



What's Inside?

- 4-H On-line Enrollments Due NOW
- 4-H Teen Leadership Opportunities
- 4-H Scholarship Opportunities
- 4-H Day Details
- 4-H Market Livestock Weigh-in & ID Procedures
- County Fair Judges Training

January 2020

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

Hope you had great holidays making special family memories! We have many exciting learning opportunities for your family to be involved in in the year ahead. This 4-H newsletter is one of the best ways to keep in touch with what's coming up. Take a few minutes to review the possibilities and come join us for those that best fit the needs of your family.

One of the outstanding Countywide learning opportunities is **4-H Day. It is Sunday, March 1.** Public **Presentation skills** are some of the most **valuable skills** 4-H'ers gain through their 4-H experience. Consider getting your child involved in this great learning activity. Several of our older 4-H'ers [created on-line videos](#) to help you navigate through the planning steps for each type of presentation. The event registration and rules will soon be posted on our website.

We look forward to working with you in 2020!

Yours in 4-H,

Susan Schlichting

Susan Schlichting

County Extension Agent – 4-H Youth Development



Meetings Coming Your Way

Home Ec, BBQ, Foodstand – Respond to Doodle Poll by January 10

4-H Ag Livestock – Monday, January 20, 6:30 p.m.

4-H Council – Respond to Doodle Poll by January 10



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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

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

January 15 – Sign up for 4-H Citizenship in Action (CIA) in Topeka

January 15 – Sign up for 4-H Horse Panorama

January 23 – Register for 4-H Judges Training

January 24 – KS 4-H Scholarship Aps Due in Ext. Office

January 31 – Enroll in Market Beef Project by Tomorrow

February 7 – Sign up for Jr. Beef Producer Day @ KSU

February 21 – Ellis Co. 4-H Day Entries Due

WINTER WEATHER & 4-H ACTIVITIES

Our policy is that if school cancels for weather related events, 4-H events are canceled, too. Please check our website or contact the person in charge before traveling in, if you are in doubt about the status of an event.

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4-H Enrollments

This is your last call to get your 4-H on-line enrollments updated for 2019 -20. **Even if you are enrolling in the same projects, you will still need to log-on and update.** Parents need to update their profiles, too! *This will be the last month that we will send out the newsletter notification email to both last year and this year's email list.*

You will be able to add projects or delete them from your list of enrollments until May 1 for all areas, **except Livestock projects.** Those need to be enrolled prior to the weigh-in and identification date set for each specie. I.e. Market Beef is usually weighed in early February and Small Livestock weighed in in late April.

VS (Volunteer Screening)

Each 4-H volunteer working directly with youth in the club, is required to go through this screening and training process. The application is done through your 4-H Online profile. The screening and training process **must be completed by February 1.**

Current Volunteers - If you are a current screened volunteer in your 4-H club and plan to continue to do so, please update your 4-H Online profile as your renewal form this year.

New & Returning Volunteers – will need to add your information to the 4-H On-line enrollment system by creating a member profile within your family's profile. Visit with your club's leader or our office if you need assistance with this!



Out of County 4-H Enrollment

If you live outside the Ellis County boundaries, you are required to file an "[Out of County 4-H Membership](#)" form annually. Please take time to complete and return this form to the local Extension Office now.

Parents will go through the 4-H Volunteer screening process, families will sign a form agreeing to be positive participants in the program. If currently in another county's program, families must provide a letter of release from the current board stating that they are a family in good standing in their 4-H program. Families will complete and sign the Out of County form and keep their KS 4-H Volunteer Screening file updated annually.

4-H Day is Coming—Sunday, March 1 – Victoria

4-H Day is a chance for 4-H members to showcase their project learning through public presentations. ***If you ask a 4-H alumni what one of the most important things they gained through their 4-H experience, they'll most likely tell you it is their public speaking ability.*** Consider building that powerful skill in your children through their involvement in 4-H Day activities. Mark Sunday, March 1 on your calendar and make plans now to participate in 4-H Day. It will begin early afternoon. Some clubs have already started working on skits, project talks, talent, etc. [Check out the website](#) for the latest information, rules, etc.

4-H Day 101

New to 4-H Day?? We've posted a series of informational handouts and videos on the website to help you get started planning talks. https://cottonwood.k-state.edu/ellis-county4h/4-hevents/ellis_4HDay.html Check out the series of "how to" video presentations by our Ellis Co. 4-H'ers.

4-H Public Service Announcements

Promote 4-H through this fun and creative speaking event. It's easy to get involved. Get a club team together or do this as an individual. Create a 30 second "info-mercial" about why your friends should join 4-H. **Contact the Extension Office to set up a taping time prior to March 1.** Tape your presentation. These will be judged and you will receive a ribbon for your presentation. Entries will be posted on the Ellis Co. 4-H page to help promote 4-H!

Model Meetings

Model Meetings are a great way to test your club's parliamentary procedure skills. It's not too late to sign up if you'd like to give it a try. Just call the Ext. Office a call to schedule your club's meeting. We come out and film your regular meeting. . . with one twist. You will draw for a special action that you will need to incorporate into the meeting before we start filming. The club receiving the top ribbon placing will represent Ellis Co. at Regional 4-H Day on **March 27.**

4-H Beef Weigh-in Set

If you're planning to show Market Steers & Heifers at this year's Ellis County Fair, make plans now to attend the Beef Weigh-in on **Saturday, February 1 from 9 – 11 a.m.** at the 4-H Fairgrounds. **You need to be enrolled in the Market Beef project by February 1.** (Check your on-line enrollments) **Be sure to purchase tags & tag your animals prior to the weigh-in.**

[Livestock ID Procedures](#)

Large and Small animal ID procedures for 2020 are mostly unchanged from last year, with the addition of language of scrapie tag requirements. Please take time to review them.

[K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy](#)

The ninth annual K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy will be held in June 24 – 27, 2020 at Kansas State University's campus. This four-day event focuses on increasing knowledge of Kansas's diverse livestock industry, as well as building participant's leadership skills. Twenty high school students will be selected to participate based upon educational, community, and agricultural involvement. The event is sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council. Visit www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu to learn more.

Aps due April 15, 2020.

Jr. Producer Days 2020

The 2020 Kansas Junior Producer Days will be hosted in February and March at Kansas State University in the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry's Weber Hall. The [Junior Beef Producer Day](#) will be Saturday, February 29, with [Junior Sheep Producer Day](#) being Saturday, March 14. All youth, parents, leaders and extension agents are invited to participate in these educational experiences. K-State faculty members, graduate students, veterinarians, extension agents, guest speakers, and specialists will speak about youth livestock project management. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification sessions will also be offered at the conclusion of both junior days. More details and registration information will be released later this fall. Please watch the youth livestock program website and Facebook page for updated information and a link to register online!



[4-H Horse Panorama](#)

. . . will be held January 24-26, 2020 at Rock Springs 4-H Camp. There will be a variety of contests held as well as some educational activities. **Entries are due January 15, 2020.** Good luck Ellis Co. 4-H'ers!

4-H Council Update

Pictured here are some of the 2019-20 4-H Council reps. You are well represented!!

Thanks to everyone who shared food items for the 4-H Council canned food drive. The items were taken to the St. Joe's Food Pantry.

Other 4-H Council items:

- ⇒ Set Market Beef Weigh in—Feb. 1, 9—11
- ⇒ Adopted budget for 2020
- ⇒ Signed up for committees—*Photo Day Camp, Small Animal Barn Fundraising, County 4-H T-shirts, New Member Info. Packets*
- ⇒ Moved to donate \$500 to Ellis Co. Fairboard for replacement tables and chairs for the Schenk building
- ⇒ Updated the 4-H Council Constitution and By-laws including paying registration fees for those 4-H'ers providing leadership for workshops at regional and state events.



[SUPER 4-H SATURDAY](#) Coming to Hays – March 21

March 21 is a day filled with great 4-H activities for the whole family! There will be 6 judging contests—Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Livestock & Photography for 4-H & FFA youth 7 - 18. You can judge at 1 or all of these great contests. There will be several workshops in the afternoon to help 4-H'ers explore project learning. Watch for more info. as these activities are finalized.



[Citizenship in Action](#)

What: 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.

When: February 16 – 17, 2020

Where: Topeka, KS

Who: Youth 13-18 years old by January 1 of the current year

Registration Deadline: January 15, 2020

4-H Scholarships Due in Early 2020

Now's the time to start planning. You can apply for KS 4-H Scholarships and Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarships. **State scholarship apps are due January 24, 2020.**

Get an early start on your application for the [2020 Kansas 4-H Scholarship](#). A list of scholarships available to apply for is posted on the site. The KS 4-H Scholarship requires a copy of your grade transcript, several letters of recommendation and an essay, so plan ahead! Any past 4-H member who is currently in college is eligible to apply for the KS 4-H scholarships. **You are considered for all scholarships that you qualify for with one application.**

Ellis Co. 4-H scholarship app will be available soon. This year's process will include an interview.



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

Ellis County Fair Volunteers Needed

We'll soon be sending out cards to ask for help with the County Fair. We will post an on-line form that you can complete to let us know how you'd like to help, too. Older 4-H'ers and interested adults are encouraged to join our "team" in getting things ready for this year's Fair.

Once again, all clubs will be asked to recruit volunteers to help with a variety of jobs at the Fair, as well. Watch for that listing coming your way soon.

Fair Award Sponsors Needed

The Ellis Co. Fairboard is seeking award sponsors. In order for a special award to be awarded in any given area, there must be a sponsor. **Contact Norleen Knoll by March 1** if you'd like to sponsor a special award. Sponsorships are listed in the Ellis Co. Fairbook and in several news releases/ads. The sponsorship form will soon be posted on our website. Check out the areas that are listed and think about helping sponsor a special award for the Fair.

County Fair Judges Training is February 1 in Hays

Final details are still being worked out for a special training session in Hays on Saturday, February 1. If you would like to learn more about serving as a county fair judge or are a 4-H member who would like to know what a 4-H judge looks for, this workshop will be for you! Watch our FB page and website for the details early next week.

IFYE Host Family Applications Due February 1

It's not too early for families to apply to host 4-H International Exchange students next summer or fall. 4-H age kids from Japan, Norway, and Argentina will be hosted through States' 4-H International Exchange Programs. Young adults from Australia, Taiwan and several European countries will also need hosts for 2-4 weeks each. To be considered for all options, [applications are due February 1.](#)



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!



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