

MESSENGER-INQUIRER

It's time to celebrate! National 4-H Week is Oct. 1-7, 2023.

This year's theme is "I ❤️ 4-H". For more than 120 years, 4-H has helped youth find and fine-tune their sparks or passions through projects and activities. In the process of self-exploration, youth develop life skills that help them become productive adults and local leaders. Many 4-H alumni credit the program with helping them succeed as adults.

With more than 288,000 youth members, Kentucky 4-H is the largest youth organization in the state and known for the educational programs that teach youth valuable life skills through positive youth development. Historically rooted in agriculture, today's 4-H is much more. The program covers core areas of science engineering, and technology, health and well-being, family consumer sciences, natural resources, leadership, communication and expressive arts, and agriculture teaching valuable life skills.

4-H focuses on the positive development of youth, adults can volunteer their time and talents with local 4-H groups. Volunteers can serve in many roles from club leaders to subject matter experts on projects to judges for local 4-H competitions. In fact, more than 26,000 Kentuckians donate their time through 4-H.

During the 2022-2023 4-H program year, Daviess County 4-H agents and the program assistant reached over 3000 youth. This year, Daviess County tied for the highest 4-H camping number in our history! 84 attended 4-H Camp with Daviess County: 68 youth, 2 teen leaders, 12 adult volunteers, and 2 agents.

At the Daviess County Lions Club Fair: 22 youth exhibited 217 4-H projects, 16 youth showed market lambs, 2 showed market goats, 19 youth showed dairy goats, 16 youth showed rabbits, 6 youth showed hogs, 9 participated in the feeder calf project and showed their calf, 11 youth showed steers, and 14 youth showed poultry. At the Kentucky State Fair: 14 youth exhibited 84 4-H projects, 3 youth exhibited swine and beef, and 1 youth participated in the 4-H Poultry Showmanship Contest.

The second Youth Livestock Scholarship Auction was held in conjunction with the Daviess County Lions Club Fair where over \$15,000 was raised in scholarship money that will directly benefit the 30 youth who participated.

At the State 4-H Shooting Sports Competition, 14 youth participated over two days with four individuals placing in their respective disciplines and one state champion.

The new 4-H program year started on September 1st. To celebrate the start of the new year, Daviess County 4-H hosted a 4-H Kick-Off Night at the Extension Office. Club leaders, returning members, and volunteers helped put this together to make it a successful night! Over 150 people attended this event, learned about the 4-H clubs in

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Daviess County this year, and completed enrollment forms. Youth can join 4-H at any time throughout the year. Contact the Extension Office to sign up!

For National 4-H Week, we are working on a project and would like your help. We want to cover the big window in the foyer and flood Facebook with 4-H photos and your favorite 4-H memories from yesterday to yesteryear. If you have a photo and/or memory to share, please send it to sharayha.clingenpeel@uky.edu.

Here is how you can celebrate National 4-H Week with Daviess County 4-H! **Meet Up Monday** – 3:30-5:00 p.m. Bring your friends to the Extension Office after school for games and pizza and to meet other 4-Hers. **Try It Tuesday** – Pick a 4-H fair baking recipe and give it a try! Post a photo of what you make on the Daviess County 4-H Facebook page. **Wear Green Wednesday** – Wear Your Green/4-H Gear. **Throwback Thursday** – Show us some of your past 4-H projects, activities, etc. **Flat Clover Friday**: Like Flat Stanley, Flat Clover likes to see new things. Pick up a Flat Clover at the Extension Office and send us pictures of its adventures!

Stop by the Daviess County Extension Office from October 2-6 to take a guess at how many pieces of candy are in the 4-H candy jar. A picture of the candy jar will also be posted on the Daviess County 4-H Facebook page for online guesses. The closest guess will win.

For more information about Daviess County 4-H, stop by the Daviess County Extension Office or like us on Facebook and/or Instagram.

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