



## What's Inside?

- Showcase Opportunity
- Kansas State Fair
- Ellis County Fair Wrap Up
- Leadership Opportunities
- 4-H Awards Info.

August/September 2023

# Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to 4-H'ers, families, and all that volunteered to made the 2023 Ellis County Fair a big success. Each member can be proud of the things you've accomplished this year. No matter what color ribbon you received or how much your premium check is, you are ALL winners because you **worked hard** and **learned** many new things along the way.

Please take time to write thank you notes to the sponsors of your awards and others that helped with the fair. We need to let our volunteers and sponsors know that we appreciate their continued support!

Here's your chance to give us feedback about the fair. There's an on-line survey to share your thoughts with the Ellis Co. 4-H Council and the Ellis Co. Fairboard. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts by **Friday, August 25**. Here's the link: <https://tinyurl.com/jadx67wm>

Hats off to everyone who stepped in and volunteered . . . in the Schenk Building, the Foodstands, in the barns, at the events, during the shows . . . your help was greatly appreciated and it helped to make everything run smoothly. We all know that many hours were given. Thanks everyone for ALL of your efforts to make the Ellis County Fair a special event!

As always, if you have questions, don't hesitate to ask . . . a leader, a 4-H member, or Extension Staff.

Yours in 4-H,  
Tamara

**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension



## Meetings Coming Your Way

**4-H Council** – Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, back meeting room of Ext. Office  
**Ach. Banquet, 4-H Day, Promotion** - TBD

### Ways to Contact Us

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

### IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

**August 11** – Entry for downtown art walk  
**September 1** – Indoor Exhibits for Kansas State Fair to Extension Office  
**September 7** – Food & Hort Exhibits for KSF to Ext. Office 7:30 – 8:00 a.m.  
**September 29** – 4-H Kansas Award Portfolios & Membership Pin Aps Due  
**September 29** – Rosemary Smith 4-H Scholarship & Club Award Entries Due  
**September 29** – I Dare You & KS 4-H Key Award Aps Due

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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!

## DOWNTOWN FALL ART WALK

The Hays Arts Council has asked for 4-Her's participation in the Fall Art Walk that will take place in our office on August 25<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 9 pm. We would like to have as many 4-Her's there as we can get! **Anyone interested in showcasing their artwork and or club day presentations, please call the Ext. Office at 785-628-9430 by August 11<sup>th</sup>.**



## IT'S KANSAS STATE FAIR TIME!

Indoor exhibits are due in the Extension Office by Friday, September 1.

Food and Horticulture exhibits may come in from 7:30—8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 7.

Exhibits are returned to the Ext. Office on Monday, September 18 after 1:00 p.m. **If you are willing to share your projects for display during 4-H Week in early October, we will keep them until after that time.**

Good luck to all 4-H'ers participating at the Kansas State Fair and in the 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes!



## ELLIS COUNTY FAIR WRAP UP

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 4-H'ers that participated in the Ellis County Fair!**

Here are the top individuals for the various contests held during the Fair.

### Life Skills Judging—Fair

Jr. 1<sup>st</sup> place—Alaina Yarmer, BJF; June Stremel, GH; Kate Pope, BJF; 4<sup>th</sup> place – Brynlee Walter, BJF

Int. 1<sup>st</sup> place- Logan Leiker, GH; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Jadon Connor, GJ; 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Audrey Yarmer, BJF; 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Faith Schmeidler, BJF

Sr. 1<sup>st</sup> place – Marisa Wasinger, GH; 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Grace Schmeidler, BJF; 3<sup>rd</sup> place –Mariella Dreiling, GJ; 4<sup>th</sup> place – Lizzy Vajnar, GH

### Herdsmanship Winners

Beef – Buckeye Jr. Farmers

Sheep – Ellis Sunflowers

Swine – Ellis Sunflowers

Meat Goats –Victoria Vikings

Rabbits – Buckeye Jr. Farmers

Poultry – Big Creek Astros

### Animal Management Skill-a-thon

Jr. – 1<sup>st</sup> – Logan Leiker, GH; 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Faith Schmeidler, BJF

Sr. 1<sup>st</sup> – Marisa Wasinger, GH; 2<sup>nd</sup> place –Karli Neher, VV

### PREMIUM CHECKS

Indoor exhibit premium checks were mailed out immediately after the fair. **LIVESTOCK SALE Fair Premium checks will be coming to the Ext. Office in MID-AUGUST, watch for an email for when they arrive. Youth will need to write a Thank You to their buyer and sign the group thank you sheets for any add-ons (will be available at the Ext. Office).** Youth should handwrite the thank you note and bring it in a stamped envelope to the Extension Office to receive their premium check! **The Fairboard has asked that you please cash all checks within 60 days.**

### 4-H FOODSTAND

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to all 4-H families who helped to make this year's 4-H Foodstand a success! It takes a great deal of man power to make that type of operation work. Thanks also to the foodstand manager, Amy Bainter for all the extra efforts in providing a safe and positive place for 4-H families to come work, learn and serve together.

### KANSAS YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

The [Kansas Youth Leadership Forum](#) will be November 18 - 19, 2023 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. The Forum is for youth ages 14-18, as of January 1, 2024. **Registration will open Mid-August and are due October 16<sup>th</sup> by midnight.** KYLF will feature leadership workshops, Youth Council Elections, and opportunities to learn and have fun.

### KS 4-H YOUTH COUNCIL

Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 by January 1, 2024 may apply to be a state council member. The duties of the Council members include planning the next Youth Leadership Forum and other events, and may include

assisting with State 4-H functions, working with 4-H public relations, and speaking at local achievement programs, forums, and other workshops or conferences. [Applications for the State 4-H Youth Council](#) are **due in the State 4-H Office October 2.**

#### 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

Are you interested in Shooting Sports? Air Rifle, BB Gun and Air Pistol will begin in October. Contact Cory Depenbusch NOW if you'd like to get involved. Cory Depenbusch, County Coordinator 785-639-1652 or e-mail him at [cdepenbusch@yahoo.com](mailto:cdepenbusch@yahoo.com) for more information.

#### The NEW 4-H Year is Almost Here!

As you already know, 4-H is a network of families that work together to grow great kids! And 4-H has something to offer both city and country families. Now's the time to invite families you know to come and get involved as we get ready to start the new 4-H year in October. Let's work together to encourage more Ellis Co. youth and families to come and join the fun as we learn and work together!

#### 4-H SCHOLARSHIP WRAP UP

If you received a 4-H camp or graduating scholarship, please be sure to tell your club about your camp experience AND bring a thank you note to the Extension Office to share with the 4-H Scholarship committee. Thank you to everyone for stepping up and filling your shifts in the Scholarship Foodstand at the Fair!

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!



#### 4-H Awards

It's time to begin thinking about wrapping up the 2022-23 4-H year! While County Fair is still fresh in your mind, and before school gets into full swing, why not take time to complete your KAP and Member Pin Applications. These application forms are found on the [Ellis Co. 4-H Forms page](#) of the Ellis Co. 4-H website [www.cottonwood.ksu.edu](http://www.cottonwood.ksu.edu). If you'd like help in getting your project report forms or Pin Ap completed, give the Extension Office a call.

### AWARDS CORNER

#### **EACH AGE GROUP WILL HAVE ASSIGNED COLORS FOR BINDERS FOR THEIR PROJECT AWARD APPLICATION (Previously known as KAP's).**

##### **7-9 years old – BLUE**

This age group will fill out the project award application for the 7-9-year olds. There is a specific project award application for animal projects (this includes ALL animal projects). This age group will need to turn in their award application in a **blue** binder. Everyone in the 7-9-year-old group who has turned in a project award application will receive a participation certificate and a "token" of recognition (i.e., 4-H item, such as a pencil, key chain, magnet, etc.). Be sure to complete the 4-H Personal Page and include in the front of the Project Award Application.

##### **10-13 years old – WHITE**

This group will need to use the project award application for the 10-13-year olds. There is a specific project award application for animal projects (this includes ALL animal projects). This age group will need to turn in their award application in a **white** binder. Be sure to complete the 4-H Personal Page and include in the front of the Project Award Application.

##### **14 years and older – BLACK**

This group will need to use the project award application for the 14 years and older. There is a specific project award application for animal projects (this includes ALL animal projects). This age group will need to turn in their award application in a **black** binder. Be sure to complete the 4-H Personal Page and include in the front of the Project Award Application

#### **Project Report Forms & Member Pin Aps Due September 29**

[Your Project Report Forms](#) & [Pin Aps](#) are **due in the Extension Office by 5 pm on Friday, September 29.** You will print

off your Record Book pages for your project report through the Z-suite app. You can pick up forms at the Extension Office or print them from our website for the Member Pin Aps. Feel free to contact us if you have questions about this process.

If you would like to schedule an appointment for assistance with this process, give our office a call.

### **Cloverbud Scrapbooks**

4-H participation teaches youth many new skills. Record keeping is one of those skills. We use those skills daily as adults. A Cloverbud & their adult guide will fill out the [Cloverbud Personal Page](#). They can design a cover and add up to 3 additional scrapbook pages. These might include photos, ribbons, or clippings. Be creative. These will not be judged, but those completing the process will receive special recognition at the fall 4-H Achievement Banquet. Submit these to the Extension Office **by 5 pm on Friday, September 29.**

### **KS 4-H Key Award**

The Key Award is a very prestigious award given to only 10% of Kansas 4-H youth. 4-H'ers 16 & over may apply if enrolled in the Leadership project and meet eight requirements. [Applications](#) are available at the Ext. Office and are due **by 5 pm on Friday, September 29.**

### **"I DARE YOU" Leadership Award**

Each year, two 4-H'ers in their junior year of HS or older can be recognized for their leadership abilities. This award is given in the hope of encouraging young people to lead purposeful lives. This ap requires a letter of recommendation from the club leader. **Club Leaders can nominate youth for this special award.** [Applications](#) are due to the Extension Office **by 5pm on Friday, September 29.**

### **Charter Seal Applications Due**

4-H Clubs...it's time for your club's leadership team to meet and see what you've accomplished this past year. Your [Charter Seal applications](#) are completed and turned in **by 5 pm Friday, September 29.** Let's try for 100% completion in 2022!

### **Club Officer Notebooks Due**

Reporters, secretaries, historians, and treasurers...did you know that you can turn in your notebooks for county judging? Please finish them up and turn them into the Extension Office immediately after your September meeting. Submit officer notebooks **by 5 pm on Friday, September 29.**

### **Friend of 4-H**

There are many people and businesses who share their time, talents and resources with the local 4-H program. Ellis County 4-H recognizes an outstanding individual and business that goes above and beyond to assist with 4-H activities. Please take time to nominate a business and an individual that your club sees as deserving of this special honor. The application forms are available in the Extension Office and are **due by 5 pm on Friday, September 29.**

### **Rosemary Smith Scholarship**

Scholarships available to Ellis Co. 4-H members in their Jr. or Sr. year of HS, currently enrolled in a Higher Ed course or former 4-H members who are currently enrolled in college. [Applications](#) are available at the Extension Office & are **due by 5 pm on Friday, September 29.**

### **MORE ON MEMBER PIN APPLICATIONS**

Standard of Excellence Award Categories: Here a "standard" is set and completion of categories is determined by a minimum requirement.

**Membership Pin** – Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—1 optional requirement AND Personal Page OR 4-H Story

**Bronze Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—3 optional requirements AND 4-H Personal Page, 4-H Story, Photos OR 7-8 year old project report

**Clover Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—7 optional requirements AND 4-H Personal Page, 4-H Story, Photos OR 9-13 year old project report

**Emerald Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—9 optional requirements AND 1 Project report

**Silver Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—10 optional requirements AND 1 Project report

**Silver Guard Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—12 optional requirements AND 1 Project report

**Jr. Leader Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—16 optional requirements AND 1 Project report

**Gold Pin** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan— 19 optional requirements AND 1 Project report

**Gold Guard** - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—21 optional requirements AND 1 Project report

**Key Award** - State Application Form - Limited to 10% of those 16 and over.

### **MORE ON KANSAS AWARD PORTFOLIOS**

**County Champion** - Awarded in individual projects. Jr. & Sr. pins awarded. Must complete Kansas Project Report. 33 project areas available. Seniors advance to the Regional screening held in January each year. Regional winners submit their Project Report to the state screening. State screening may include an interview process to select the finalists who are recognized at the Emerald Circle Banquet in Manhattan and who earn a trip to the National 4-H Congress held in Atlanta.

[All forms are available on-line](#), at the Extension Office or visit with your 4-H Club Leader. There are 3 different levels of forms – Jr. 7 – 9 years, Intermediate 10 – 13 years and Senior 14 & up.

**KAPs and Pin applications are due to the Extension Office by 5 pm on Friday, September 29.**

### **YOUR 4-H STORY**

The 4-H Story is a very important part of your KAP. A well-organized story is easiest to read and follow. You may want to try outlining your story before you begin writing. In the new system, the story is included in your project record. It is called a project reflection. So, you don't need to include a separate story. As you get older, there is more to write about. Use the below prompts to help you with the writing.

**Introduce yourself** - include your age, interests, family, where you live, where you attend school, when and why you joined 4-H.

**Tell about your favorite 4-H project.** Why did you choose the project; what goals did you set and which ones did you reach; what have you learned in the project; how has the project grown in size and scope; describe the things you have tried and found successful and some that were not so successful; how have you arranged for financing; include profits, losses and savings.

**Highlight other 4-H projects and activities.** Give information about other project activities you have participated in: include major learning experiences; special interests; usual experiences; and unusual situations that you've encountered.

**Describe how 4-H participation has influenced your school and career goals.** Tell about your plans for the future and the career you would like to pursue. What do you want to do next year?



**Look familiar?** If you were a 4-H'er in the 1970s & 1980s, you most likely used this cover to hold your 4-H Record Book. Times have changed! You can place your Kansas Award Portfolio into any type of thin binder that you choose. You can still purchase this style cover through 4-Hmall.org.

The Kansas Award Portfolio process is a ***one-year snap shot of your 4-H work in one project area.*** It helps 4-H'ers learn record keeping skills. One Ellis Co. 4-H'er recently said "*Why didn't I start doing this a long time ago?*". It's not as difficult and time consuming as you may remember if you did a 4-H Record Book! And having this ***information captured in the KAP will help the 4-H'er when it's time to apply for college scholarships or jobs!***