I'm trying out a different format for the February newsletter - let me know what you think

As always, the goal of the newsletter is to share useful information about upcoming events and activities as well as share news and learning opportunities.

As Extension agents, we were challenged during our annual conference to look for ways to be innovative in our programming. This can create challenges as we sometimes have to let go of existing things in order to create new things. It does NOT mean that there was anything wrong with the old way; it may just be time to refresh and update.

I have had the opportunity recently to attend several workshops on STEM-related activities that really challenged me - my thinking and my comfort zone!

I would encourage all of you to also look at your comfort zones, especially as it relates to 4-H projects. Do you only participate in livestock or are you rounding out your 4-H experience by diving into photography? Are you focused on Space Tech or stretching your vision by adding visual arts?

Life is a Grand Adventure - Make every day count!
4-H In The News

We are excited to announce the 12th Annual 4-H Day with the Wildcat Women’s Basketball team has been scheduled for Sunday, March 8, when the Wildcats take on the KU Jayhawks!

Tip-off will be at 2:00 p.m. For $22, each individual will receive a ticket into the game, a game day t-shirt, and a $10 meal voucher to use at the main concession stands.

For full details and to register online, visit: https://www.kansas4-h.org/docs/20%204-H%20Day%20Flyer.pdf

State 4H Horse Panorama at Rocks Springs Ranch in Junction City is one of the highlights of our Barton County (Cottonwood District) 4H Horse Project. This group has practiced their tails off throughout the year prior to compete in several events including Quiz Bowl, Hippology (written tests, slides, & stations), Posters, Photos, Logos Public Speaking and more!
Q1. I tried to enroll my 7 year old in Shooting Sports and it won't let me! Why?
A1. Great question! By Kansas 4-H guidelines, 4-H members can't enroll in Shooting Sports until they are 8. Please keep in mind that the goal of all projects is the learning process and we want to make sure that 4-H members are able to evaluate and learn from the information presented.

Q2. What is YQCA and why does my 4-H member have to complete it to sell in the county auction or exhibit livestock at KSF or KJLS?
A2. Youth Quality Care of Animals is an important educational piece of livestock projects. In addition to covering animal health and handling, each class also covers our role as livestock producers in regard to the food supply and public perceptions. You have two options to complete the class: Attend one of the on-site classes offered in Barton or a neighboring county (or at Junior Producer Days!) OR 4-H members may complete the course online.
With either setting, you enroll online and pay a minimal fee to the YQCA Organization which produces and maintains the training.

Q3. What is Super Saturday?
A4. We'll be sharing a flyer and registration link very soon. Super Saturday is a combined effort by several counties to provide an interactive day of judging practice and workshops for 4-H youth. Opportunities are available for Life Skills Judging, Entomology Judging, Plant Judging, Photography Judging, and Livestock Judging in addition to many hands on workshops. Costs are dependent on the number of contests and workshops attended as some workshops have additional costs.
Leaders' Corner

How do you prepare for a Club Meeting?
Do you work with the President to determine an agenda?
Do you send the agenda out to families ahead of time?
Do you plan (or work with an older youth) to plan some kind of learning activity at each meeting such as a project spotlight or leadership/teamwork activity?

The Extension Office has great resources and Michelle is happy to work with you to develop an activity or check out project materials.

One of Michelle's favorite moments in a club meeting is to take a "Time Out" to help younger (and some older!) 4-H members understand WHY we proceed a certain way and HOW to properly execute the action.

Many thanks to the club leaders, parents, and older 4-H members who have stepped up to serve on a committee!

Volunteer Update - Providing a safe environment for youth to learn and grow is paramount to 4-H!
If I have reached out to you recently, please make time to complete the steps necessary to be a registered volunteer.
From Training Wheels
Michele Cummings
Presidents
NW 4-H Advisory

EVENT SPONSORED BY:

Dane Hansen Foundation

NW 4-H Advisory

FUNDING PARTNER:

Best Western Drovers Inn

TOWN PLACE SUITES 785.261.6930
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 785.625.3344
HAMPTON INN & SUITES 785.625.3344
BEST WESTERN DROVERS 785.625.4337

Please note:
The sign on the front building on the east side of the road. Look for 4-H Aududitorium is just past the administration office. From the entrance, go west (right) on US 183 for 0.4 miles to the US 183 bypass. Then go south 2 miles to the KSU Research Center Aududitorium.

K-State Extension, Research and Development

Opportunity provider and employer:

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Registration Deadline March 25th

Additional Students: $45
One Day: $190
School Team: $160
Non-KSRE Two Day: $115
Non-KSRE One Day: $65
Ksre Two Day: $85
Ksre One Day: $50

Please Mark One:

Exam Students: □
School Team: □
Non KSRE Two Day: □
Non KSRE One Day: □
Ksre Two Day: □
Ksre One Day: □

Organization(s) School:

Extension Unit:

Adult Youth

Gender:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Address:

Name:

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Upcoming Event and Deadlines!

Mark your calendars!

February

7 - CLUB DAY ENTRIES DUE
15 - Cottonwood BT Shooting Sports Meet
16/17 - Citizenship in Action, Topeka
21/22 - Ambassador Training, Rock Springs
23 - Club Day, Ellinwood High School
24 - Livestock Committee Meeting
29 - Beef Weigh In

March

2 - STATE KAPs DUE TO STATE 4-H OFFICE
8 - 4-H Day with Wildcat Women
13 - Regional Club Day, GBHS
14 - Sheep Junior Producer Day, KSU
19 - YQCA at 3:30 (pre-registration is required)
21 - Super Saturday, FHSU campus (pre-registration is required)

April

3/4 - NWLF hosting speaker Michelle Cummings
25 - Space Tech Day, BCC campus (more details soon)

May

1 - DEADLINE for enrollment/changes
1 - deadline for tagging goats, sheep, swine (arrangements must be made with Alicia and tagging complete by this date)
1 - Beef nominations/DNA due for KSF and KJLS
26 - YQCA at 5:30 (pre-registration is required)

June

12 - HOK Counselors to camp
13-16 - HOK 4-H Camp
15 - Goat, Sheep, Swine nominations/DNA due for KSF and KJLS

July

8-12 Barton County Fair
Access YOUR Inspire Kids To Do HEALTHY LIVING GUIDE at https://4-h.org/about/inspire-kids-to-do/#main-form

Follow Cottonwood Extension District at www.cottonwood.ksu.edu
Facebook - Barton County 4-H Members and K-State Research and Extension - Cottonwood Extension District
Michelle Beran, 4-H Youth Development
1800 12th St
Great Bend KS 67530
620-793-1910