Happy August!

The fair did my heart good to see families whether by a Flip Grid video or in person at a livestock show! Yes - it was weird and Yes - we learned some things. Just like our 4-H members, I am “learning by doing” every day also as there is no guidance for this kind of year.

Figuring out how to work together in tough times and how to navigate odd circumstances are life skills that none of us wanted to practice but ones that will help each of us as we move forward. Thank you for the examples you set of perseverance, grit, and kindness.

If you follow my columns in the newspapers and Great Bend Post, you know that I have had a lot to say over the last few months about grace and kindness. Look for opportunities to show grace and kindness to others! Look for the grace and kindness that is extended to you! Most importantly, as we navigate this weird world, show yourself grace and kindness! It is easy to get wrapped up in the hatefulness of social media comments so give yourself some space to step back, take a deep breath, and be kind to yourself.

I cannot extend enough Thank Yous to Donna, Alicia, Brenda, all of the parents and leaders who stepped up to help make a showcase happen. Consider taking a moment to drop a Thank You to the Barton County Fair Board who wanted to provide the best possible showcase that they could for 4-H members under the circumstances.

Life is a Grand Adventure - Make every day count!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fair Feedback</th>
<th>Tractor Supply Paper Clovers</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>This was a weird year so please keep that in mind with your thoughts and ideas for improving the fair!</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;NOW is the time to check in with your 4-H Council representatives as we will be discussing the fair at the Aug. 17 meeting. If there is something you would like to see changed, please be sure to include a suggestion for improvement.</td>
<td><strong>Tractor Supply has partnered again this year with 4-H to raise awareness and dollars for 4-H programs!</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;TSC Paper Clover week is scheduled with National 4-H Week and will run Oct. 7-18. Our local store would love to have 4-H Clubs set up a table and share about 4-H. The Extension Office can provide promotional fliers if your club is willing to share the positive role 4-H has in your family and community!</td>
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<td><strong>4-H BBQ</strong>&lt;br&gt;484H is a nationwide day or weekend of service projects for living the Hands for Larger Service part of the 4-H Pledge! What is your club planning? Let Michelle know and register your project with Kansas 4-H. 4-H Council will be determining a county wide service project so let your Council representative know of your ideas!</td>
<td><strong>4-H BBQ</strong>&lt;br&gt;The 4-H Council BBQ Committee will be meeting in early August to determine a plan for this important fundraising and community event! Stay tuned to the Barton County 4-H Members Facebook page for updates (as well as from your Council representative).</td>
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Key Awards and Pin Applications - Due to the circumstances this year, the Key Award requirements have been adjusted. Additionally, we will be taking the circumstances into consideration for Pin Applications. We all know this was not a normal year and will be reasonable in the review.

This is a great year to capture challenges and how the 4-H member worked through those issues.

Key Award
Pin Application

Programming Ideas - Do you have an idea or a need for program? In addition to 4-H PDC (program development committee), YOU are a great resource for ideas of upcoming programs! Michelle is working on several ideas for fall/winter (depending on how/when we can meet) to include Leadership workshops, Etiquette Essentials, and Career Readiness. These may be done in-person or via Zoom based on circumstances.

Introducing the Kansas Clover Classroom! 4-H agents across the NW region of Kansas have been hard at work this year building the start of a great project resource! The Kansas Clover Classroom is intended for use by parents and project leaders who want to help youth dive into a project! Watch for more exciting news on this! Watch the Barton County 4-H Members Facebook page for updated content!
Fair Wrap Up

Results for the Barton County Fair can be found at: https://www.bartoncountyfair.com/results

The Extension Office and the Barton County Fair Board are working together to provide your ribbon and auction premium checks. Please be patient - this year involved lots of new processes and technology for us.

We are so proud of everyone who took a risk and tried out Flip Grid for inside exhibits or showed in the modified format for livestock. It was definitely a challenge and will certainly be one for the record-books! Speaking of record-books, NOW is a great time to update and make notes about your projects.

Did you share the Flip Grid Public Showcase with family and friends? If you haven't yet, the link is flipgrid.com and Flip Code is btcofair

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Kansas State Fair - we don't know what will happen for the Kansas State Fair at this point but encourage all qualifying exhibitors to prepare as if the KSF will happen in some format. As Michelle receives more information, she will share it via Facebook.

In most categories, if you are at least 9 and received a purple at County Club Day (for a demonstration, Illustrated or project talk, or reading) or a purple at county fair, you may be able to exhibit dependent on the direction we receive in the next few weeks.

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Did you watch the Barton County 4-H Ambassadors Welcome to the Fair video? They did a GREAT JOB so check it out.

4-H Ambassador Video
Are you looking for an opportunity to take your leadership to the next level?

The Youth Council Application and National Conference Application will be combined again this year, with applicants indicating if they are applying for one or both opportunities.

The information will soon be available on the KYLF webpage and the National Conference webpage on the State 4-H Website. Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2021 may apply as a Council Rep and those 15-18 before January 1, 2021 may apply for National Conference. This year's virtual KYLF delegation will elect representatives from the four extension program areas (NE, NW, SE, SW) for one year terms on council. Up to 6 National Conference Delegates will be selected through an application and interview process and they serve a two year term on council.

Youth Council members work to involve youth with K-State Research and Extension in promoting, developing, implementing and evaluating Kansas Extension 4-H Youth Development programs in order to reflect the needs and interests of the youth in the state. Council members will also plan and conduct the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, Citizenship in Action, Campference, 48 Hours of 4-H and other events.

Applications and reference forms are due on an online form on September 21, 2020 before 11:59 p.m. CST. Applicants will also be asked to prepare a short video and email or upload that link or file by the above deadline. The signature page (both conference or council rep) and agreement page (conference only) must be postmarked by September 21, 2020, or emailed on or before September 21.

This year the Council Elections will include the application process detailed above and from those applications up to 12 young people per area will be invited to interview by zoom prior to KYLF. From those that interview, up to 6 candidates will be selected to be in the election.
LEADERS' CORNER

Do you need ideas or resources for activities at your club meeting? Check with Michelle as she has project/activity options as well as leadership ideas!

**We have a couple of clubs who have had no representatives at 4-H Council this entire year. Please check in with your Council representatives and make sure that they are getting these dates on their calendar and arranging for substitutes if they cannot attend.

Financial Reviews - These need to be completed and turned in to the Extension Office BY November 1! Link to the form HERE

**ZSuite Training** - several training opportunities were provided to Club Leaders during February for the new record system. Cottonwood - Barton is part of the pilot project which will replace KAPs for the Junior and Intermediate levels. *Michelle hasn't seen any activity so would encourage you to check it out soon as this will be the appropriate format for submitting record books this year.*

ZSuites provides a very user friendly platform for recording and updating 4-H records! Michelle's favorite part is that it can be accessed via a mobile device so you can upload on the go!

https://4h.zsuite.org/

Club Leader and family training is available HERE!

Volunteer Status

Providing a safe environment for youth to explore and learn is one of the fundamentals of 4-H! In order to provide that safe environment, all 4-H volunteers must complete the Volunteer Registration Process. Kansas 4-H policy requires that that each club have at least two leaders who have completed this process.

For more information on the process, please access the LINK. To check on your status, please contact Michelle.

It will soon be time to update your 4-H Online profile and volunteer training!

THANK YOU for your willingness to make a difference in the life of a 4-H member.
Upcoming Events and Deadlines
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

August
   17 - Junior Leaders, 6 pm (tentatively at old 4-H Building)
   17 - 4-H Council, 7:30 pm (tentatively at old 4-H Building)

September
   11-20 - Kansas State Fair - WATCH FOR UPDATES TO DATES/PROCESS/ DEADLINES

October
   1 - Enrollment/Reenrollment Opens
   3-10 - National 4-H Week
   10-11 - 484H

November
   1 - Financial Reviews for all 4-H Clubs and affiliated organizations (Livestock Committee, Shooting Sports, 4-H Council, Junior Leaders) are due to the Extension Office
   21-22 - VIRTUAL FORMAT! More details will be provided soon.

December
   1 - DEADLINE FOR RE-ENROLLMENT to participate in the 2021 fair