri-County Fair is scheduled in Herington **July 11th – 13th**.

Decorated Cookie Jar Auction

The following clubs will be making cookies and decorating a cookie jar to be auctioned at the CKFF livestock sale this year: **Holland Sunflowers, Jolly Jayhawkers Mt. Ayer-Go Getters, and Navarre Boosters**. Proceeds go to the Dickinson County 4-H Council to fund the county-wide program. Keep in mind that cookies sell best when lots of club members are there to display their jar!



Reminders on Club Banners from Joetta Nagely, CKFF Banner Superintendent

- Colors: light on dark or dark on light.....when standing at a distance, letters or whole words can be lost if there is not a contrast in color.
- Cover several areas of 4-H don't duplicate by saying the same thing twice.
- Balance for the male and female audience make it appealing for both.
- No 3-D..... please check the rules in the fair paper.
- Lettering.....not too small. Must be able to read from a distance.
- Background when using felt, be careful it stretches. Smooth edges look nicer.
- Enter your banner at the Tri-County Fair. Making a banner costs money and one more premium check will help pay for the supplies.
- Club name may not be on the front of the banner as part of the design.

CKFF Queen and King Reminder

Don't forget to turn in your club's names for the CKFF King and Queen contest! Nominations are due to the Extension Office by **June 15th**. Talk to your organizational leaders for more information.

Foods and Clothing Labels

Members in clothing, fiber arts, or other exhibits needing a label, can make their own label on a piece of cloth with a permanent or laundry type marker. Labels should be about 3" x 2½" in size and include exhibitor name, class number and county. For Foods items, there is a label template available for download at: <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/fairs/kansas-state-fair/index.html> under "Foods and Nutrition". We have foods and food preservation labels available at the office.

Reminder: Electrical Code for CKFF

You may not use box fans with the 2-prong cord attached to a 3-prong adapter. You **must** use a commercial grade 3-prong electrical cord.

Livestock Educational Materials

Lots of great livestock materials are available on the Kansas Youth Livestock page at: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/educational-materials.html>. This includes guides and videos from junior livestock producer days hosted virtually and at Kansas State University.

FSA Youth Loan Program

The FSA youth loan program is designed to help rural youth establish and operate an income-producing project of modest size relating to their participation in 4-H or FFA. The goal of the youth loan is to help youth develop an income-producing project that expands their knowledge of their projects and provides them with practical business knowledge. For more information see the FSA Rural Youth Loan Fact Sheet: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/youth-loans/index>.

Responsibilities of Parents in the 4-H Program:

- Show interest in what your children are doing and give them encouragement.
- Provide any materials and equipment your child may need.
- Help the club and leader when asked. Don't wait to be asked, VOLUNTEER!
- See that your child finishes as well as starts their project(s). Be a "shadow helper" - guide, advise, help - but let the child do his or her own work.
- Encourage your child when they succeed and even more when they fail. Encourage and reward effort and progress, as well as the end results. Help your 4-Her be a good sport and appreciate the success of others. Support the 4-H leaders. Let the leaders know you appreciate them. Make 4-H a family affair, get the whole family involved in 4-H activities.
- Learn and support the goals and objectives of 4-H. Remember, the development of youth is the mission.
- Know that you are building for the future.
- Know that today's 4-H activities build the citizens and leaders of tomorrow.
- Know and support the Kansas 4-H Life Skills.

**Changes to Kansas 4-H Projects**

Some might have noticed when you enrolled for this 4-H year that some of the projects had different names. [This link](#) will take you to a complete listing of current project names as well as their previous listing. A few of the changes:

- Clothing Buymanship is now called Shopping in Style. Additional project classes have been added for fair, including posters. For fashion revue, boys and girls divisions have been eliminated and will just be divided by age groups. Senior and intermediate champion and reserve champions will be eligible to participate in fashion revue at the Kansas State Fair.
- Clothing Construction is now called Sewing and Textile Design
- Home Environment is now called Interior Design and Architecture
- Field Crops are now under the Agronomy project and Horticulture is now called Horticulture and Landscape Design
- The STEM designation has been removed from all projects with some renamed projects including Ag Mechanics Welding, Building Block Engineering, Electric & Renewable Energy, and Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
- There are some additions and deletions of classes previously offered at the Kansas State Fair related to the project changes. We are working to get the CKFF premium guide out to you as soon as possible. Until then, class listings are available in the [Kansas State Fair 4-H Exhibitor Handbook](#).

Please contact Jill if you have any questions!

CKFF Theme

It's the 100th anniversary of the Central Kansas Free Fair! Plan your celebrations around the theme:
Honor the Past, Celebrate the Present, Embrace the Future

NW 4-H Judging Event and Super Saturday

NW 4-H Judging Event and Super Saturday will be held on **Saturday, March 23rd** at the Fort Hays State University - Albertson Hall and Livestock Pavilion. There will be judging contests available in Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Livestock, Livestock Skill-a-thon and Photography. The cost of the judging contest is \$7.00 per youth. Sack lunches will be available for \$8.00. The daily agenda will look like this:

9:00am to 12:30pm - Indoor Judging (Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Photography, Life Skills, and Livestock Skill-a-thon)

10:00am to noon - Volunteer/ Parent Session

11:30am to 12:30pm Pick up Sack Lunch

12:30pm Check in for livestock Judging at Livestock Pavilion, north of I-70

1:00pm Livestock Judging Orientation

1:00pm to 3:00pm Project Opportunities

1:30pm Livestock Judging Contest Begins

If you choose to NOT participate in Livestock Judging then you may choose ONE of the following Project opportunities available from 1:00 - 3:00pm at Albertson Hall

- 1) KS Shooting Sports Ambassadors will host a non-shooting, educational, hands-on activity.
- 2) The Ins and Outs of the dog project - make a parachute cord leash and other dog project related learning activities - \$8.00
- 3) Hands-on STEM activities that coordinate with basic engineering and match up with several 4-H projects.
- 4) Club meeting ideas, activities and challenges, that are great for officer leadership teams.
- 5) Fiber Arts - Bohemian Macramé wall hanging - \$15

Register by **March 15** at: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6n7ovscdg5SbzEO?Q_CHL=qr

I pledge my **H** **AD** to clearer thinking,

my **HE** **RT** to greater loyalty,

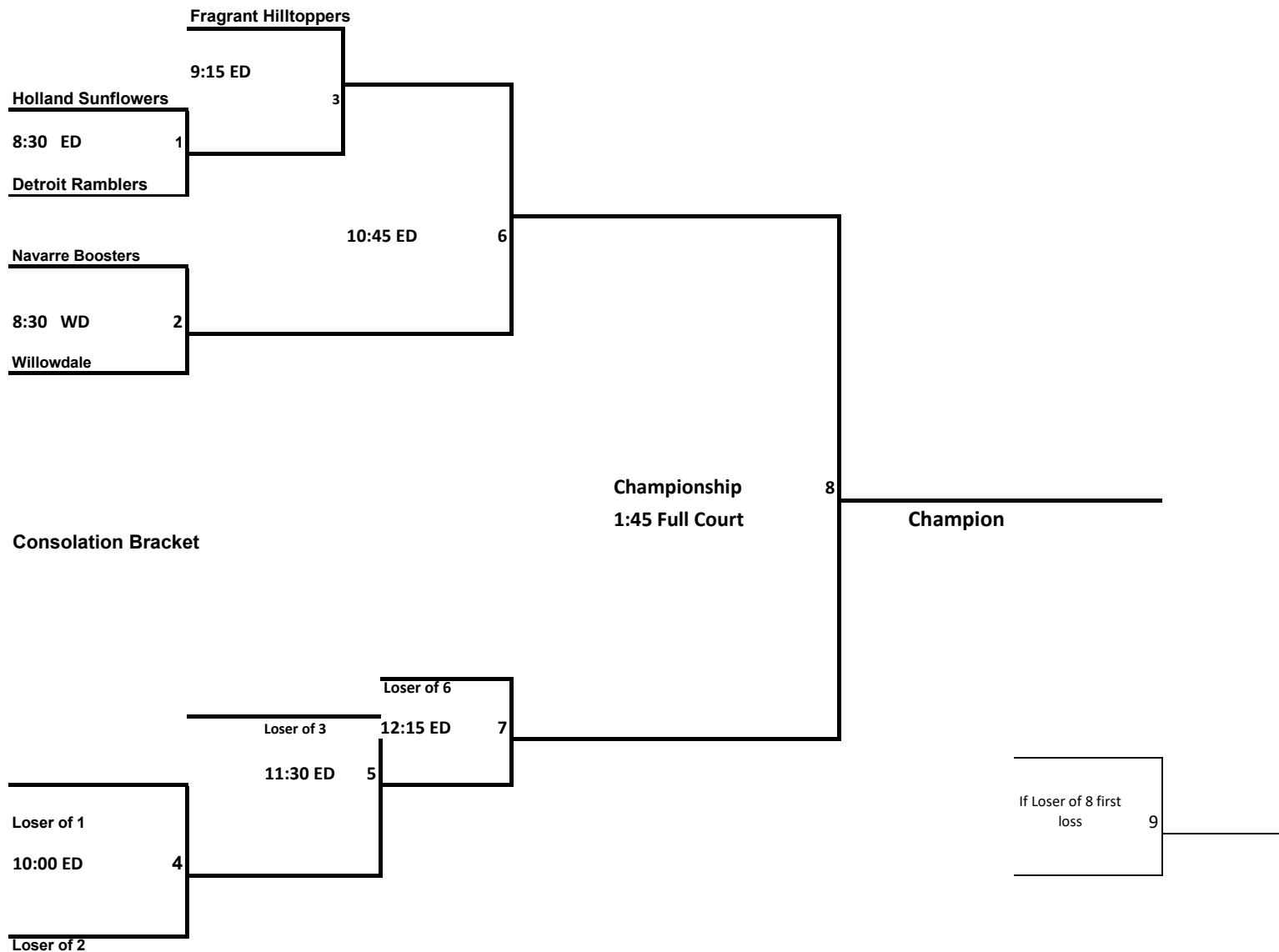
my **H** **NDS** to larger service,

and my **HE** **LTH** to better living,

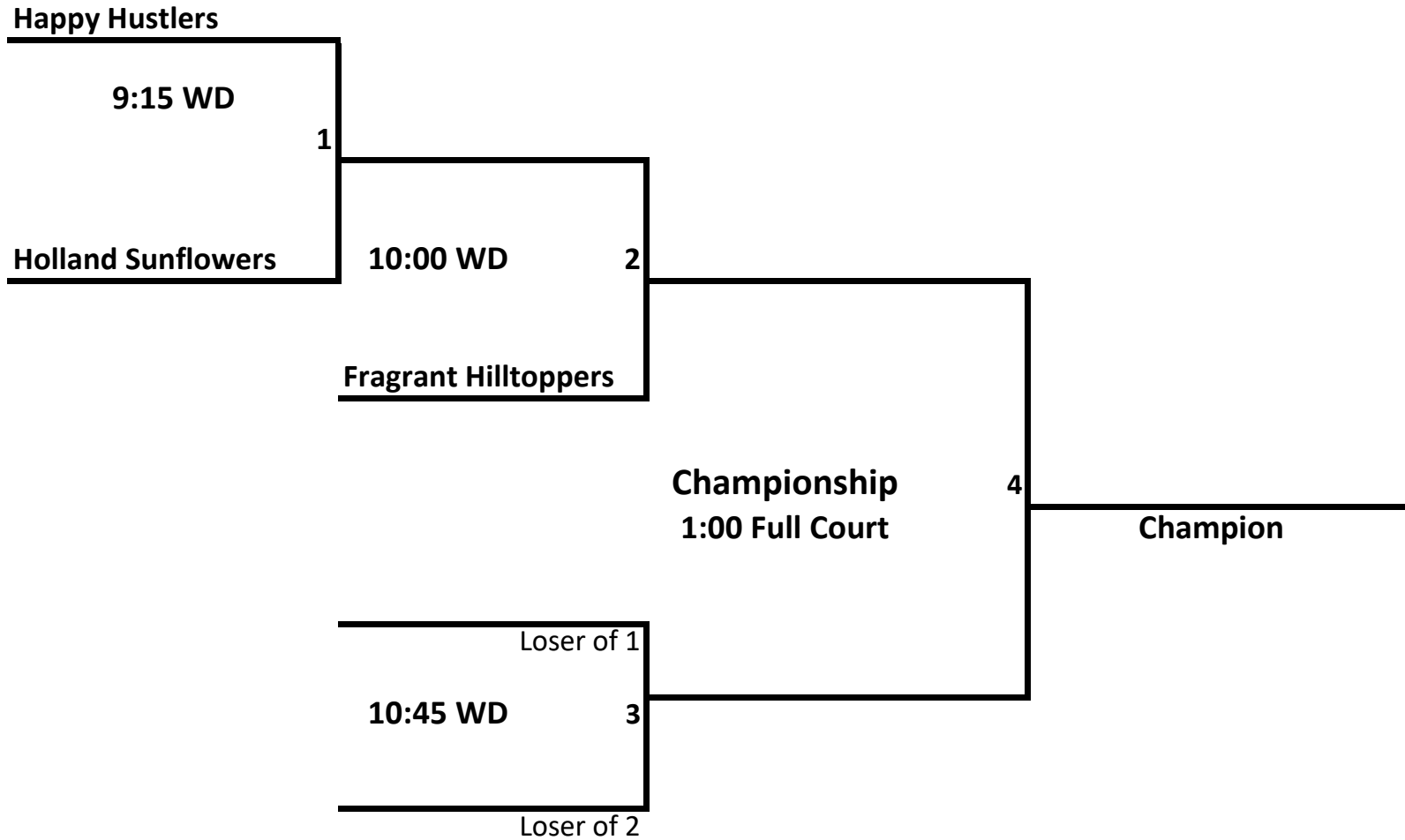
for my club, my community, my country

and my world. 

**76th Annual Dickinson County 4-H Basketball Tournament
Boys/Co-Ed Bracket**



**76th Annual Dickinson County 4-H Basketball Tournament
Girls Bracket**



Sponsored by KVK, Inc of Woodbine
Concession Stand: Jolly Jayhawkers
ED - East District Gym
WD - West District Gym

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means for communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the event contact **Jill Martinson** two weeks prior to the start of the event at **785-263-2001 or martinso@ksu.edu**. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

K-STATE
Research and Extension



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Dickinson County

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Facebook: Chisholm Trail Extension District

Jill D. Martinson
District Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development

«First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Company»
«Address»
«City_State_Zip»

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