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August/September 2020

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to 4-H'ers, your families, and every volunteer who made the 2020 Ellis County Fair a big success. This was an unusual year and it made a HUGE difference with everyone doing their part to help!

Each member can be proud of the things you've accomplished this year. No matter what color ribbon you received or how much your premium check is, you are ALL winners because you **worked hard** and **learned** many new things along the way.

Please take time to write thank you notes to the sponsors of your awards and others that helped with the fair. We need to let our volunteers and sponsors know that we appreciate their continued support!

Here's your chance to give us feedback about the fair. There's an on-line survey to share your thoughts with the Ellis Co. 4-H Council and the Ellis Co. Fairboard. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts by **Friday, August 14**. [Here's the link.](#)

Hats off to everyone who stepped in and volunteered . . . at the Schenk Building, the Foodstand, in the barns . . . your help was greatly appreciated and it helped to make everything run smoothly. With the new sign up system, we were able to track over 1200 volunteer hours worked during the Fair. We all know that many more hours were given and not specifically tracked. Thanks everyone for ALL of your efforts to make the Ellis County Fair a special event!

As always, if you have questions, don't hesitate to ask . . . a leader, a 4-H member, or Extension Staff.

Yours in 4-H,

Susan Schlichting

Susan Schlichting
District Extension Agent – 4-H Youth Development

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Meetings Coming Your Way

4-H Achievement Banquet, 4-H Day, Promotion – August 12, 6:00 p.m.

4-H Council – August 19, 6:30 p.m.

4-H Leader Supper – August 25, 6:30 p.m.

Cottonwood 4-H PDC – August 31, 7 p.m. via zoom

Ways to Contact Us

- You can reach the 4-H Office Voice Mail at (785) 628-9430 ext. 14
- Extension Office fax # is (785) 621-2002
- sschlich@ksu.edu
- www.cottonwood.ksu.edu

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

- August 12** – Register for the KS 4-H Horticulture Contest
- August 10** - Enter Dairy, Dairy Goat and Poultry KSF exhibits with Ext. Office
- August 14** – Fair feedback survey completed
- August 15** – Enter in the KS Cowboy Poetry contest
- September 2** – Register for 3-2-1 Blast Off Class through HRC
- September 9** – 4-H Kansas Award Portfolios & Membership Pin Aps Due
- September 21** – Apply for NW 4-H Youth Council or National 4-H Conference positions
- September 25** – Rosemary Smith 4-H Scholarship & Club Award Entries Due

VIRTUAL LEARNING OPS

There are lots of opportunities to check out contests, conferences and try new things through all of the Virtual Learning offerings. Take a closer look. Try something new! Read on for the many cool possibilities that “virtual” is bringing to us! Many of these things are **FREE**, so now’s a great time to check them out!



ELLIS COUNTY FAIR WRAP UP

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 4-H’ers at the Fair!

Here are the top individuals for the various contests held during the Fair. Check out photos on our website on the Ellis County Fair page and on our Facebook pages.

Life Skills Judging—Fair

Jr./Int. 1st place – Mariella Dreiling, GJ; 2nd place – Marisa Wasinger, GH
Sr. 1st place – Dustin Rajewski, GJ; Sr. 2nd place – Michaela Dickman, GJ

Champion Fitting & Showing

Champion Senior –Konnor Pfeifer, ES
Reserve Champion Senior –Kylee Pfeifer, ES
Champion Intermediate –Colton Metzler, ES
Reserve Champion Intermediate –Kyle Huser, VV
Champion Junior –Kinley Pfannenstiel, GH
Reserve Champion Junior –Karci Kimzey, BJJ

Herdsmanship Winners

Beef – Big Creek Astros
Sheep – Ellis Sunflowers
Swine – Ellis Sunflowers
Meat Goats –Victoria Vikings
Rabbits – Buckeye Jr. Farmers
Poultry –Victoria Vikings

Animal Management Skill-a-thon

Sr. – 1st – Kaleb Neher, VV
Jr. 1st – Ella Neher, VV

4-H FOODSTAND

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all 4-H families who helped to make this year’s 4-H Foodstand a success! This was a different year and we appreciate all of the extra efforts by the foodstand managers, committee members and others who stepped in to fill the needs. It takes a great deal of man power to make that type of operation work in a normal year. Thanks to the foodstand managers, Mike and Amy Jensen for all the extra efforts in providing a safe and positive place for 4-H families to come work, learn and serve together.

4-H AMBASSADORS AT THE FAIR

Thanks to the 4-H Ambassadors for stepping in and helping announce the livestock shows and volunteering in many ways throughout the Fair. They hope to be able to offer the Fun at the Fair tours again in 2021.

Think you’d like to join the 4-H Ambassador team? Watch for an application coming to your mailbox in the near future!

VIRTUAL STATE 4-H HORTICULTURE JUDGING CONTEST

Here’s your chance to see what the 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest is all about! If you are 9 – 18 years of age (4-H age) and you know a thing or two about horticulture, this event is for YOU! It is FREE to participate this year!

The contest will be open to complete Saturday, August 15, 8 a.m. to Sunday August 16, 8 a.m. CDT.

Registration Deadline: August 12, 2020 at 5 p.m. Click here for the [registration link](#).

What will you need to participate?

Participation will require an internet connection and a connected device (computer or tablet). Using a phone will make it difficult to see the photos/classes and to complete. You will be sent a link for the contests prior to the contest start time. You will also need adequate time to finish the contest in one sitting.

Copy of the Horticulture ID Sheet – You will need a hard copy of this to go through the contest and use the correct answer codes. <https://bit.ly/30baqD6>

The study material for 2020 is taken from a variety of Healthy Yard Videos detailed on the Kansas 4-H Website on the Horticulture Judging Contest page.

The contest will consist of plant identification, quality judging and a knowledge test. Ties are broken on the identification score.



IT'S KANSAS STATE FAIR TIME!

At the writing of this newsletter we have received some basic information about entering in livestock and small animal shows at this year's Kansas State Fair. Details are still forthcoming for virtual indoor exhibit participation. Watch your email box and the Facebook pages for specifics as we receive them.

Eligibility for State Fair

If you receive a purple on indoor exhibits or blue on livestock exhibits at County Fair, your item may be eligible for the State Fair. Check here to review [State Fair rules](#). You must be 9 years of age by January 1, 2020 to show at the State Fair. **Pre-entry is required. Poultry, Dairy Goat and Dairy entries are due in our office by Monday, August 10. Other entry deadlines are not known at this time.**

This year, you may enter **1 item per project area** that you qualified in. (Areas such as Visual Arts, Posters, Notebooks, Displays may not have a category for entry at the Kansas State Fair.) Refer to the Kansas State Fair [4-H Fairbook](#) for specific details about exhibiting each project.

Good luck to all exhibitors participating in this year's Fair.

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KANSAS STATE FAIR

Announcement

Kansas State Fair has approved support for a virtual judging alternative for 4-H Youth who qualify to advance to the State Fair level in their project area.

Kansas 4-H is working on the details to provide virtual alternatives for each state fair division listed:

- Clothing/Fiber Arts
- Crops
- Energy Management
- Entomology
- Fashion Revue
- Forestry
- Food Preservation
- Foods – Nutrition
- Geology
- Home Environment
- Horticulture
- Photography
- Public Presentations
- Rabbit
- Shooting Sports
- SpaceTech
- Wildlife
- Woodworking

KS 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is Going Virtual

We received word that this year's Livestock Sweepstakes contest is also going virtual. At this time we don't have the details. It will be held during the same timeframe we had planned for the face to face event. August 22 – 23. If you participated in Animal Management contest at the conclusion of the County Fair and would like to participate in this virtual contest, **let us know by Friday, August 7** so we can get you registered.

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

Are you interested in Shooting Sports? Air Rifle, BB Gun and Air Pistol will begin in October. Contact Leslie Dexter NOW if you'd like to get involved. Leslie Dexter, County Coordinator 785- 656-3452 (evenings/weekends) or e-mail her at eldext@gmail.com for more information.

T-Shirt Quilt Fundraiser During Ellis County Fair

Thanks to Berny Unruh for designing/sewing the t-shirt quilt and to Tatum Kimzey for her creative quilting. And thanks to everyone who bought tickets in support of the new Small Animal barn at the Ellis Co. Fairgrounds. Congratulations to Anna Kuhn who won the quilt!

The NEW 4-H Year is Almost Here!

As you already know, 4-H is a network of families that work together to grow great kids! And 4-H has something to offer both city and country families. Now's the time to invite families you know to come and get involved as we get ready to start the new 4-H year. Let's work together to encourage more Ellis Co. youth and families to come and join the fun as we learn and work together!

KANSAS TO HOST FIRST-EVER COWBOY POETRY YOUTH CONTEST VIRTUALLY

In 2020, the Kansas Cowboy Poetry Contest is sponsoring its first-ever youth cowboy poetry contest. Called the Youth Roundup, it is a virtual competition for Kansas cowboys and cowgirls 18 years old or younger. ***Who knows, you might be the next "Baxter Black"!!?!***

"We invite 4-H and FFA members and other Kansas youth to enter, write and share a video of them presenting a cowboy poem," said poetry contest chair Ron Wilson of the Lazy T Ranch near Manhattan. "A cowboy poem is rhyming verse which tells a story or in some way relates to the life of the American cowboy," Wilson said. **There is no charge to enter.**

The champion will receive a trophy buckle and the top three winners will receive a certificate signed by the Governor of Kansas and an educational scholarship. **Each contestant is to write an original western-themed poem and record a video of him or herself presenting it.** That video will be submitted to a panel of judges for placing. There will also be an opportunity for the public to vote for their favorites online.

"We are so grateful for the sponsors' generosity which makes this possible: The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation, Kansas Farm Bureau, the International Western Music Association – Kansas Chapter, and the International Western Music Association – Western Wordsmiths Chapter," Wilson said.

Entry information can be found at www.cowboypoetryyouthroundup.com. Videos must be submitted by August 15, 2020. Poems are to be original work. They can be serious or humorous. They will be evaluated based on quality, theme, and delivery. Examples and additional information can be found on the website.

First place will receive a \$500 scholarship, second \$300, and third \$200. The funds are to be used for post-secondary education or technical training. If the recipient is not scheduled to graduate this year or next, the funds will be held for the recipient's future use.

48 Hours of 4-H . . . A Kansas 4-H Service Challenge

As you begin to look to fall 4-H events, keep this in mind. Join the KS 4-H Youth Leadership Council in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend after National 4-H Week is the perfect opportunity to set up a service project. To learn more visit www.kansas4-H.org/484h for information on organizing a service project and registering your event.

4-H International Opportunities 2021

States' 4-H International Exchange Programs (States' 4-H) is moving ahead with planning summer 4-H exchanges for 2021. At this time, spaces are being held for 2020 accepted participants who are still eligible in 2021 if they sign an agreement and pay \$100 toward their trip next summer. Additional applicants will be allowed for unfilled spaces left in the national pools to travel to Costa Rica, Japan, Korea, Norway, Romania and Taiwan. Additional country destinations may be added. Learn more at the [KS 4-H World Citizenship page](#).

KANSAS YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM IS GOING VIRTUAL

Like many events the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum will be going virtual this year! Dates are Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22. Be watching your email for schedules and additional information. The Kansas Youth Leadership Council is working to transform their in-person plan to a virtual plan as quickly as possible.

Components should include a speaker, election of the new council, workshops, some small groups and some fun too.

The tentative plan looks like:

Saturday 9 a.m. to noon session

Saturday 1:45 p.m. to 4 p.m. session

Sunday 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

KS 4-H YOUTH COUNCIL

Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 by January 1, 2021 may apply to be a Council member. The duties of the Council members include planning the next Youth Leadership Forum and other events, and may include assisting with State 4-H functions, working with 4-H public relations, and speaking at local achievement programs, forums, and other workshops or conferences. [Applications for the State 4-H Youth Council](#) are **due in the State 4-H Office September 21.**

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. Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 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.

AWARDS CORNER



4-H KAPs and Member Pin Aps

I've heard several reports of "bored" 4-H'ers out there!!! One thing you might do to help alleviate the boredom is to start working on those 4-H KAPs and Pin Aps. All the needed forms are available on the [Forms page](#) of our website. Give us a call if you have ?s or would like to set up a meeting to help work on getting this started!

In this unusual year, remember that virtual participation counts on Pin Aps and in KAPs. What virtual learning activities and leadership did you participate in?? Did you lead recreation or give a talk at a zoom 4-H club meeting? Be sure to write those things down!

Remember, this year Jr. and Intermediate 4-H'ers are piloting the KS 4-H KAP process. That means you will use the <https://4h.zsuite.org/> site to log your participation in one project area and submit that to our office for your KAP this year. Please submit it in a notebook or folder to protect it.

WHAT MAKES UP A KANSAS 4-H RECORD BOOK AT THE LOCAL LEVEL? (1, 2, 4 found on [Forms page](#), 3 is printed from zsuite)

A Kansas 4-H Project Report contain 4 parts: (age divisions: Junior and Intermediate in 2020)

1. Record Check sheet
2. Personal Information Page
3. Kansas 4-H Project Report (s) - (one report per project)
4. Permanent Record

You are welcome to "borrow" photos of your 4-H'ers in action from our Facebook page. Download them to your device and upload them to the zsuite site.

Senior members will continue to use the old KS 4-H KAP forms found on our website's [Forms page](#). The KAP form includes instructions to complete the KAP process, including writing your 4-H story about the project area of your choice, including 3 pages of photos of your work in that project – including, leadership, citizenship and project learning.

If you need a refresher on how to use the zsuite site, there is a link to a webinar on the front 4-H page of our website for you to watch. You are also welcome to give our office a call and ask for assistance.

These forms are all due in the Extension Office on Wednesday, September 9, 2020.

Member Pin Aps Due September 9

Your [Pin Aps](#) are **due in the Extension Office on Wednesday, September 9**. You can pick up forms at the Extension Office or print them from our website. Feel free to contact us if you have ?s about this process. Remember, the Pin Ap does require you to work on the KAP and Pin Ap in order to receive your member pins.

If you would like to schedule an appointment for assistance with this process, give our office a call.

Key Award

The Key Award is a very prestigious award given to only 10% of Kansas 4-H youth. 4-H'ers 16 & over may apply if enrolled in the Leadership project and meet eight requirements. [Applications](#) are available at the Ext. Office and are due **Wednesday, September 9**.

"I DARE YOU" Leadership Award

Each year, two 4-H'ers in their junior year of HS or older can be recognized for their leadership abilities. This award is given in the hope of encouraging young people to lead purposeful lives. This ap requires a letter of recommendation from the club leader. **Club Leaders can nominate youth for this special award.** [Applications](#) are due to the Extension Office **by Wednesday, September 9**.

Cloverbud Scrapbooks

4-H participation teaches youth many new skills. Record keeping is one of those skills. We use those skills daily as adults. A Cloverbud & their adult guide will fill out the [Cloverbud Personal Page](#). They can design a cover and add up to 3 additional scrapbook pages. These might include photos, ribbons, or clippings. Be creative. These will not be judged, but those completing the process will receive special recognition at the fall 4-H Achievement Banquet. Submit these to the Extension Office **by Wednesday, September 9**.

Charter Seal Applications Due

4-H Clubs...it's time for your club's leadership team to meet and see what you've accomplished this past year. Your [Charter Seal applications](#) are completed and turned in **by Friday, September 25**. Let's try for 100% completion in 2020!

Club Officer Notebooks Due

Reporters, secretaries, historians, and treasurers...did you know that you can turn in your notebooks for county judging? Please finish them up and turn them into the Extension Office immediately after your September meeting. Submit officer notebooks **NO LATER THAN Friday, September 25**.

Friend of 4-H

There are many people and businesses who share their time, talents and resources with the local 4-H program. Ellis County 4-H recognizes an outstanding individual and business that goes above and beyond to assist with 4-H activities. Please take time to nominate a business and an individual that your club sees as deserving of this special honor. The application forms are available in the Extension Office and **are due Friday, September 25**.

Rosemary Smith Scholarship

Scholarships available to Ellis Co. 4-H members in their Jr. or Sr. year of HS, currently enrolled in a Higher Ed course or former 4-H members who are currently enrolled in college. Applications are available on the Forms page of the website & are **due Friday, September 25**.

Remember, **DEADLINES are DEADLINES** in **Ellis Co. 4-H**. Please pay attention to and respect those deadlines so that your child doesn't miss out on an opportunity!

MORE ON MEMBER PIN APPLICATIONS

Standard of Excellence Award Categories: Here a “standard” is set and completion of categories is determined by a minimum requirement.

- Membership Pin** – Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—1 optional requirement AND Personal Page OR 4-H Story
- Bronze Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—3 optional requirements AND 4-H Personal Page, 4-H Story, Photos OR 7-8 year old KAP
- Clover Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—7 optional requirements AND 4-H Personal Page, 4-H Story, Photos OR 9-13-year-old KAP
- Emerald Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—9 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
- Silver Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—10 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
- Silver Guard Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—12 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
- Jr. Leader Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—16 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
- Gold Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan— 19 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
- Gold Guard** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—21 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
- Key Award** - State Application Form - Limited to 10% of those 16 and over.

MORE ON KANSAS AWARD PORTFOLIOS

County Champion - Awarded in individual projects. Jr. & Sr. pins awarded. Must complete Kansas Award Portfolio (KAP). 33 project areas available. Seniors advance to the Regional screening held in January each year. Regional winners submit their KAP to the state screening. State screening may include an interview process to select the finalists who are recognized at the Emerald Circle Banquet in Manhattan and who earn a trip to the National 4-H Congress held in Atlanta.

[All forms are available on-line](#), at the Extension Office or visit with your 4-H Club Leader.

KAPs and Pin applications are due to the Extension Office September 9.

YOUR 4-H STORY – Seniors only in 2020

The 4-H Story is a very important part of your KAP. A well-organized story is easiest to read and follow. You may want to try outlining your story before you begin writing.

Introduce yourself - include your age, interests, family, where you live, where you attend school, when and why you joined 4-H.

Tell about your favorite 4-H project. Why did you choose the project; what goals did you set and which ones did you reach; what have you learned in the project; how has the project grown in size and scope; describe the things you have tried and found successful and some that were not so successful; how have you arranged for financing; include profits, losses and savings.

Highlight other 4-H projects and activities. Give information about other project activities you have participated in: include major learning experiences; special interests; usual experiences; and unusual situations that you’ve encountered.

Describe how 4-H participation has influenced your school and career goals. Tell about your plans for the future and the career you would like to pursue. What do you want to do next year?



Look familiar? If you were a 4-H'er in the 1970s & 1980s, you most likely used this cover to hold your 4-H Record Book. Times have changed! You can place your Kansas Award Portfolio into any type of thin binder that you choose. You can still purchase this style cover through 4-Hmall.org. We do have one or two available for sale at the Ext. Office, too.

The Kansas Award Portfolio process is a **one-year snap shot of your 4-H work in one project area**. It helps 4-H'ers learn record keeping skills. One Ellis Co. 4-H'er recently said “Why didn’t I start doing this a long time ago?”. It’s not as difficult and time consuming as you may remember if you did a 4-H Record Book! And having this **information captured in the KAP will help the 4-H'er when it’s time to apply for college scholarships or jobs!**