



What's Inside?

- 4-H Beef Weigh-in Set

December 2022

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

The new 4-H year is underway and it's time to get those 4-H enrollments in! Just a reminder to those who haven't updated enrollments & participation forms on-line, they are due now. Please take time to **update them before DECEMBER 1st**.

As many know I have started as the 4-H Youth Development Agent in the Hays office. I am super excited to step into this new role and continue growing the relationships I built over the summer. I grew up in 4-H and have grown to love it. Please bear with me as I will be doing things a little differently than before. I look forward to working with everyone to have a successful 4-H year!! If you have any questions please reach out to either me or Theresa!

Join our private Facebook group - **Ellis County Kansas 4-H** for more update information and for deadline reminders!

Yours in 4-H,

Tamara Robertson

Meetings Coming Your Way



Council – December 6th, 7pm – Food Drive

4-H Home Ec., BBQ, Foodstand – Watch for a Doodle Poll

4-H Achievement Banquet, 4-H Day, Promotion – Watch for a Doodle Poll

Ways to Contact Us

- You can reach the Office at (785) 628-9430
- Extension Office fax # is (785) 621-2002
- el@listserv.ksu.edu
- www.cottonwood.ksu.edu

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

- December 1** – 4-H Enrollments Updated for new 4-H year in 4-H Online
- December 2** – 4-H Water Ambassador Application 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.

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!

K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating

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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 Ellis Co. Extension, 785-628-9430 or Michelle White-Godinet, Assistant Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University (TDD) 785-532-4807.



Kansas 4-H Horse Panorama

The 2023 4-H Horse Panorama will be held Saturday, January 28 at the K-State Salina campus. Registration will open in early December and is due January 10, 2023 and is to be completed through 4HOnline. Additional information is forthcoming.

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 11 from 9 – 11 a.m.** at the 4-H Fairgrounds. **You need to be enrolled in the Market Beef project by the February weigh-in date.** (Check your on-line enrollments) **Be sure to purchase tags & tag your animals prior to the weigh-in.**

K-State Junior Swine Producer and Junior Meat Goat Producer Days 2023

Jr. Swine Producer Day is March 11 and Jr. Meat Goat Producer Day is March 18. Visit the [Youth Livestock Program website](#) for all the latest information.

Willie and the Beanstalk Contest 2023

4-H Clubs are invited to participate in the 2023 Willie and the Beanstalk contest (with new option for remote judging)!

The contest is to see who can grow the biggest soybean plant in a 40-day period. Judging will take place on April 1st, 2023. Entries can be judged in-person at the K-State Manhattan campus as part of the 2023 K-State Open House activities or advisers can choose remote judging (see <http://beanstalk.agronomy.ksu.edu> for details). All contestants will receive a free T-shirt and there will be plaques and certificates for the winning teams.

Youth who can attend the 2023 Open House will be able to participate in the scoring of their plants and meet with Faculty and students in the Agronomy Department. However, we recognize that this is a busy time of year so we have a new option for advisers and contestants to score the plants on their own and upload the results. Advisers can contact Nathan Nelson at 785-537-7452 or nonelson@ksu.edu if they would like to arrange a departmental visit prior to the open house.

Please read the [contest rules](#). Additional information is available on the contest web site at <http://beanstalk.agronomy.ksu.edu> and questions can be addressed to beanstalk@ksu.edu. Note that the registration deadline is Monday, February 20th, 2023. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing your youth in the contest.

KS 4-H Scholarships Due in Early 2023

Get an early start on your application for the [2023 Kansas 4-H Scholarship](#). They are due in the local Extension Office in late January each year. Current college students and graduating seniors are eligible to apply. A list of scholarships available to apply for will come out closer to the end of the year.

4-H Enrollments

The 4-H Online enrollment system is updated and ready for you to sign on starting October 1 to update your enrollment choices for 2022 -23. **Even if you are enrolling in the same projects, you will still need to log-on and update your profile and make project selections.**

The \$15 fee per member is payable to the KS 4-H program as you enroll. Your enrollment is not considered complete until you make a payment and hit the **SUBMIT** button. You can pay by credit card or by check to the State 4-H Office. **Payments do not come to the local Extension Office.** If this fee is a hardship for your family, you can select the "Request a Waiver" button and the State 4-H Office will consider your request.

We ask that you take time this month to complete this process. Reenrollments should be finalized by December 1.

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.

VIP (Volunteer Information Profile)

4-H volunteers working directly with youth in the club, as a leader or project leader are required to go through this screening and training process. The application is available as part of the 4-H On-line website. You will complete a profile for yourself under your family account. Take part in the training modules available on that site. Contact the Ext. Office to let us know you've completed these steps and schedule an interview. At that time, we will provide you with a link to the background check process. Aps can be submitted at any time during the next few months, but the screening and training process **must be completed by January 1.**

National Background Checks—Kansas 4-H requires national background checks for all volunteers. 1/3 of our 100+ current VIP volunteers will go through this process this year. Your club leader has this list and will be contacting you to complete this process now. **All volunteers will be required to go through this process every 3 years.**

NEW - Current Volunteers - If you are a current screened volunteer in your 4-H club and plan to continue to do so, please UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION on the 4-H On-line system as your 4-H Volunteer Renewal **by November 1.**

New & Returning Volunteers – **will need to add yourself to your family profile in 4-H On-line.** Visit with your club's leader or our office if you need assistance with this!

4-H Project Leaders Needed

As members enroll in projects, it is important to provide them with learning experience in those areas. Adults and teens are needed to guide the members in their project learning. If you have a skill to share, visit with your club leader to get involved.

ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2023 will be July 15 - 22, 2023
The Theme is "Saddle up for fun!"



AWARDS CORNER

Record Books – Calling ALL Ellis 4-H'ers!

Building record keeping skills while documenting all the great things you've accomplished through your 4-H career is what it's all about. Just think, if you work at this a little bit at a time, by the end of the year, you'll be almost done with your Project Record Book. And by the end of your 4-H career, you'll have a great documentation of all things that can be used on scholarship and employment applications!

We encourage you to use the goal setting sheet linked in the newsletter opening to get started. Or simply open up your ZSuite site and enter those goals right there. To get started, go to: <https://4h.zsuite.org/> If you haven't already created a family profile and member profile, now's the time to do so. Then off you go!

Each club should have a parent and teen trained on how to use the system. Visit with them or give our office a call. There is also a recording of the "Getting Started" training and a quick guide posted on our front webpage.

There were several 4-H'ers who completed multiple Project Records this past year, due to the ease in completing them. See what it's all about and get started now!