



What's Inside?

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January 2021

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

Hope you had great holidays making special family memories! 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 for those activities that best fit the needs of your family.

One of the outstanding Countywide learning opportunities is **4-H Day**. It is tentatively, **Sunday, March 7**. Public **Presentation skills** are some of the most **valuable skills** 4-H'ers gain through their 4-H experience. Consider getting your child involved in this great learning activity. Several of our older 4-H'ers [created on-line videos](#) to help you navigate through the planning steps for each type of presentation. The event registration and rules will soon be posted on our website.

We look forward to working with you in 2021!

Yours in 4-H,

Susan Schlichting

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County Extension Agent – 4-H Youth Development



Meetings Coming Your Way

4-H Ag Livestock – Monday, January 18, 6:30 p.m. via zoom

4-H Council – Tuesday, February 2, 6:00 p.m. via zoom

4-H Home Ec, BBQ, Foodstand – Respond to [Doodle Poll](#) by January 6

4-H Achievement Banquet, 4-H Day, Promotion – Respond to [Doodle Poll](#) by January 6



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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

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

January 22 – KS 4-H Scholarship Aps Due in Ext. Office

February 1 – Sign up for 4-H Citizenship in Action (CIA) in Topeka

February 8 – Register for Jr. Swine Producer Week

February 13 – Enroll in Market Beef Project & Tag Your Animals

March 8 – Register for Jr. Meat Goat Producer Week

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.

4-H Enrollments

This is your last call to get your 4-H on-line enrollments updated for 2020 -21. **Even if you are enrolling in the same projects, you will still need to log-on and update.** Parents need to update their profiles, too! *This will be the last month that we will send out the newsletter notification email to both last year and this year's email list.*

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 weighed in February 13 and Small Livestock weighed in in late April.

VS (Volunteer Screening)

Each 4-H volunteer working directly with youth in the club, is required to go through this screening and training process. The application is done through your 4-H Online profile. The screening and training process **must be completed by February 1.**

Current Volunteers - If you are a current screened volunteer in your 4-H club and plan to continue to do so, please update your 4-H Online profile as your renewal form this year.

New & Returning Volunteers – will need to add your information to the 4-H On-line enrollment system by creating a member profile within your family's profile. Visit with your club's leader or our office if you need assistance with this!



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 Day is Coming—Sunday, March 7 – Ellis or Virtual?

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. Mark Sunday, March 7 on your calendar and make plans now to participate in 4-H Day. We will know shortly if this event will be held in person with Covid-plans in place or if this will be held virtually. Some clubs have already started working on skits, project talks, talent, etc. [Check out the website](#) for the latest information, rules, etc.

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 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 or record your zoom meeting. . . with one twist. You will draw for a special action that you will need to incorporate into the meeting before we start recording. The club receiving the top ribbon placing may represent Ellis Co. at Regional 4-H Day. We will let you know when that event has been finalized.

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 13 from 9 – 11 a.m.** at the 4-H Fairgrounds. **You need to be enrolled in the Market Beef project by February 13.** (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.

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 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.

4-H Council Update

Thanks to everyone who shared food items for the 4-H Council canned food drive. The items were taken to the St. Joe's Food Pantry. If you didn't get them to your club reps for delivery, St. Joe's is open from 9 – 3, daily. Enter through the NW doors of the old Kennedy school building.

Other 4-H Council items:

- ⇒ Set Market Beef Weigh in—Feb. 13, 9—11
- ⇒ Market Livestock must show at the County Fair in order for the 4-H'er to be eligible to enter and exhibit at the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive.
- ⇒ Adopted budget for 2021
- ⇒ Signed up for committees—*Photo Day Camp, New Picnic Tables Fundraising, Civil Discourse Workshop, Outdoor Treasure Hunt and Meaningful Cards for Nursing Home Residents monthly*
- ⇒ Moved to donate \$500 to Ellis Co. Fairboard for replacement tables and chairs for the Schenk building
- ⇒ Updated the 4-H Council Constitution and By-laws including term limits on leadership positions on 4-H Council and County committees; requiring major funding requests be made at least 60 days in advance of the need for funding so 4-H Council and 4-H Clubs can have input

SUPER 4-H SATURDAY 2021

Super 4-H is a day filled with great 4-H activities for the whole family on FHSU campus! We are in the process of determining how to move forward with this major event in 2021. Stay tuned as we make those decisions in mid-January. There are typically 6 judging contests—Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Livestock & Photography for 4-H & FFA youth 7 - 18. Watch for more info. as these activities are finalized.



Citizenship in Action – Virtual in 2021

What: Would you like to have more influence in laws and rules that affect your life? Then you'll want to go to Kansas 4-H Citizenship in Action! This two day event is sponsored by the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. The purpose of the event is for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities.

When: February 14 – 15, 2021

Where: Virtual

Who: Youth 13-18 years old by January 1 of the current year

Registration Deadline: February 1, 2021

4-H Scholarships Due in Early 2021

Now's the time to start planning. You can apply for KS 4-H Scholarships and Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarships. **State scholarship apps are due January 22, 2021.**

Get an early start on your application for the [2021 Kansas 4-H Scholarship](#). A list of scholarships available to apply for is posted on the site. The KS 4-H Scholarship requires a copy of your grade transcript, several letters of recommendation and an essay, so plan ahead! Any past 4-H member who is currently in college is eligible to apply for the KS 4-H scholarships. **You are considered for all scholarships that you qualify for with one application.**

Ellis Co. 4-H scholarship app will be available soon. This year's process will include an interview.

Congrats to . . .

New Cottonwood 4-H Water Ambassadors – Kaden Haas, Jonas Kern, Brandee Staab and Marisa Wasinger. They will take part in training in January and February to learn more about our water resources. Later this Spring or Summer, you will see them representing Cottonwood 4-H at several community events, sharing what they've learned about our water resource.



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. We will post an on-line form that you can complete to let us know how you'd like to help, too. 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 will soon be posted on our website. Check out the areas that are listed and think about helping sponsor a special award for the Fair.

IFYE Host Family Applications Due Soon

It's not too early for families to apply to host 4-H International Exchange students next summer or fall. 4-H age kids from Japan and Costa Rica will be hosted through States' 4-H International Exchange Programs. Young adults from Australia, Taiwan and several European countries will also need hosts for 2-4 weeks each. To be considered for all options, [applications](#) are due soon.



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.