



What's Inside?

Ellis County Fair Updates
Leadership Opportunities
KS 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
Kansas State Fair Entry Info.

Fair Edition
2020

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

The Countdown to County Fair is ON! This is the “Official Fair Edition” of the 4-H Newsletter. Read on to learn more about what’s happening at this year’s Ellis County Fair.

Fair entry deadline for Livestock, Horse, Small Animals and Clothing Buymanship/Fashion Revue project areas is Monday, June 22 this year ALL OTHER entries (and the ones you’ve submitted via the paper process) in 4-H & Open Class will need to be entered into the [FairEntry.com](https://www.fairentry.com) system by JULY 6. We will be using the same Fair entry process on-line this year. Check out the video and handout about how to make your entries on the Ellis Co. 4-H – Events – Ellis County Fair page. **The FairEntry.com system will open on June 26.**

Due to Covid-19, there will be a number of changes to the way we go about the Fair. We have created a [document](#) to address what some of these things will look like, based on the situation shortly before the Fair. Please pay attention to our website, Facebook page and email messages to stay up on the very latest details.

Like last year, each family is asked to go to an on-line site to select your times to work in the **4-H Foodstand**. **Each family will be asked to fill one 4-hour shift during the week.** You pick the times and the jobs that work best for your family. **Please take time to sign up by July 7.** Look for details on how to do this elsewhere in this letter.

Please don’t hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions concerning these upcoming events & deadlines. Remember in Ellis Co. “Deadlines are deadlines”. Be sure to plan ahead so that your 4-H’er doesn’t miss out on an educational opportunity.

Come join the fun & learning!

Yours in 4-H,

Susan Schlichting

Susan Schlichting

District Extension Agent – 4-H Youth Development



K-STATE
Research and Extension

Ways to Contact Us

- We make a drop box available in the front of the Extension Office for your convenience.
- 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



Meetings Coming Your Way

4-H Ag Livestock – July 1, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

4-H Home Ec, BBQ, Foodstand – Mon, July 6, 6:00 p.m. Fairgrounds

Fair Superintendent Meeting – July 8, 7:00 p.m. Fairgrounds – **RSVP by Friday, June 26**

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!



IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

June 22 – County Fair Entry Deadline for Livestock, Fashion Revue, Horse & Small Animal Projects
June 26 – Sign Up for Fairgrounds Work Nite
July 7 – Submit Club Volunteer info to signup.com site
July 6 – 4-H and Open Exhibits entries for Ellis Co. Fair close
July 7 – Sign up to work in the 4-H Foodstand
July 11 – Select your times to visit with the 4-H Judges – ALL AREAS
July 10 – Enroll in the KS 4-H Wheat Variety Plot Project
July 15 – KSF Livestock Entries Postmarked
July 20 – Register KSF Horse entries with Ext. Office
July 20 – KSF Small Animal and Indoor Exhibits Pre-entered with Ext. Office
July 25 – Register for KS 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
July 29 – Register for KS 4-H Wheat Expo in Wichita
September 9 – 4-H Kansas Award Portfolios & Membership Pin Aps Due

Livestock Pre-entry for Ellis Co. Fair

Pre-entry forms, picture forms, insurance forms will be due on June 22. At this time all animals must be designated to a 4-H'ers name. The letter was mailed out two weeks ago and is also posted on our website! If you haven't received the mailing or need additional copies of forms, [check here for a copy of the letter and enclosed forms.](#)

Be sure you go [on-line](#) and enter ALL of your participation by July 6.

We have been very fortunate in Ellis County to not have had many cases of Covid-19. Know that if the Covid situation changes and the Governor, KSU or the Ellis Co. Health department put further restrictions in place, we will need to move to an approach other than "near normal".

*We are providing youth / families an alternative participation option this year due to Covid-19. Here's the ["Ellis Co. 4-H At Home" Fair Exhibit Document](#). **Please contact the Ext. Office by July 7 if you wish to participate in this exhibit opportunity.***

Volunteers Needed

In the survey, we asked if you might be willing to step up and help in places where current volunteers don't feel comfortable volunteering this year. (*The Ellis Co. Health Dept. has recommended that anyone over 55 step out of volunteer roles this year.*) **We WILL need additional help.** Here's where you can sign up to help:
[Indoor Exhibits](#) – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday
[Livestock Shows & Activities](#) – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Exhibitor Breakfast Coupons

Bank of Hays is once again sponsoring an exhibitor's breakfast. ***This year, the breakfast will be served at the 4-H Foodstand.*** 4-H exhibitors and volunteers will receive a coupon for use during the week. **Volunteers who sign up through the on-line volunteer forms and Superintendents will receive a coupon from the Ext. Office** before or during the Fair. ***Thanks, Bank of Hays!***

Herdsmanship Award

Commerce Bank has agreed to sponsor cash awards for Herdsmanship in livestock & small animal barns again this year. ***Be sure to thank them when you see a bank representative.*** Herdsmanship includes keeping your stalls, tie outs and tack areas clean, making sure your animals are fed & watered during the fair. It also includes decorating your club's area, posting stall cards for all exhibits and helping to educate the visitors to the barn about livestock projects.

This year's fair theme is "Affordable Fun!". What creative ways can your club use this theme in making your barn area look great during the fair?

If your club won in 2019, your club's project leader will receive a barn map. Please mark your preferences on the map and return it to the Extension Office with your club's preferred location in the barn **by the June 22 fair entry deadline.**

Barn Clean Up & Manure Wagon Unloading During the Fair

The Ellis Co. Fairboard is asking that each club take a turn [removing trash from containers](#) around the 3 barns during the week of the Fair and [emptying the manure wagon](#). A schedule has been posted to the scheduling site. We ask that the club leader complete this sign up for your club. Thanks for your help with this in keeping our grounds looking great for the visitors who come on out to the Fair.

Livestock Photos are Tuesday

You will sign up to have your livestock photos taken early Tuesday morning or right after lunch. Go to the [on-line link](#) to schedule for morning or afternoon. There are limited slots available for both timeframes. **You must get your photo taken during these times if you intend to sell an animal in the sale.**

Animal Management Skill-A-Thon

We are working on the possibility of holding a virtual contest this year. Watch for contest details coming your way soon. If you are interested in participating, sign up at [fairentury.com](#) when you enter your other entries **by July 6.**

KSF Livestock Entries Due July 15

Entries for the Kansas State Fair are due, **postmarked July 15.**

Youth Livestock Sweepstakes

The 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is set for August 22-23 on KSU campus. This all-around event will feature contests in Livestock Judging, Meats Judging, Livestock Skill-a-thon, and Livestock Quiz Bowl. A special prize will be awarded to the county that does the best in all four contests.

Ellis County's team consideration will be based on your scores from the Animal Management Skillathon, if held. All intermediate and senior 4-H'ers are welcome to sign up and pay to participate. **Entries are due to the Extension Office by Thursday, July 23. Be aware that the number of participants may be limited by the KS 4-H program. Let us know if you are interested in being considered for the team.**



Cat Proof of Vaccination for County Fair

Cats & kittens (over 2 months of age) shown at the Ellis Co. Fair must be current on rabies and distemper vaccinations. Be prepared to provide proof of vaccination at show check in.

Required Poultry Testing for County Fair Suspended for 2020

Poultry exhibits (4-H & open class) are normally required to have a blood test in order to participate in the County Fair. This year, there is a shortage of the antigen required for this testing. As a result, the testing is suspended for 2020 for all Fairs and Shows. Questions contact Poultry Superintendent, Pam Montgomery.



ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2020 is set for July 11 - 18, 2020.
The Theme is "Affordable Fun!"

Check the [Ellis Co. 4-H website](#) for a final 4-H events schedule for the 2020 Ellis Co. Fair.
Know that things may change between now and Fair time.

Entering the Fair

The FairEntry system will open June 26. You will pre-enter ALL exhibits and participations (showmanship, livestock judging, etc.) through an [on-line entry system](#) **by July 6.** It works with your 4-H On-line account. The system will print out entry cards, so you won't have to hand write out the cards! There's a [help sheet available](#) to help walk you through the process. You will be able to pick up your entry cards to attach them to exhibits ahead of the Fair. Check with the Extension Office by Friday, July 10 to pick up your cards. ***(PS – if you misplace these entry tags, you WILL get to hand write the replacements!)***

4-H BBQ Canceled

The Ellis Co. 4-H Council approved not holding a 4-H BBQ this year, due to Covid concerns.

4-H Food Bake Sale

The 4-H Bake Sale is canceled for this year. If you receive a blue or lower ribbon, you will be able to take your item home at the time you finish judging. You may come back at the end of the day on Tuesday to pick up purple ribbon exhibits, except for champions. Those will be displayed.

Foods Judges Resources

If you're a County Fair Foods Judge or if you are interested in what judges look for when evaluating your products, check out these new resources from K-state - <http://www.rrc.k-state.edu/judging/> We also created a video several years ago about how to prepare your foods exhibits for the County Fair. [Take a look at it here!](#)

4-H Food Challenge

4-H Council opted to cancel the Food Challenge this year due to Covid concerns. We may try to hold an event at a later time.

Judging Schedules – All Indoor Exhibits

This year, you will be scheduling your interview times with 4-H judges for ALL indoor areas ahead of the Fair. **This is different than what is in print in the Fairbook.** Those sign up links will be available shortly after the Fairentry.com entries close on July 6. **You will need to complete this by Saturday, July 11.**

Foodstand Scheduling

This year, every family will be scheduling your own hours at the stand, rather than the club doing this. **Each family will be asked to fill one 4-hour shift during the week.** You pick the times and the jobs that work best for your family. **Please take time to sign up by July 7.** Thanks. The sign up link will be available soon. 4-H Foodstand profits provide the operating funds to pay for the bus to camp, officer training, project workshops, Achievement Banquet, leadership scholarships for 4-H'ers and other committee projects that benefit ALL Ellis Co. 4-H members.

4-H Fair Books

A special printed copy of the Ellis Co. fair book is provided to 4-H families by the Fairboard. These are in the Extension Office and ready for distribution now. Stop by and pick your club's books. You can also view the books online at <https://cottonwood.k-state.edu/ellis-county4h/4-hevents/EllisCountyFair.html>

Foodstand Punch Cards Available for Purchase

Back by popular demand, we will be selling \$10 and \$20 punch cards for use during the Fair again this year. The punch cards are available now for purchase. Unused cards can be cashed in at the end of the Fair at the Foodstand.

Fun at the Fair Tours

The 4-H Ambassadors are canceling the Fun at the Fair tours due to Covid concerns.

Fair Supplies Fair stall cards and photo matte board are available for pick-up at the Extension Office. Photo Matte Board are available for \$1.50 per sheet.



Hey Graduating Senior Scholarship Recipients. . . 4-H SCHOLARSHIP & DEVELOPMENT is not offering a foodstand in the Deutschfest Hall this year. They are asking each graduating senior to give 4 hours of volunteer time back to 4-H before, during or after the Fair. Make arrangements for your project by visiting with Susan.

4-H Scholarship & Development raises funds to give graduating seniors and camp scholarships. **To date they've given over \$45,000 to Ellis Co. 4-H'ers.**

They will recognize graduating seniors at this year's 4-H Fashion Revue.

4-H Scholarship & Development Committee

Final Building Clean Up

Schenk Building **cleanup is set for Saturday, July 18, 9— 11 a.m.** All exhibits must be picked up between 9:00 & 10:00 a.m. If you can't be present for check out, please ask someone to check out exhibits for you. **Two families from each club are asked to help with cleanup.** Please sign up on the [4-H Schenk Building volunteers](#) link. Thanks.



#ShareattheFair

County fair season is just around the corner and the Kansas State Fair will be here before you know it! Join us and others around the nation, promoting 4-H through fair season by using and encouraging our 4-H families to use #ShareattheFair when posting fair photos on social media (i.e., Facebook, twitter, Instagram, etc.).

Families Camping @ the Fair

If you plan to camp on the fairgrounds during the fair, you will need to make arrangements for camper space and electrical needs with Tom & Melinda Fross at 628-8820 **prior to July 1.** Spaces are available on a first come, first served basis. There is a camping fee of \$100 for the week. **Payment should be made to the Ellis Co. Fairboard prior to July 10th.**

Parking @ the Fair

NO PARKING is allowed on the East side of the Schenk & Unrein Family buildings. This is VIP parking. It can be used for 15-minute loading and unloading. Please respect and observe all NO PARKING SIGNS. Access to certain lots is available only by approved hang tags. Tags will be sent out with final fair mailing to livestock & small animal families & Superintendents/Asst. Superintendents.

Lifeskills Judging Contests

We are working on plans for virtual judging contests. Watch for more details to come as they are available.

There are two separate contests with different classes at each. You don't have to be enrolled in any specific projects to participate. Participating in two contests is required for consideration for team selection for Kansas State Fair. If you participated in life skills judging at 4-H Day and participate in the 2 contests held in July, your two best scores are used to make selections.

Exhibit Building Early Release Policy

Complete & file an [Early Release Form](#) at Fair check in to request early release of 4-H & Open exhibits for exhibit at other area fairs. Early release will be allowed only from 8:00 – 9:00 on Saturday, July 18 and with this written prior approval. Forms are available on-line or at the Ellis County Extension Office. They will also be available at the fairgrounds during check in. **Those choosing to remove exhibits early without an early release form on file will forfeit ALL fair premiums.**

Rocket Kits for Sale

If you're not able to participate in the Rocketry class this summer, you may be interested in purchasing a kit from our office. They range from \$7.50-\$12 each and are suitable for beginner to intermediate rocketeers. We do have a few rocket engines available for purchase, as well, for a small fee. You can also check out the rocket launch systems from our office to complete your rocket launch prior to the Fair.

Special Classes - Get your exhibits ready for these special classes and enter them [on-line at faireentry.com](#) by the July 6 entry deadline.



Barn Quilts – They're popping up all over the countryside. . . and not just on barns! What exactly is a Barn Quilt? Did you see them at last year's ECF? Come join the fun and paint one for entry into this year's open class division. The winning exhibit may advance to the Kansas State Fair!

"Patriotism" is the new special category in open class photography.



King Arthur Baking Contest

New this year – Bake your favorite bar cookies using King Arthur flour for a chance at some great prizes. You must bring the UPC label from the flour bag with you as you bring the product to the Fair. Check out the Open Class section of the Fairbook for complete rules and prize listing. This is open to both youth and adults.

Open Special Foods Class

A dozen of your Favorite Cookies is the theme for the special open class foods entry this year. Put on your creative hat and think about ways to enter this class. Judging takes place after lunch on July 14.

4-H Wheat Variety Plot Program

It's wheat harvest and it's time to think about enrolling in the 2020 Kansas 4-H and FFA Wheat Variety Plot program. The program begins fall of 2020 and goes through September 2021. The enrollment form is on the [Kansas 4-H website](#).

Contact the Ext. Office by July 10. Participants receive a large plot sign, and five individual variety signs.

Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo is August 6 in Wichita

The Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo is a wheat fun day showcasing all things wheat. Join us for the annual event on Thursday, August 6 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. It is open to all 4-H family members, 4-H leaders and Extension staff. There will be eight contests open to youth members with cash prizes and ribbons awarded. There will be tours. There is a \$6.00 per person registration cost. Registration is currently open. Visit: <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events/index.html>.

Pre-registration will be required by Sunday, July 26 to ensure an accurate meal count and tour divisions. For more information about the wheat expo, visit <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events/index.html> For additional questions or to get involved with the wheat expo planning committee, contact Deryl Waldren at 785-462-6281 or e-mail him at: dwaldren@ksu.edu.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum Presenters Needed

The 17th Annual Kansas Youth Leadership Forum is November 21 —22 at Rock Springs. This conference, for 14-18-year-old 4-Hers, will include speakers, workshops, consulting groups and the election of the 2021 Kansas State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. If you would like to join the Ellis Co. 4-H leadership team to plan and present a workshop for KYLF, **contact Susan by June 25.**

KANSAS STATE FAIR

State Fair Exhibitor Handbook

The Kansas State Fair Book is available for review online @ [Kansas 4H](#). All the special forms and attachments for Fair exhibits are found at this link, as well.

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 with the Schenk Building Office or the Extension Office 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 by Monday, July 20.** Those important pre-entry dates are:

Livestock – July 15
All Other Projects – July 20

This year, you will complete the pre-entry process for State Fair eligible exhibits on-line. This must be completed by Monday, July 20, 11:59 p.m. The [Kansas State Fairbook](#) and a [data collection sheet](#) is available to help you with your entry process. First, fill out the necessary information on the data collection sheet, using the Kansas State Fairbook. You will log on to the [Kansas State Fair 4-H survey](#) to complete your entries. You will pick up your exhibits at the end of the Ellis County Fair and return them to the Extension Office by the Sept. 9 / Sept. 11 (Food & Hort.) deadlines.

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.

If you are planning to attend the KSF and have members who are exhibiting projects there, 4-H Council has purchased a gate pass for the members. You can also place advance parking and gate pass orders through our office by August 3.

State Fair Volunteers Needed

It is time to recruit committee members to help with the 2020 Kansas State Fair. In order for the Fair to run smoothly, over 50 committees operate with volunteers taking the lead. Duties range from accepting entries, to clerking for judges, to displaying exhibits and assisting with contests and shows. Please contact the Extension Office if you are interested in helping with a specific 4-H area. Youth are welcome to volunteer & must be at least 13 years of age. You will sign up with the Extension Office **by August 3** if you are able to help out. This year the Kansas State Fair will be held September 11 - 20 in Hutchinson, KS. Come join the fun!!!

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



One More Chance to Purchase Ellis Co. 4-H T-shirts, Caps, Tanks, and Hoodies

We had enough requests to purchase more 4-H items, that 4-H Council is reopening the store one more time before the County Fair. [Visit the Store](#) to place your order. A portion of every sale will go to support the Small Animal Barn Awning project. **Orders close at midnight on Sunday, June 28, so act NOW!**



T-Shirt Quilt Fundraiser during Ellis County Fair

4-H Council is continuing to raise funds to help with the new Small Animal barn at the Ellis Co. Fairgrounds. Thanks to Berny Unruh who is working hard to create a cool t-shirt quilt that will be given away after the Fair. To be eligible, you can make a donation to the Small Animal Barn Awning project during the Fair.



Congratulations & many thanks to everyone who voted for our LDI 4-H Video Contest entry. We won \$1,000 to go toward the \$14,000+ commitment by 4-H Council to help in raising funds for the new Small Animal Barn.

Thank you to all who have donated to this project.



See YOU at the Ellis County Fair!