



Shout Out!!!

January Shout Out goes to Marie Jones! Marie volunteers as our Ambassador sponsor! This group is made up of 9 members this year and they have some great ideas and the drive to achieve so much this year! If this wasn't enough to put on her plate; January is also a time for Senior winning record books, resumes and cover letters to be developed and critiqued and Marie has been the driving force of this! The hours she has spent helping members prepare award winning representations of their project has been countless and priceless for our members and our county. Thank you so much all you have done to "Make the Best Better"!



If you have anyone that you would love to recognize for going above and beyond in 4-H please email a brief description and a photo if you have one to asharpe@ksu.edu.

4-H Day Registration is Now Open!!!



4-H Day will be taking place **February 8th** at St. George grade school. 4-H day is a great opportunity for 4-H'ers to work on their presentations skills. From speaking to musical performances, individuals and groups, 4-H day has something for all! Regulations, and helpful tips found here: <https://www.pottawatomie.k-state.edu/4-h/4H%20Day.html>. The registration link is <http://bit.ly/254-HDayReg> and is due by January 24th! **Hint:** 4-H day is also a great way to add to your **project report, achievement pin, and help club goals!**

Meet Your 2024-2025 Pottawatomie County 4-H Ambassadors

With the first meeting in the books your 4-H Ambassadors took to the Manhattan Ice Rink for some team building before they met in Varney and Associates Board room for a Murder Mystery dinner before setting the action plan of projects and activities they will conquer this year! Without letting the clover out of the bag, be on the lookout for some new and exciting events! The 24-25 Ambassadors are Haylee H. of the Dutchmill Club, August S. and Kaden S. of the Jayhawker Club, Joel L., Shayne P., and Liberty S. from the Lucky 'Leven Club, Taylor B. and David B. of the Olsburg 4-H Club, and Faith P. of the Triple V Club!

Citizenship in Action

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Citizenship In Action

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

- WHEN - February 16-17, 2025
- 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!

Would you like to have more influence in laws and rules that affect your life? Then you'll want to go to Kansas 4-H Citizenship in Action! This two day event is sponsored by the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. The purpose of the event is for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities. The legislative visit will not only familiarize youth with the capitol building, but will also show them how they can affect the legislative process. February 16-17, 2025 Topeka. Deadline of February 5th. [Find full information here.](#)

Seniors - Scholarships

The 2025 Kansas 4-H Scholarship application can now be found online. The deadline to complete applications and submit recommendation letters or references is March 1, 2025. This is a great opportunity for our seniors! Find out full information and apply at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>



PTCO_4H

Instagram

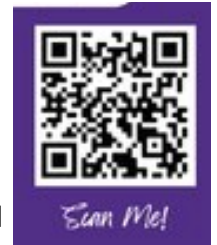
In an effort to reach more people with all the cool things that are coming up and that we do through 4-H the Ambassadors are ready to share our New Instagram Account! PTCO_4H is our user name and pictured is our QR Code for following! We are excited to be posting more and more as we go! Please follow and share our page as we continue to “Make the Best Better” here in Pottawatomie County!

Horse Panorama

Horse Panorama will be February 22-23, 2025! Registration is now open! [Horse Panorama](#) is a compilation of various contests related to the Horse Project. Contests include: quiz bowl, hippology, public speaking presentations, photography and educational posters. Tara Mowry is working to set up practices now. If you are interested please let Amber know and she will get your contact information to Tara!

K-State Junior Swine Producers Day

March 1, 2025. Register by February 5th for \$20/Person at <https://commerce.cashnet.com/cashnetg/static/storefront/KSUASIND/catalog>. Participants will receive a K-State Show Pig Guide, t-shirt, lunch and a wealth of knowledge from speakers. All skill levels are welcomed from youth, to parents, to leaders, extension agents, and ag teachers. Various speakers share information on topics such as selection, nutrition, showmanship, fitting, reproduction, feeding, and disease control. Talks, demonstrations, hands-on activities, and door prizes are present at all events. Registration is capped at 400 participants so please register early!!! The Flyer is attached



K-State Junior Meat Goat Producers Day



March 22, 2025. Register by February 26th for \$20/Person at <https://commerce.cashnet.com/cashnetg/static/storefront/KSUASIND/catalog>. Participants will receive a K-State Show Meat Goat Guide, t-shirt, lunch and a wealth of knowledge from speakers. All skill levels are welcomed from youth, to parents, to leaders, extension agents, and ag teachers. Various speakers share information on topics such as selection, nutrition, showmanship, fitting, reproduction, feeding, and disease control. Talks, demonstrations, hands-on activities, and door prizes are present at all events. Registration is capped at 400 participants so please register early!!! The flyer is attached!

4-H Project Fair

Maddy Mosteller from the Nemaha County 4-H is working on a senior project and hosting a 4-H Project Fair on January 11th from 12-2pm at 1615 Branch Street, Seneca, KS! This will be a great opportunity to see various projects available in 4-H as well as how other counties operate! Please RSVP to her at 25mostellerm@usd115.org. There is a flyer attached to the newsletter!

4-H Camp 2025

All 4-H camp sessions are now available for registration online at www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org. This includes half week, full week, Leaders in Training (LIT), and Counselors in Training (CIT) sessions.



County Council Meeting

The next County Council meeting will be held on 1/27/25 at 7pm in the Sunflower room with the Budget committee meeting beginning at 5:30pm!

Citizen Washington Focus



Greetings CWF delegates and families! We will be attending the 2nd Session 6/14-6/20: Leaving Manhattan on 6/11 and returning on 6/21/25! The future meetings will be held in Portoff Hall at 7pm and the dates are **February 18**, March 18, April 15, May 20 with the departure on June 11 (early a.m. from the Riley County Extension Office). The tentative conference schedule can be found at [HERE](#).

ZBooks - Project Reports Online!

A new online record book option is here for Kansas 4-H youth.

Zbooks provides an online platform for keeping and organizing project report records. Zbooks should make projects reports a lot easier to make and maintain!

-The website for zbooks is: 4h.zsuite.org

-Visit the Kansas information site [here](#).

-Find a quick video overview of using [Zbooks for record projects at this link](#).



Also, some perks of Zbooks are:

- Mobile friendly- jot down notes, weights, ear tags, expenses, etc on the spot!
- Internet based- you can work on them from any device that is connected to the internet.
- Unlimited amount of entries until final report is submitted- youth select the allowed number of entries to print on final report, allowing them to prioritize, summarize, etc.
- Permanent Record is also included

Membership and Record Book Awards

Now is a great time to start thinking about membership awards as well as project record pins! Included is a list of possible awards to think about!

2024-2025 4-H Enrollment

How? 1. Visit <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

The final date to add/drop projects will remain May 1st for everyone





Dates to Remember

January

- 9 NE Area Project Report Screening
- 20 MLK Jr. Day, Extension Office Closed
- 27 4-H Council Budget Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, Sunflower Room
- 27 4-H Council Meeting, 7pm, Sunflower Room
- 28 Horse Panorama, Rock Springs

February

- 8 4-H Day, St. George
- 16-17 Citizenship in Action, Topeka
- 18 CWF Meeting: Portoff Hall: 7pm

March

- 1 Video Submission Due for Regional Record Book Winners
- TBD Beef Weigh In at Rezac's on Aiken Switch Road
- 18 CWF Meeting: Portoff Hall: 7pm

April

- 15 CWF Meeting: Portoff Hall: 7pm
- 19-24 National 4-H Conference, Washington D.C.

May

- TBD Small Animal Weigh-In: Westmoreland Extension Office
- 15 Tagging Deadline for ALL Livestock
- 20 CWF Meeting: Portoff Hall: 7pm

June

- 4-6 Discovery Days
- 11-21 Citizen Washington Focus Trip
- 13-15 State Geology Field Trips
- 22-28 National Shooting Sports Championship

June/July

- Rock Springs Camp

July/August

- 30-3 The Best Fair in America! Pottawatomie County!

September

- 5-14 Kansas State Fair

October

- 1 New 4-H Year
- 



4-H'er Awards 101



Membership Achievement Pins

Achievement Pins are given for accomplishment and progress in 4-H work. 4-H'ers may earn only one pin a year and generally a member will earn the pins in the order listed. Under special circumstances, a new member joining at an older age may want to skip to the Silver Pin. (Silver through Gold Guard must be earned in the order listed.) This should be discussed with your leader or 4-H agent. Each member should sit down with parents and leaders early in the year to create a plan for earning an achievement pin.

[Member Achievement Plan 1](#) (4-H Membership Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 2](#) (Bronze Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 3](#) (Clover Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 4](#) (Emerald Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 5](#) (Silver Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 6](#) (Silver Guard Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 7](#) (Leadership Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 8](#) (Gold Pin)

[Member Achievement Plan 9](#) (Gold Guard Pin)



Project Recognition

Record keeping and Project Reporting are valuable life 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

4-H'ers may submit their completed project reports for judging in late September. Pottawatomie awards project pins to the top two reports in each project area per age division (Jr, Int, Sr). As well, the top senior report in each project area is able to advance to area project report judging.

There are four parts to a complete project recognition submittal:

CHECK SHEET

PERSONAL PAGE

PROJECT REPORT

PERM. RECORD

Form fillable documents can be found at [this link](#). As well, 4-H'ers may utilize the online and mobile friendly "zbooks" system to track and fill their project reports.

The biggest tip for awards success is to plan ahead!

Set goals and make a plan early to achieve awards season success!



Other Awards



[Award application can be found on the Pottawatomie Extension Website](#)

Key Award

The Kansas Key Award is one of the highest honors awarded to 4-H members across Kansas. As a 4-H award, the applicant needs to highlight 4-H related events, activities and achievements accomplished within the 4-H club, county/district, region or state. Recipients have demonstrated high levels of achievement in the areas of Community service, Personal and Elected Leadership, Project completion, Diversified Participation, and Communication skills. It is vital to plan ahead in order to achieve this award.

I DARE YOU AWARD

The “I Dare You” award recognizes character and leadership qualities in young people and encourages and challenges them to have creative and purposeful lives. Qualifications include being a 4-H member who has demonstrated qualities of constructive leadership, excellence in character, and personal and social development in 4-H, school and the community.

Outstanding 4-H'er

Two outstanding 4-H'er awards are given per age division each year. This award is based on an individual's total involvement in the 4-H program. Often, they not only participate at the club level but also at the county and state level. 4-H'er are judged on not only the awards application, but also an outstanding 4-H'er interview.

Pottawatomie County 4-H Public Presentation Award

This award is given based on a 4-H'ers application that demonstrates above and beyond presentation skills. Objectives of this award:

1. To recognize 4-H'ers who present their presentations a number of different times and increase their proficiency in making a public presentation.
2. To honor 4-H'ers that shared things learned in the 4-H program thereby promoting 4-H Public Speaking Program and the 4-H program

Thelma Hubbard Award

This award is dedicated to Thelma Hubbard, a long time 4-H volunteer. The attributes that made her a well-loved volunteer include the way she encouraged people, her willingness to work, and her positive attitude. She had a way of bringing out the best in people and was not judgmental. The person who wins this award should have similar characteristics. This award is not designed to recognize 4-H'ers who have won many prizes; however, it does not exclude them. Rather, it is designed to honor individuals who are genuinely helpful and frequently volunteer for tasks which they see through to their completion. Volunteerism is not limited to 4-H work and may include other types of community service.





Citizenship In Action



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- WHEN - February 16-17, 2025
- COST - \$225
- WHO - Youth ages 13-18
- WHERE - Hotel Topeka City Center,
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- SPACE IS LIMITED SO GET OUT AND
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4-H HORSE PANORAMA



FEBRUARY 22 & 23, 2025

ROCK SPRINGS RANCH JUNCTION CITY, KS



Who should register:

All 4-H members age 9-18 who have an interest in horses, competing in Horse Bowl, Public Presentations or Hippology. This event determines who represents Kansas 4-H at several national contests.

Registration:

Opens December 23 and is due February 3. Late registration will be accepted until February 7. Only those who register by the February 3 deadline will receive a t-shirt. All participants, adults and attendees must register. Extension Agents must register all team members at https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bloztOYr3jCfOjs.

Cost:

Youth (includes t-shirt, lodging, contest entries, and meals)

Friday Check-In - \$185

Full-Time (Saturday arrival, Sunday departure) - \$155

Saturday Only - \$130

Adult (includes meals and lodging)

Friday Check-In - \$170

Full-Time - \$130

Virtual - \$0

Attire & What to Bring:

Dress code is casual and industry appropriate.

Contestants must provide #2 writing utensil and notebook for note taking.

Event Objective

To provide an opportunity for youth to demonstrate their knowledge of equine-related subject matter, including structure and movement, in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail. These contests will provide an educational experience for both participants and spectators.



Additional Information:

Kelsey Nordyke, knordyke@ksu.edu

<https://bit.ly/StateHorseJudgin>

Accommodations:

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact (insert name) two weeks prior to the start of the event (insert deadline date) at (insert phone number and email). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service.

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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2025 K-State Junior Swine Producer Day



Join us on Saturday, March 1, 2025 for the biennial K-State Junior Swine Producer Day at the Stanley Stout Center in Manhattan. This educational event will be a fun-filled day in which youth, parents, agents, ag teachers, and swine project leaders can increase their knowledge of youth swine projects. Presentations will be provided by K-State faculty members, graduate students, former exhibitors, and guest speakers. All ages and skill levels are invited! Participants will receive a K-State Show Pig Guide, t-shirt, and complimentary lunch. Only those who register by February 5 will receive a t-shirt. The registration fee is \$20/person for those who sign up by the registration deadline, or \$25/person after that date. Registration is limited to 400 attendees, on a first come, first served basis. This is a family event! Anyone attending must register, including all youth and adults.

March 1



Tentative Schedule



Registration



Questions?

- 8:00AM Registration Opens
- 9:00AM Welcome
- 9:15AM Project Selection
- 10:00AM Breakout Sessions
 - Nutrition, Meats, Facilities & Equipment, Breeds & Ear Notching
- 12:00PM Lunch
- 12:45PM Health
- 1:30PM Breakout Sessions
 - Showmanship, Daily Care & Clipping, Show Day Prep, Resources
- 3:00PM Wrap-up
- 3:30PM YQCA Training (optional)

- ✔ \$20/person by February 5
- ✔ \$25/person after February 5
- ✔ Late registrants will not receive a t-shirt.
- ✔ All attendees must register, including youth, parents, and adults.
- ✔ No refunds.
- ✔ Attendance is limited to the first 400 participants to register.

Joel DeRouchev
jderouch@ksu.edu
785.532.2280

Lexie Hayes
adhayes@ksu.edu
785.532.1264

Register By February 5

Limited Attendance

 **Location**
Stanley Stout Center

 **Register Online**
<https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND>



Scan Me!

K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

K-State Research and Extension and the Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, or their assignees, reserve the right to photograph, record the image and/or voice of participants for future research, educational, or promotional purposes. By attending, you provide consent to the above items and waive all rights to claims for payment or royalties in connection with any use of said images or recordings, unless you notify event organizers you withhold consent, in writing, prior to the event.

K-State Junior MEAT GOAT PRODUCER DAY



Event

Join us on Saturday, March 22, 2025 for the biennial K-State Junior Meat Goat Producer Day at the Stanley Stout Center north of the K-State campus in Manhattan. This educational program will be a fun-filled day in which youth, parents, agents, ag teachers, project leaders, and volunteers can increase their knowledge of youth meat goat projects. Presentations will be provided by K-State faculty members, graduate students, former exhibitors, and guest speakers. All ages and skill levels are invited! Participants will receive a K-State Meat Goat Show Guide, t-shirt, and complimentary lunch. Only those who register by the deadline on February 26 will receive a t-shirt. The registration fee is \$20/person before February 26 and \$25/person after the deadline. This is a family event! Anyone attending must register, including all youth, parents, and adults. Registration is limited to 400 participants, filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Tentative Program

Friday, March 21

5:00-7:00PM *Optional Tour*
Sheep & Meat Goat Center

Saturday, March 22

8:00AM Check-in

9:00AM Welcome

9:15AM Selection

10:00AM Breakout Sessions

- Nutrition
- Facilities & Equipment
- Doe Management & Kidding

11:15AM Health & Wellness

12:00PM Lunch

1:00PM Breakout Sessions

- Showmanship
- Reproduction
- Clipping & Grooming

3:15PM Wrap-up

3:30PM YQCA Training (*optional*)

4:00-6:00PM *Optional Tour*
Sheep & Meat Goat Center

K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

Registration

- \$20/person by February 26
- \$25/person after February 26
- Late registrants will not receive a t-shirt.
- All attendees must register, including youth, parents, & adults.
- No refunds
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Scan me!

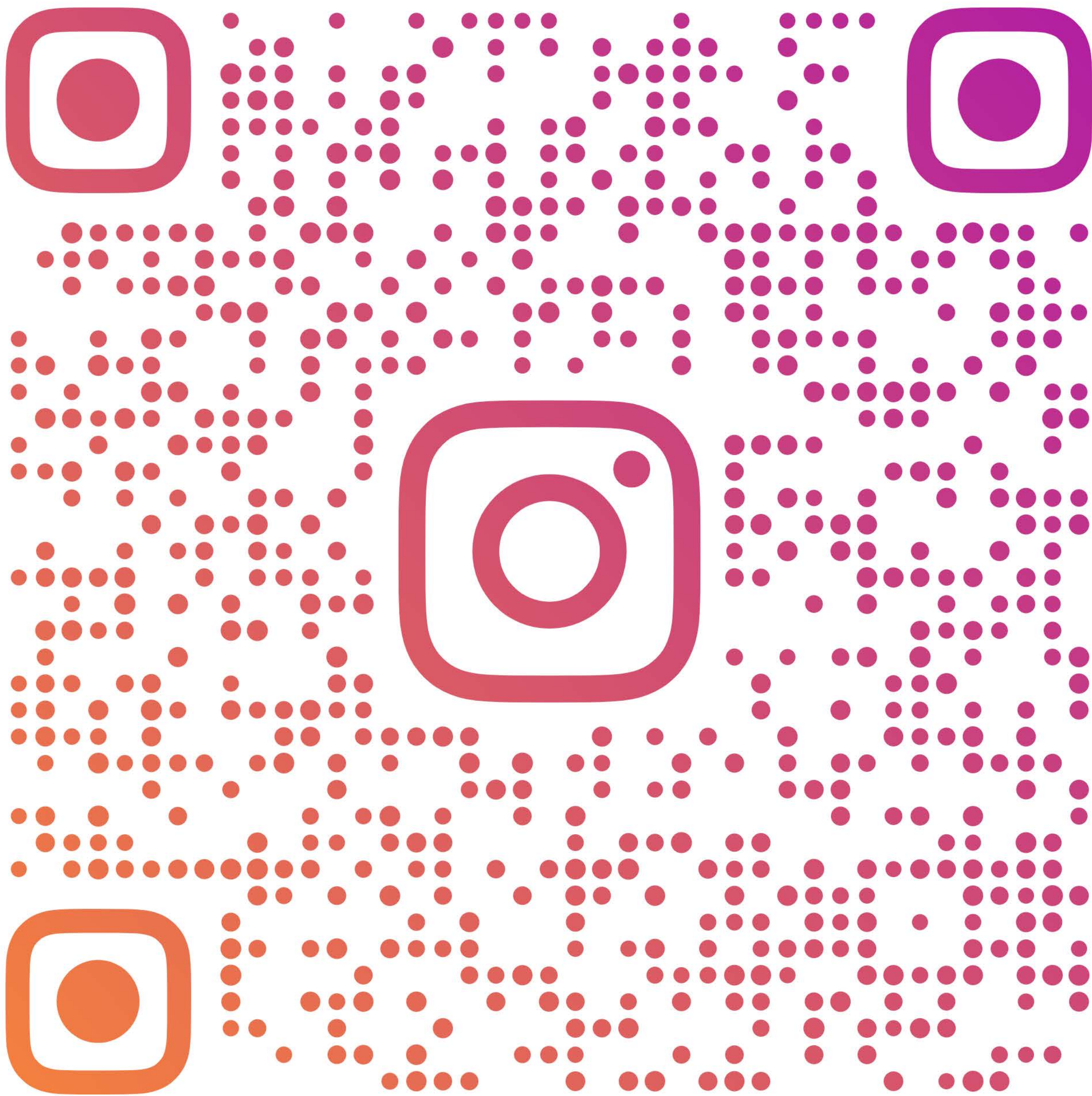
Questions?

Lexie Hayes
adhayes@ksu.edu
785.532.1264

Register Online

[https://commerce.cashnet.com /
KSUASIND](https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND)

By
February 26



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