



4-H Community Corner Newsletter

Marion County 4-H | JAN, FEB, MAR

Council Member Highlight

Shelby Summervill is the current Secretary for the Marion County 4-H Council. A nine year 4-H member of the Happy Hustlers 4-H club. Shelby is active with her school activities, including Volleyball and Cheer and her 4-H projects where she has been competitive in Foods/Nutrition, Rocketry,

Visual Arts and Horticulture & Landscape Design. Shelby is an outstanding senior level 4-H member and an excellent role model for younger members. Thank You Shelby for your commitment to 4-H and the roles you have taken on to "Making the Best Better!"



25-26 Council Members

President - Rylee Thomas
Vice President: Ruby Shaver
Secretary: Shelby Summervill
Treasurer: Ryleigh Jones
Reporter: Emma Bartel



25-26 Committee Chairs

Finance Committee: Rylee Thomas
Awards & Recognition Committee Cheryl Duerksen
Fair Committee: Leann Klenda
Spring Beef Show Committee: Ruby Shaver
Style Revue Committee: Rachel Boden
Sale Committee: Aimee Shaver & Joel Thomas

Marion County Winter Fun Fair

Marion County Winter Fair: January 3, 2026 at the Fair grounds in Hillsboro. Come join us and invite your friends as this event is open to all youth ages 5-18. Come show off a new outfit you got for Christmas in the clothing fashion revue or exhibit a new lego or craft project you have been working on. We have even added a Grilled Cheese sandwich competition. Aside from the evaluations from our judges, there will be live demonstrations and hands on activities across many project areas including sewing, rocketry, crafts and much more. 4-H clubs will provide a soup or chili to enjoy and of course the food exhibits will be available as well! We ask that you pre-enter if possible. Winter Fair books are available on request. Let us know if you have any questions.

NOTE: The registration link has changed. Please use the following link, QR code or feel free reach out to the extension office and we'll get you registered.

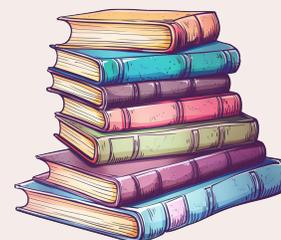
Marion County Winter Library Program:

This will be our first attempt at a Winter program. Similar to the Summer program, these programs are open to all youth and we will focus on 4-H project topics. Some include: Reading Adventures, Visual Arts, Photography, Foods, Building Blocks, Electricity, Rocketry, Veterinary Science, Architecture/Interior Design, Horticulture, Environmental Science, Wildlife and many more. These programs can serve as an exhibition/presentation, a learning opportunity, a leadership opportunity or a citizenship opportunity or all of those things that we discuss in our 4-H record books. If any 4-H member or adult volunteer would like to lead or assist one of these programs please feel free to reach out to us at the Extension Office. The scheduled dates for these programs are as follows:

Goessel Library: Monday's @ 4PM (Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23)

Marion Library: Tuesday's @ 3:30PM (Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24)

Peabody Library: Wednesday's @ 4 PM (Jan 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25)



Community Corner / Announcements

- MNCO Finance, Fundraising & Sponsorship meeting - DEC 22 at 6:00PM - MNCO Extension Office
Zoom: <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/98199518337?pwd=QfNweJocibykbShmuKMxHbalznHtvk.1>
- Spring Beef Show Committee Meeting: Sunday, DEC 28 at 3PM in the Extension Office in Marion and
ZOOM at: <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/99926598227?pwd=JiipIDW4OiQTW3nY4mlxty3H1nXOjE.1>
- Fair Committee Meeting: Sunday, JAN 11 at 4 PM in the Extension Office in Marion and ZOOM at:
<https://ksu.zoom.us/j/98371511402?pwd=VAeaBYM5ooMAmwpfaBSqtmILNICMib.1>
- Regional Record Book Judging: JAN 16 in Manhattan - Any adult volunteers interested in judging please contact the Extension Office
- MNCO 4-H Jr Leaders Game Night: Sunday, JAN 18, from 3-5PM at Goessel High School Library
- Kansas 4-H State Horse Judging Contest: JAN 23 in Topeka – check out Equifest for more info
- Marion County 4-H Council Meeting: Sunday, JAN 25 at 4PM at the Hillsboro Community Building
- 4-H Dog Project Judges Certification and Leader's Training: January 31 & February 1 in Salina, KS
Registration: Early Bird- JAN 5, Late- JAN 9
- KSU Jr. Beef Producer Day: Saturday, MAR 7 Registration due FEB 13
- CTD 4-H Day: Saturday, FEB 14 at Emmanuel Church in Abilene Registration Due JAN 20
- Marion County Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge: Saturday, FEB 21 at Tabor College
- 4-H Day with KSU Women's Basketball: Sunday, MAR 1st against Iowa State – watch for registration details
- Dickinson County 4-H Basketball Tournament: Saturday, MAR 14 Registration due FEB 15
- Regional 4-H Day: Saturday, MAR 28 in Clay Center
- KSU Jr. Sheep Producer Day: Saturday, APR 11 Registration due March 20me, role, and a short bio or fun facts

Chisholm Trail District 4-H Day: Saturday, February 14 at Emmanuel Church in Abilene Registration Due January 20

This is an opportunity for you to give a Demonstration, Project Talk or Sales Presentation. Perhaps you have a favorite poem/reading you would like to share, maybe you like to sing, dance or play a musical instrument. You may enjoy acting or have a completely different talent altogether. You can also do this with a friend or group of friends. Showcase your skills at District 4-H Day, where judges will give you an evaluation providing feedback towards your development. You can find the rules and entry information at:

https://www.chisholmtrail.k-state.edu/4_h/events/docs/CTD%204-H%20Day%20Rulebook%20updated%202025.pdf

Marion County Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge: Saturday, February 21st at Tabor College

Do you have a business idea? Chances are, you have one in the 4-H projects you are already doing. Entrepreneurship is a new project area within 4-H. Tabor College will be hosting our 2nd Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge where you can present your business idea through three different segments: a business plan, a trade-show display and a business presentation. Marion County Youth grades 7-12 can compete for cash prizes and the opportunity to go on to the Kansas Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge in April. Please contact the Extension Office for details.

Horse Panorama: February 21-22 at Rock Springs, Junction City

KS Horse Panorama is an opportunity for Horse Project members to showcase their knowledge of horses. The event includes Horse Hippology (study of horses) a quiz bowl and project presentations. If you are new to the concept they have a first timer's event, that is geared towards those who are just exploring the project.

I was always told "Don't let school get in the way of your education!" Many of our Extension Programs take place during the school day, but these are certainly learning opportunities, where you can also get citizenship by helping setup/cleanup for meetings or serve the meal. If any 4-H member would like to attend/assist please contact the Extension Office. Here is a short list of those programs coming up:

Flint Hills Beef Symposium: January 14 (9AM-3PM) at Cow Camp Ranch, Lost Springs, KS

McPherson Cow-Calf School: February 19 (6PM) at the MPCO fairgrounds in McPherson, KS

Marion County Conservation District Annual Banquet: February 21 (6PM) at the Marion Community Center Ballroom

KSU Cattleman's Day: Friday, March 6 in Manhattan, KS

Kansas 4-H Animal Science Webinar Series

These are recorded presentations for rabbits, poultry, sheep, swine, beef and goats. They can be found at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animal-science/animal-science-webinar-series/>

Marion County 4-H Endowment Fund Scholarship Application: Due April 1st to the Extension Office

Community Calendar

Date: Event:

DEC 22	MNCO Finance, Fundraising & Sponsorship meeting
DEC 24-31	Christmas Holiday - Extension is CLOSED
DEC 28	Spring Beef Show Committee Meeting
JAN 1-2	New Year's Day - Extension is CLOSED
JAN 3	Marion County Winter Fun Fair
JAN 11	Fair Committee Meeting
JAN 16	Regional Record Book Judging
JAN 18	MNCO Jr. Leaders Game Night
JAN 23	Horse Judging
JAN 25	MNCO 4-H Council Meeting
JAN 31-1	Dog Judge - Project Leader Training
FEB 14	CTD 4-H Day Flint Hills Symposium
FEB 16	President's Day - Extension is CLOSED
FEB 19	McPherson Cow-Calf School
FEB 21	MCYE Challenge
FEB 21-22	Horse Panorama
MAR 1	DKCO KSU Basketball
MAR 6	KSU Cattleman's Day
MAR 7	Jr Beef Pro Day - Reg due on FEB 13
MAR 14	DKCO Basketball Tournament
MAR 28	Regional 4-H Day
APR 11	Jr Sheep Pro Day - Reg due on MAR 20
JUN 3-5	Discoveries Day
JUL 3	4th of July Holiday - Extension is CLOSED

Adult Volunteers

We are always looking for adult volunteers to help with project meetings, fair & 4-H events. If you are interested, please enroll as an adult volunteer on 4-H Online at: https://www.chisholmtrail.k-state.edu/4_h/volunteers/Volunteers.html

A criminal background check is required as part of the volunteer screening process, you can enter your information here for that: <https://www.ejobapp-validityscreening.com/candidate/login> We are truly grateful to all those who are willing to help -Thank You!



*"Volunteers do not just
do the work;
they make it work."*

Civic Champs.



Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success.

Henry Ford



Youth
Entrepreneurship
Challenge



Marion County YEC
Complete User Guide

https://bit.ly/MNCO_YEP_2025

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Extension
Chisholm Trail District

Marion County YEC 2026

Calling all Middle School and High School students of Marion County...

K-State Extension, Tabor College, the City of Hillsboro, and Marion Economic Development Incorporated invite you to join us at the 2026 Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge on February 21st!

COMPETITION DATES:

Executive Summary Submission Deadline: **February 13, 2026**
Event Trade Show & Final Presentation: **February 21, 2026**

Register

Register to participate:
<https://tinyurl.com/MNCOYEC26>

DEADLINE: Feb 2, 2026



Prepare

Contact your local host to get
connected with a mentor.

*1st place winner secures a
spot at YEC State

Compete

Compete to win the following
prizes for BOTH middle and
high school divisions:

1st Place: \$750
2nd Place: \$500
3rd Place: \$250

Connect

Tristen Cope or Bret Toews, K-State Extension

tcope@ksu.edu

toews@ksu.edu

620-382-2325

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Citizenship In Action



**REGISTRATION IS
NOW OPEN!**

- **WHEN** - February 15-16, 2026
- **COST** - \$225
- **WHO** - Youth ages 13-18
- **WHERE** - Hotel Topeka City Center,
1717 SW Topeka Blvd,
Topeka, KS 66612
- **SPACE IS LIMITED SO GET OUT AND REGISTER!**



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In Closing

Winter is known to give many folks the blues for various reasons, oftentimes the weather is blamed. I find that Winter can be the most exciting season of the year, even after the holidays. Why? Well . . . it's the time of year when a lot of planning and creating can take place. My ambition is on full display during Winter and oftentimes it runs out over the course of Summer and Fall as my dwindling energy or lack of planning show's up! I encourage each of you to do some planning and creating this time of year, some examples might be getting all those goals written in you record books and developing a strategy to tackle them, create and build those projects that are indoor friendly and as always look for opportunities to make a difference in your community. You can erase the Winter time blues by taking along others on the journey; this reduces the isolation that many feel this time of year. Join us for the Winter Fair, the Winter Library Program or other Community Events. Warm Wishes from the Extension Office!



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**Kansas State University Extension
Chisholm Trail District
Marion County**

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