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February 2021

# Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

It's time for 4-H Day! Congrats to every 4-H member who is planning to give a presentation at this year's event! You are all winners! We will be offering a face to face and virtual option for this year's event. Read on to learn more about this "hybrid" 4-H Day event.

Thanks to several of our 4-H'ers, we have posted some video examples of various kinds of talks and some helpful hints handouts to prepare you for the big event. [Check these videos out on our YouTube channel.](#) The [registration packet for 4-H Day](#) is posted on our website. You can print off and return a hard copy OR you can go [on-line](#) and register with a simple form. Either way, **entries are due in the Extension Office by Friday, February 19.**

As always, if you have questions, don't hesitate to give us a call!

Yours in 4-H,

**Susan Schlichting**

Susan Schlichting  
County Extension Agent – 4-H Youth Development



## Meetings Coming Your Way

**4-H Council** – February 2, 6:00 p.m.

**4-H Scholarship & Development** – February 3, 5:30 p.m.

**4-H Ambassadors** – February 4, 6:00 p.m.



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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](mailto:sschlich@ksu.edu)

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

**February 8** – Sign up for Jr. Swine Producer Week

**February 19** – Ellis Co. 4-H Day Entries Due

**March 1** – Sign up to sponsor a County Fair Award

**March 1** – State 4-H Scholarships & KAPs Due On-line

**March 5** - [Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarships Due](#)

**March 8** – Sign up for Jr. Meat Goat Producer Week

**March 10** – Sign up for NW SpaceTech Day

**April 1** – Sign up for Regional 4-H Day

**April 15** – Camp Scholarship Aps 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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Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact Cottonwood Extension, 785-628-9430 or Michelle White-Godinet, Assistant Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University (TDD) 785-532-4807.

## **Congrats to . . .**

Anna Kuhn whose Leadership KAP was selected to represent NW Kansas at the State 4-H award judging! Good luck, Anna!

## **4-H Enrollments**

You can now update your own 4-H project enrollments! You can 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. To learn more about how to do the updates, [click here](#).

## **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 KAP Pilot has Begun!!**

Have you set your 4-H project goals for 2021?? If not, now's the time to do so. There's a [great form](#) to help you get them in writing. Once you get those goals in writing, visit with your club's KAP trainers to learn how to get started with the new KAP on-line process. All 4-H'ers can build your 4-H project records on-line as you go through the 4-H year. It's an easy to navigate process and one you can use from a smart phone, tablet or computer. We are piloting these forms and the website process, so you may encounter some glitches along the way. The company we are working with will want to hear from you if you do encounter something that isn't working right so they can fix it. We would also like your feedback as you work with this new system. Your feedback will help us to make the forms and process the best it can be as we roll it out statewide in 2022.

## **4-H Permanent Record is on ZSuite!!**

The Permanent Record is a way to track all activities you participate in in 4-H, school and other community organizations. As of this week, it has been added to the forms you will find on your 4-H record book account in Zsuite. It is a pilot form, so remember that if it doesn't work exactly like you think it should, be sure to chat with the tech on the page and let them know what's going on. Now all your record keeping is in one place!!

## **4-H Day is Coming—Sunday, March 7 – North Oak Community Church - Hays**

Mark Sunday, March 7 on your calendar and make plans now to participate in 4-H Day. It will begin early afternoon. 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.

**Due to Covid, this year's event will be a little different from years past.** There will be a face to face and a virtual participation option this year. You will choose your preferred option as you register. All face to face participants and family members will be required to wear a mask while in the building. 4-H'er may remove their mask while presenting, if they wish. Only judge and immediate family (including grandparents) will be allowed in the room during the presentation. We will schedule entries so that you can come and go in the shortest block of time possible. We are encouraging families to do your presentations, then go onward. We want to keep the number of people in the facility at any given time as low as possible. As we work through this event in new and different ways, let us know what questions you have.

[Check out the website](#) for the latest information, rules, etc. [Register Online Here](#)  
[Group Entry Form Online Here](#)

## **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](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 7.** 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 incorporate "Amend a Motion" into the meeting before we start filming. This year's event can be taped live or via zoom. Contact the Ext. Office to schedule your club's participation. The club receiving the top ribbon placing will represent Ellis Co. at Regional 4-H Day via video.

## 4-H Beef Weigh-in Postponed to February 20 Due to Weather

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 20 from 9 – 11 a.m.** at the 4-H Fairgrounds. **You need to be enrolled in the Market Beef project by February 20.** (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 2021 are unchanged from last year. 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 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](http://www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu) to learn more. **Aps tentatively due April 11, 2021.**

## Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

State level livestock shows in Kansas require youth to have YQCA certification. For this year, you will have the option to do the training on line at \$12 per member. Visit [YQCA.org](http://YQCA.org) to get your training completed for 2021.

## JR Producer Weeks for Swine & Meat Goats

This year the junior producer days will be hosted virtually as week-long educational series. A few sessions will be presented on week-night evenings, with the program wrapping up on Saturday morning. Junior Swine Producer Week is scheduled for February 15-20, 2021. The Junior Meat Goat Producer Week is slated for March 15-20, 2021. All ages and knowledge levels are invited for both events! K-State faculty members, graduate students and guest speakers will cover topics including selection, nutrition and feeding, meat science, livestock guard dogs, health, grooming and clipping, showmanship, and the state livestock nomination process.

The program will be free this year, but all attendees, including youth and adults, must register online. The link for Junior Swine Producer Week is <https://bit.ly/KSUJrSwineWeek> . Families may register for Junior Meat Goat Producer Day at <https://bit.ly/KSUJrMeatGoatWeek> . The deadline to register and receive the necessary materials is February 8 and March 8, respectively. Participants are encouraged to use an email they check regularly, as links and program details will be communicated to those registered via email.

For more information, contact Lexie Hayes at [adhayes@ksu.edu](mailto:adhayes@ksu.edu) or 785-532-1264.



### 4-H Horse Panorama – New Plan Coming Soon

Due to Rock Springs closure, we will not hold 4-H Horse Panorama at the end of January. The State 4-H team is working on several options to continue to offer Horse educational opportunities. Watch for more details as they come together. They are targeting April for these activities, including Horse Judging Contest.

### 4-H Council Update

County 4-H committees and 4-H Council are working hard to put together some great learning experiences for 4-H'ers across the county. To learn more about their activities, visit the [committee links](#) on our website.

The 4-H Council worked to finalize the 4-H Fair schedule for 2021. All of these activities will move forward as the health and safety of our participants will allow. Watch newsletters and the website for any updates / changes as we move closer to the Fair.

### Thank You Cards – Volunteer Opportunity

4-H Council received a grant to send thank you cards to health care workers and first responders. We have printed cards and they are ready for 4-H'ers to write out. Our goal was to send 100 cards out across Ellis County. If you would like to help us reach that goal, please stop by the Extension Office and pick up some cards. Karli Neher put together a [great template](#) to help 4-H'ers write a great thank you note. It is posted on our website.

### 2021 Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarship Aps Due – March 5

If you are graduating from High School in May and are enrolled in 4-H for this year, you will receive a copy of the Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarship application in the mail. It is available as a [form-fillable document](#) on the 4-H Forms page. These applications are **due in the Extension Office on March 5**. Interviews will be scheduled soon after.

### SUPER 4-H SATURDAY Coming to Hays – June 5

Normally, we hold this great event in March each year. Unfortunately, we are not able to hold a major statewide event face to face at this time. The agent planning committee would really like to offer a face to face event, instead of a virtual one. We have decided to push this off to June in order to hopefully be able to hold a face to face event. Watch for more details as this date comes closer.



**ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2021 is set for July 10 - 17, 2021.**  
**The Theme is "Ellis County Fair Safari – It's a Jungle Out There!"**

### Ellis County Fair Volunteers Needed

We'll soon be sending out cards to ask for help with the County Fair. Fill out the [on-line Volunteer form](#) to let us know how you'd like to help. 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 is posted on our website. Check out the areas that are listed and think about helping sponsor a special award for the Fair. [Sponsorship Letter](#)  
[Award Sponsorship Form](#)

### Fair Pride Projects

What can your club do to help make our Fairgrounds a place to be proud of?? If you have an idea let us know and we'll share it with the fairboard. Every club will be asked to do some kind of project during 2021. There's always painting to be done. New picnic tables are on the list of improvements for 2021. We'll need a club to help build them. Watch facebook and our website for details as they develop. If either of the above mentioned projects are of interest to your club, let the Extension Office know.

## 4-H Camp Here WE Come!

4-H Camp will be held June 21-24 at Rock Springs 4-H Center! We will know by mid-March if camp will not be held. Get ready to have fun exploring streams, riding horses, canoeing, swimming, and much more! Start asking your clubs now for financial support to attend. **Registrations will be due May 1.**

**Camp Scholarship Aps for 4-H Camp and other trips are due April 1.** The application will be posted on the [4-H Forms Page](#) of the Ellis Co. 4-H website as soon as it's received.

We are also looking for enthusiastic teens 15 & older to serve as counselors. Applications will soon be posted on the Ellis Co. website on the [Camp Central](#) page. They are **due in the Ellis Co. Extension Office March 15.** Consider this awesome leadership opportunity.

## Campference

Too old to go to 4-H Camp, but you love camp? **Campference is for YOU!** It's held at Rock Springs at the end of June. Campference is a cross between Camp and a Leadership Conference for 12 – 14 year old 4-H members. Registration will open soon on the [State 4-H](#) website. Register quickly, as spaces fill quickly. There's been a long waiting list the last several years! Don't miss out!

## 4-H TECH TALK



### NW SpaceTech Day at Barton Community College

We are planning to hold a fun and interactive SpaceTech day at Barton Community College on March 20. At this time, we are moving forward with modified plans to make this event happen! There will be duplicate sessions offered in morning and afternoon, so plan to attend one or the other. Sessions will include **rocket building, junk drawer robotics, physics fun, astronomy exploration, coding** and more! [Watch for more details](#) coming soon and plan to **register by Friday, March 5.**



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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