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Dec 2024 & Jan 2025

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 fees, they are due now.

The Extension Office will be closed for the holidays from Tuesday, December 24th through Wednesday, January 1st. We wish you all safe and wonderful holidays ahead! 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!

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

4-H Home Ec., BBQ, Foodstand - December 10th at 6 PM, Back meeting room of the Ext. Office

4-H Council - December 16th at 6 PM, Back meeting room of the Ext. Office

4-H Ag Livestock – January 6th at 6:30 PM, Back meeting room of the Ext. Office

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

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 - Kansas 4-H Shirt order due

December 5 - Ornaments for tree to office

December 13 – 4-H Day with KSU Woman's Basketball Registration Due

December 20 – Registration for Ag & STEM Youth Day Camp

January 2 - Pre-register for Babysitting 101 Class

January 10 - Record Books going on to Regional Judging to Office

February 5 – Sign up for Jr. Swine Producer Day @ KSU

February 26 - Sign up for Jr. Meat Goat Producer Day @ KSU

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

All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

4-H PROJECT ENROLLMENT

You must be enrolled in 4-H to participate at any 4-H event or activity. You are able to add projects or delete them from your list of enrollments until May 1 for all areas, **except Livestock projects and shooting sports 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 late April/early May.

4-H ADULT VOLUNTEERS

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 training module is available as part of the 4-H Online website. You will complete a profile for yourself under your family account.

Contact the Ext. Office to let us know you've completed these steps to schedule an interview. At that time, we will provide you with a link to the background check process.

National Criminal Background Checks—Kansas 4-H requires background checks for all volunteers. All volunteers will be required to go through this process every 3 years.

Returning 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.

New 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!

KANSAS 4-H T-SHIRT ORDER – DUE DEC 1

The Kansas 4-H T-Shirts sold at the Kansas State Fair, are now online!

There are 2 designs this year and you can order either design on any of the colors listed! See picture at the end of the newsletter for the designs! They can be ordered through December 1, 2024 and will be shipped before December 25, 2024. Who doesn't want a new 4-H t-shirt for Christmas?

Group or club orders will be a good idea to minimize shipping fees. People who live near or travel to Manhattan can call Anndee at NZone about local pick up. Thanks for supporting this 4-H Youth Leadership Council Fundraiser and showing Kansas 4-H Pride! Link to order: https://www.companycasuals.com/4-HGROWN/start.jsp

DECORATING HAYS PUBLIC LIBRARY TREES

Once again, Gemini Juniors are inviting all clubs to make ornaments for the trees by Hays Public Library. Please bring ornaments to the **Extension Office by 5 pm on Thursday, December 5**th, and put them in the box in the entryway. Ornaments should be able to withstand the Kansas wind and elements.

CLOVER CHRISTMAS MARKET – HELP IS NEEDED

The Ellis County Scholarship and Development committee is looking for your help! The craft show is on December 7, 2024 at the Fairgrounds. They are looking for individuals or clubs to help us with Set up on Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 6-8pm and Tear down on December 7th from 3:00 to 4:30pm. Set up will include measuring and taping off booth spaces. Tear down will include putting away tables and chairs, removing tape, helping vendors pack out and sweeping the floors.

This is a perfect opportunity for community service or any volunteer hours needed. This is also a great time to put in the required hours if you received a scholarship or funding from The Scholarship and Development committee this year. If you are able to help, please contact Rhiannon Corn at 785-432-3495.

4-H COUNCIL MEETING

At the December meeting, we will hold elections and begin setting goals for the new 4-H year. Council representatives can run for office, alternates cannot. We will elect persons to the following offices:

President Secretary Parliamentarian Fair Board Representatives

Vice President Treasurer Reporter Adult Sponsors

Think about stretching your leadership abilities by running for an office. Be sure that *if you decide to run that you are able to be committed and fully participate* in the 4-H Council meetings. We will also take nominations from the floor at the meeting.

4-H COUNCIL FOOD DRIVE

4-H Council will once again hold a Canned Food Drive at their December meeting. If you would like to donate items to this project, drop them off at the Ext. Office or with your 4-H Council rep who will bring them to the 4-H Council meeting for distribution to a local food pantry.

AREA RECORD BOOK JUDGING

A reminder if your Project Record was selected for area judging, the record book is due into the Extension Office no later than **Friday**, **January 10**, **2025**. If you would like help making edits, contact Tamara to set up a time to meet. Those eligible from Ellis County are:

Faith Schmeidler – Beef, Lizzy Vajnar – Communications & Meat Goats, Keeli Kimzey – Horse, Grace A Schmeidler – Leadership, and Chloey Brown – Poultry

EVENT SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The 4-H Scholarship and Development Committee has funds available for all Ellis County 4-H members. The <u>Event Scholarship Application</u> can be completed to attend any event that would benefit youth. Events can include 4-H camps, livestock clinics, shooting sports competitions, and more that would help youth build on their skills. Members should complete the application and turn into the office 2 weeks before the event registration in due.

GET INVOLVED IN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

Ellis County 4-H Shooting Sports program provides an opportunity for caring adults to assist kids in positive youth development.

All youth aged 8 to 17 years old before January 1 of the current year can participate in 4-H Shooting Sports. Currently, Ellis County 4-H offers the following shooting sports disciplines: Air Rifle, Archery, BB Gun, Hunting Skills, Shotgun, and Smallbore Rifle.

If interested in shooting sports, please contact, Kelli Herbers, Shooting Sports Coordinator, for more information. Email: elliscoordinator@outlook.com or Phone: (785) 337-0169

PASTA FROM SCRATCH – FREE FOR 4-H MEMBERS

Do you love cooking or want to learn a new skill in the kitchen? Join Monique Koerner, FCW Agent, for our Noodle-Making Class and learn how to create your own homemade noodles from scratch. Perfect for hearty soups or delicious pasta dishes!

This is a great opportunity to learn a new culinary skill, get creative, and have some fun! Plus, you'll get to enjoy the pasta you make!

Please call the Extension Office at 785-628-9430 to get registered. Come to the back-meeting room of the Extension Office on December 12th from 4:30 to 6 PM to make pasta. View the flyer at the end of this newsletter for all the details.

BABYSITTING 101 CLINIC – JAN 3rd

This course gives participants the knowledge, skills and confidence to care for toddlers through school-aged children. Topics include safety issues, preventing injuries and illness, basic childcare, and age-appropriate activities to do with children. Each student will receive a wealth of information. Students will also learn how to make a snack for kids. Please let us know at registration if your child has any food allergies that we need to be aware of. Participants must be 11 by the class date. Pre-registration is required by January 2, 2025 at 5:00pm. This class will be held at the Cottonwood Extension District Office located at 601 Main, Street in Hays, KS. Instructor: Michelle Beran, Cottonwood Extension District 4-H & Youth Development Agent. Enrollment: Max. 12 Fee: \$10.00 See flyer at end of newsletter for more details.

AG & STEM YOUTH DAY CAMP - JAN 4th

Join the Northwest Ag Ambassadors for a fun filled day to learn all about agriculture at FHSU on Saturday January 4th starting at 1 PM. Sessions will include livestock digestive systems, food safety 101, crop germination, farm safety, and milk science. Register online by December 20th. Please watch for more information via 4-H Facebook group or 4-H online emails.



KANSAS 4-H DAY WITH WILDCAT WOMAN'S BASKETBALL – JAN 4

Join us for Kansas 4-H Day with Wildcat Women's Basketball! This event will be held on Saturday, January 4th with ticket pickup from 2:30pm to 3:30pm. See flyer at the end of this newsletter for the ticket details for the K-State vs. Texas Tech Women's Basketball Game. Registration is due December 13.

IMPORTANT

4-H LIVESTOCK ID PROCEDURES & BEEF WEIGH-IN DATE

Large and Small animal ID procedures for 2025 are in the process of being revised! Please take time to review them after the January 6th 4-H Ag livestock committee meeting. New in '25 – EID Tags will be placed at the time of weigh-in and not sold in the Extension Office.

If you're planning to show Market Steers & Heifers at this year's Ellis County Fair, you need to be enrolled in the Beef project by the February weigh-in date. (Take time now to check your on-line enrollments!)

EID tags will NOT be sold before hand, tagging and weighing will take place at the same place and time. **On February 1**st from 1-2 PM, beef should be brought to HILLSIDE vet clinic.

***Please note that if a customer comes into the clinic during this time, we will be asked to step aside.



KANSAS 4-H HORSE PANORAMA

The 4-H Horse Panorama will be held Saturday and Sunday, February 22nd & 23rd, 2024 at the Rock Springs Ranch. Save the date for fun, learning and competition at the 2025 Kansas 4-H Horse Panorama! This is the state event for hippology, horse bowl and public speaking. Contest

information is being updated and registration will be released in the coming months at Horse Panorama Website

K- STATE JUNIOR PRODUCER DAYS 2025 DATES ANNOUNCED

We are excited to announce the dates for the 2025 K-State Junior Producer Days!

The Junior Swine Producer Day will be Saturday, March 1. Tentative topics range from selection to health, and showmanship. The deadline to register is February 5. The cost is \$20/person by the deadline, or \$25 after. Only those registered by February 5 will receive a t-shirt. Attendance will also be limited to the first 400 participants to register.

The Junior Meat Goat Producer Day will be hosted Saturday, March 22. Tentative topics include selection to nutrition, and showmanship. Registration is due February 26 and will be capped at 400 participants. The cost is \$20/person and t-shirts are only guaranteed for those who sign up by the deadline. Late registrations will be \$25/person.

All youth, parents, leaders and extension agents are invited to participate in these one-day, family educational experiences. K-State faculty members, graduate students, veterinarians, extension agents, guest speakers and former exhibitors will provide the sessions. There will also be an optional instructor-led YQCA training at the conclusion of the program for both events, as well as a session over the state nomination process.

Participants may register online here: http://bit.ly/ksuasiregister

KANSAS 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS – Due March 1st, 2025

Get an early start on your application for the 2025 Kansas 4-H Scholarship. All information is available at <u>State 4-H Scholarships</u>. The deadline for the Kansas 4-H Scholarship is March 1, 2025 11:59 PM. A list of scholarships available to apply for is posted on the site, along with eligibility. The KS 4-H Scholarship requires a cover letter, resume and TWO references need to fill out the questionnaire, please plan ahead. You are considered for all scholarships that you qualify for with one application.

4-H DAY—Sunday, March 2 – North Oak Community Church

4-H Day is a chance for 4-H members to showcase their project learning through public presentations. *If you ask any 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; such as skits, project talks, talent, etc. Mark Sunday, March 2 on your calendar and make plans now to participate in 4-H Day. Check out the website for the latest information, rules and guidelines will be updated soon!

SUPER SATRDAY 2025 – COLBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Next year's Super Saturday judging event will take place on March 22nd at Colby Community College. There will be 7 judging contests—Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Livestock, Livestock Skill-A-Thon & Photography for 4-H & FFA youth 7 - 18. You can judge at 1 or all of these great contests. There will also be several workshops in the afternoon to help 4-H'ers explore project learning. Watch for more info as these activities are finalized!

ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2025 will be July 12 - 19, 2025 The Theme is "Another Day in Fair-adise!"





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!

THE GEMINI JUNIORS 4-H CLUB INVITES AREA YOUTH TO JOIN US!

Help Us Make Downtown Hays Merry & Bright





FrostFest Tree Decorations





Ellis County Youth! Help us make decorations for the trees at 13th & Main (north of the Hays Public Library). Decorations must be durable, able to withstand Western Kansas wind, and easy to hang

Return completed decorations to the Ellis County Extension office, located at 601 Main, by December 5th.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE ELLIS COUNTY

EXTENSION OFFICE

OR LEARN MORE ON THE

ELLIS COUNTY 4-H - IT'S LEGIT

FACEBOOK PAGE 785-628-9430







