



What's Inside?

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- National 4-H Week
- 48 Hours of 4-H Service
- Event Scholarship Available
- Shooting Sports Information
- 4-H Achievement Banquet
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- Volunteers Needed

Ellis County 4-H Happenings October 2025

Hey 4-H Families!

Please read this monthly newsletter carefully, as there is a lot of information provided!

The new 4-H year is HERE! Take advantage of the great opportunities to practice and learn new skills by being actively involved in the Ellis Co. 4-H program. It's time to set goals and plot your plan for getting the most out of this year's 4-H experience.

National 4-H Week is October 5-11. We would love to post our active members and their 4-H story to social media, see the information below if interested. What's your club doing to invite new families to join us? **Be sure to WEAR GREEN on Monday, October 6th** and **invite your friends** to come and get involved! **48 Hours of 4-H is October 11-12.** KS 4-H is sponsoring this special service weekend. Be sure your club gets registered for this great way to give back to our community.

There are many great learning opportunities ahead in the new 4-H year. We'll look forward to working and learning together!

As always, if you have questions please ask . . . a leader, a 4-H member, or Extension Staff.

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 Council (Cookie Thank You Boxes put together) – October 2nd, 6:00 p.m. – Ext. Office Backroom

Ag Livestock – 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

October 1 – 4-H Dog Conference Registration Deadline
October 1 – KS 4-H Youth Council Aps Due
October 1 – Cookies for Cookie Thank You Project
October 15 – Register for KYLF & KVF @ Rock Springs
October 17 – RSVP for 4-H Achievement Banquet by 5 pm
October 17 – Slide Show Pictures to Tamara by 5 pm
November 3 – 4-H Club Financial Reports due

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.

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 STATE FAIR

Congrats to all 4-H'ers who exhibited or participated in this year's fair. There were a number of personal "bests" at the event. Way to represent, Ellis Co. 4-H'ers!!!

KANSAS STATE FAIR EXHIBITS

Watch the Hays Arts Council Main street window for your state fair exhibits to be on display starting October 1st through the 24th. Exhibits that are on display for National 4-H week will be at the Achievement Banquet on October 25th for pick up. After that, they will return to the Extension Office. **We ask that everything be picked up by November 3rd.**

4-H YOUTH ENROLLMENTS

Welcome to the New 4-H year! The 4-H Online enrollment system is open now to update your enrollment choices for 2024 - 25. ***Even if you are enrolling in the same projects, you will still need to log-on and update your profile and make project selections.*** Please use the same email from last year to login to your account!

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. **Your enrollment is not complete until you have successfully paid the \$15 fee.**

We ask that you take time this month to complete this process and have everything finalized ASAP.

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

Current & 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 Online system **by November 1.**

New Volunteers – ***will need to add yourself to your family profile in 4-H On-line.*** This document can help walk through that process, [New Adult Volunteer Enrollment Guide.pdf](#). Contact our office if you need assistance with this!

4-H COUNCIL COOKIE THANK YOU PROJECT

On October 2nd, 4-H Council will put together the Cookie Thank You boxes for our 2024-2025 Ellis County 4-H Sponsors. It is asked that each family is asked to bring **2 dozen individually wrapped cookies to the Extension Office by 5PM October 1st.** Council members will then be delivering these during National 4-H Week.

LIVE WELL, LEAD WELL WORKSHOPS

Time to Reset! Please join us for the first in a series of Healthy Living Workshops that will happen across the state of Kansas this fall. Live Well, Lead Well will hold its first workshop in **Great Bend, Kansas on Saturday, October 4th, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.** (Location will be sent with registration confirmation.)

Participants will prepare to be Beyond Ready with activities to build Strong Minds, Active Hearts, Helping Hands, and Healthy Lives. A few of the activities will include modeling dough and activity cards, line dancing, smoothie snack, and a hands-on activity to check out your favorite drink for sugar and caffeine.

All adults and youth (ages 7-18) can register [here](#) today. Your registration fee of \$15 includes all workshop supplies, take home modeling dough and activity cards, conversation rocks, smoothie snack, and door prizes. Please pay at your local Extension office by September 30th or bring your payment with you on the day of the workshop. Registration will close at midnight, September 30th. (Accommodations can be requested with registration.)

Please bring your favorite drink that includes the nutrition label and be prepared to talk about it during a fun, hands-on learning experience.

Other Healthy Living workshops will be held at the following locations and dates (watch for details coming soon):

- **October 18 – 9:00 am to Noon – Hays (Engineering & Technology workshop in the afternoon)**
- October 25 – 9:00 am to Noon – Manhattan (Engineering & Technology workshop in the afternoon)
- November 1 – 9:00 am to Noon – Wichita (Engineering & Technology workshop in the afternoon)
- November 8 – 9:00 am to Noon – Garden City



48 HOURS OF 4-H

Join us October 11-12 in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend after National 4-H Week, is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers, and past 4-H'ers too!

Find all the information here and start planning your projects at <http://www.kansas4-h.org/484H>

4-H Leaders – Remember to register your club's project on the kansas4-h.org website so that they can track how many youth and hours went into this statewide effort!

EVENT SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The 4-H Scholarship and Development Committee has funds available for all Ellis County 4-H members. The [Event Scholarship Application](#) 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 is 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

4-H ACHIEVEMENT BANQUET– Another Day in Paradise with 4-H!

Each year we meet at the end of the current 4-H year to celebrate the successes of our members, parents, leaders and to thank our 4-H supporters. Be on the look out for an invitation in the mail with all the details!

This year's theme is ***"Another Day in Paradise with 4-H!"***. The committee's been working hard to bring you a fun event. **Plan to join us for a special fun activities**, supper and award presentations on October 25th. Everything gets underway at 6 p.m. Meal will be served at 6:15 and award ceremony at 7.

Pictures for Slide Show – Again this year, there will be a "year in review" slide show being shown before the awards ceremony. If you have any pictures of your child or club that you would like to share, please email them to tarobertson@ksu.edu with JPEG copies. **Please have any pictures submitted by 5 pm on October 17th!**

Hula Hooping Contest – Everyone is encouraged to join the fun by taking part in the Hula Hooping Contest! For just \$1, you can pay to play and show off your best hooping moves. There will be 4 age divisions, including adult! **Prizes will be awarded in each division.**

Attire – Dress for this event is casual but don't be afraid to dress up!! We will have a photo backdrop so you and your friends can have your picture taken!

Please RSVP to the Extension Office by 5 pm Friday, October 17 to reserve your meal. While there currently is no cost to attend, please be aware that if you sign up and don't show up to eat, we still have to pay for your meal! And that takes \$\$ away from other important 4-H activities that 4-H Council sponsors. ***Your club will be billed for every meal that is not served as reserved.***

4-H Dog Conference and Quiz Bowl at Rock Springs is October 18-19

If you love working with your dog, check out this great statewide event all about dogs! The educational sessions are open to youth and adults interested in the Kansas 4-H Dog project. To participate in the quiz bowl and public speaking 4-H enrollment is required. 4-H members must have an adult attend with them. **Registration is open now and is due October 1.**

KANSAS YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

The [Kansas Youth Leadership Forum](#) will be November 22-23, 2025 at Rock Springs Ranch. The Forum is for youth ages 14-18, as of January 1, 2026. **Registration is open now and the deadline is October 15.** This event includes: speakers, workshops, consulting groups and election of the State 4-H Youth Council.

4-H VOLUNTEER FORUM

The Kansas Volunteer Leaders Forum is an opportunity for volunteers from around the state to learn together while building a network of likeminded passionate adults. Participants will have the opportunity to dive into interactive content they can use to engage their youth members, connect with state and local extension staff to learn about new and exciting 4-H happenings, and engage with the Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers as a support system for volunteering efforts throughout the year. This event is at the same time as KYLF, November 22-23 at Rock Springs Ranch.



To learn more and to register, visit [Kansas Volunteer Leader Forum](#) **Deadline to register is October 15.**

2025 OFFICER & YQCA TRAINING

Again, this year we're offering free Regional 4-H Officer Training and new this year, we're adding YQCA Training, too! Choose from **Tuesday, November 11 (5–8 pm, Russell 4-H Building) or Saturday, November 15 (4–7 pm, 4-H Educational Building in Great Bend)**. Officer Training will be held first, followed by the YQCA Training. You don't have to be a current officer to participate, this is your chance to learn more about a specific office, strengthen your leadership skills, and meet other 4-H members. There will also be a session for parents & leaders.

To join these fun learning opportunities, [register online](#) **by 11:59 PM on Monday, November 10th!**

CLOVER CHRISTMAS MARKET – HELP IS NEEDED

The Ellis County Scholarship and Development committee is looking for your help! The craft show is on December 13, 2025 at the Fairgrounds. They are looking for individuals or clubs to help us with Set up on Thursday, December 11, 2025 from 6-8pm and Tear down on December 13th 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.**

AS EACH 4-H YEAR BEGINS, REMEMBER...

- 4-H youth are more important than the fair project exhibit or the competition.
- Learning how to do a project is more important than the project itself. To “learn by doing” through a useful project is fundamental in any sound educational program, and is characteristic of the 4-H program.
- There is more than one good way of doing most things.
- Our job is to teach 4-H members how to think, not what to think.
- Winning isn’t always measured by the results of the ribbon or judging event, but by the character of the 4-H’er, parent and leader.

LIVE WELL, LEAD WELL WORKSHOP

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
GREAT BEND, KS**

9:00 AM TO NOON

Register Here 



Preparing our youth with

- ★ Strong Minds
- ★ Active Hearts
- ★ Helping Hands
- ★ Healthy Lives

Workshop Topics

Head

Yoga & Breathing
Modeling Dough & Activity Cards

Heart

Target Heart Rate
Line Dancing

Snack

Smoothie
Blender Bike

Hands

Conversation Rocks

Health

Re-Think Your Drink
Hands-On Activities

Who Should Register: All adults and youth (ages 7 to 18) interested in learning about healthy living choices and coping strategies through fun, hands-on activities.

Registration Fee: \$15 per attendee. (Registration fee includes workshop supplies, take home modeling dough and activity cards, conversation rocks, smoothie snack, and door prizes.) Please pay at your local Extension office by September 30th or bring your payment with you the day of the workshop.

What To Bring: Please bring your favorite drink for one of our activities.

Accommodations: Kansas State University Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested with registration to this event.



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OFFICER / YQCA TRAINING



Tuesday, November 11th:
at the Russell 4-H Building

5-7:00 pm - Officer Training

7-8:00 pm - YQCA Training

Saturday, November 15th:
at the 4-H Educational Building in Great Bend

4-6:00 pm - Officer Training

6-7:00 pm - YQCA Training

Registration Deadline is Monday November 10th at 11:59 pm.

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https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ah1RgKlgOTQmEK
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