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Ellis County 4-H Happenings

April 2024

Hey 4-H Families!

Congrats to all that participated in Ellis County Club days and to who will be going to Regional Club Days. Check for the results on our website.

Congrats to those who participated at Super Saturday! Results will be posted on our website soon. It is the hopes of the NW 4-H Advisory that we continue to alternate hosting this event, the **2025 NW 4-H Super Saturday Judging Event to be in Colby** and plans for the 2026 contest to be back in Hays.

The months are flying by and it will soon be time for the Ellis County Fair!!

Now is the time to make sure you have everything in order regarding 4-H online enrollments and to focus on many upcoming deadlines. You still have time to add any projects you may get completed in time for the fair. If you have done anything at school, you can more than likely enter it into the fair!

As always, if you have questions, don't hesitate to give us a call!

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 – April 2nd @ 6 pm, back meeting room of Ext. Office

Home Ec./BBQ/Food Stand – Watch email for Doodle Poll

Ag Livestock – May 1 @ 8 pm (after small animal weigh-in), Fairgrounds



K-STATE
Research and Extension

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

April 15 – Insect Art Contest are due

April 15 – K- State Animal Science Leadership Academy Regs Due

April 15 – NW Kansas Ag Ambassador App Due

April 20 – Last day to order DNA envelopes for Nominated Market Beef

May 1 – Market beef/heifer nominations Due for KS State Fair and KJLS

May 1 – **Last Day to Make Changes to Your 4-H Enrollment for 2024**

May 1 – [4-H Horse ID Papers](#) Due in Ext. Office

May 1 – Registered Breeding Livestock in name of 4-H'er

May 1 – Small Animal Weigh-in 6-8 pm

May 1 – [Bucket Calf](#) & [Commercial Breeding Heifer](#) forms due in Ext. Office
by 5PM

May 5 – Registration for Discovery Days Closes



IMPORTANT

YQCA Training – April 7th 1:30 pm at the Ag Research Center

If you will be participating in the YQCA training on April 7th, please complete the Pre-Test on the website yqcaprogram.org. **All youth who plan to sale at the Ellis County 4-H Livestock Auction, exhibit in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS should complete the training** at their earliest convenience. **This includes Meat Pen Rabbits, Meat Pen Poultry, Market Steers, Market Heifers, Feeder Calves, Meat**

Goats, Swine and Sheep. This is an annual training, so youth need to complete it each year. You will have the option to do the training on line at \$12 per member or in person on April 7th for \$3. Following the training there will be a Livestock sale meeting.

Please visit yqcaprogram.org to register for this class and pay the \$3.00 fee. NO money will be collected at the door that evening. You MUST be enrolled and complete the pre-test BEFORE the class!! Once you finish the class, print off a copy and save it in a file for future reference.

2024 Insect Art Contest

The Kansas State Pesticide Safety and IPM program is hosting an insect-themed art contest for Kansas 4-Her's and art students as well as adults. This year the artwork needs to fit into the contest theme of "Incognito: Insects in Disguise." The goal is to explore how and why insects camouflage or imitate. **Entries should be postmarked by April 15, 2024.**

Selected artwork will be used to create educational items. Artists that have art selected will receive a certificate and a prize to recognize their achievement. We will select a winner from each of the outlined categories and one overall winner will be selected from those entries.

For more information call the Extension Office at 785-628-9430.

Age categories are as follows:

1. Kindergarten – 2nd grade (1st -3rd place)
2. 3rd grade – 5th grade (1st -3rd place)
3. 6th grade – 8th grade (1st -3rd place)
4. High School (1st -3rd place)
5. Adult (1st- 3rd place)

Categories

1. Illustrates a real-life insect that can camouflage or imitate
3. 3-D (pottery, stained glass, or other medias)



JOIN THE TEAM...
NORTHWEST KANSAS 4-H
Agricultural Ambassador Program

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Research and Extension



Deadline moved back - NEW Northwest Kansas 4-H Agricultural Ambassador Program

Youth interested in being a part of the ambassador program must complete an application, submit a leadership resume, a cover letter, three letters of reference, and complete a virtual interview if selected as a finalist.

Applications and supporting documents are **due by April 15th** and may be submitted to your local K-State Research and Extension office.

For more information, a copy of the flyer and application visit the Twin Creeks District website at: <https://www.twincreeks.k-state.edu/youth-ag/index.html>

For questions about the Northwest Kansas 4-H Agricultural Ambassador Program, please contact Twin Creeks District Youth

Agriculture Agent, Jenilee Godsey. (Phone: 785-421-3411, Email: jenileem@ksu.edu)

K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy KASLA 2024

Applications are now open for the 2024 K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy, held June 5-8, 2024. The goal of this academy will be to further develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field.

The four-day session focuses on increasing knowledge of Kansas' diverse livestock industry, as well as building participant's leadership skills. Twenty high school students will be selected to participate based upon educational, community, and agricultural involvement, as reflected through an application process.

Applications must be postmarked by April 15, 2024. More information and the application form are available at: [K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy](#) For questions about the academy, please contact Sharon Breiner, Director, at sbreiner@ksu.edu or 785-523-6533.

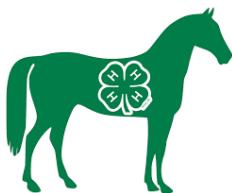


National Volunteer Week is APRIL 21 – 27

Have you said thank you to your 4-H Leader lately?? If not, take time this month to let them know how much you appreciate them! We have great volunteers in Ellis County! Thanks to each of you who steps forward to give your time and talents to 4-H members! THANK YOU!

4-H Enrollments

The last chance to make changes in your project enrollments for 2024 is coming up May 1. Be sure to check in on your 4-H Online account and make sure you are enrolled in the projects that you are planning to work in. **Remember that you must be enrolled in a project in order to exhibit in that project area in the 4-H division of the County Fair.** If you've found a new area you'd like to explore, be sure to get your enrollment updated in 4-H Online before May 1. To learn more about how to do the updates, [click here](#).



4-H HORSE ID PAPERS DUE MAY 1

Horse ID papers are available at the Extension Office or on line at kansas4-h.org. You have to have these papers completed and on **file with our office by May 1** in order to show at 4-H sanctioned horse shows. Now's the time to get the photos taken and the forms filed with the Extension Office. ***If you have an old form, you should transition to the form linked above it was updated in 2023.***



Small Livestock Weigh-in Date Set for May 1st, 6 – 8 p.m.

If you're planning to show Feeder Calves, Meat Goats, Sheep or Swine at this year's Ellis County Fair, make plans now to **get your official 4-H tags and tag your project animals before the weigh-in** at the Fairgrounds. **All market animals have the option to weigh their animals. Tags must be verified at weigh-in.** The Ellis Co. Spring Livestock Show has been set as an alternate weigh-in date on Sunday, May 7th, 7 – 9 a.m. ***Please call our office to let us know if you plan to use the alternate date. Remember, you need to be enrolled in the Market livestock project by May 1.*** [Bucket Calf](#) & [Commercial Breeding Heifer](#) forms due in Ext. Office **by 5PM on May 1st.**

Club Fundraising Opportunity – Wheat Plot Tour Meal

Each year we hold and conduct a county wheat plot tour/field day near the end of May/early June. After the field day we come into Hays to the Municipal Park, 1st and Main Street for dinner. Any 4-H club in the county can throw their clubs name in the hat to prepare and serve the meal. Stacy will go out and get the donations and the 4-H club will receive the donated money after the event. The meal has generally consisted of grilled hamburgers and brats with the condiments, pickles, onions, chips, baked beans or potato salad, a dessert, water, tea, and lemonade (optional). We are encouraging people to RSVP, so we will give the club an estimated head count closer to the date.

If your club is interested in doing this for a fundraiser, **please let Theresa know by May 1st.** If you have any questions feel free to ask Stacy or Theresa.

State Livestock Nominations

Detailed Information on this whole process are posted on the [K-State Youth Livestock webpage](#).

Now that we are using an online system, families are encouraged to plan ahead, use the resources posted,

and check out the [Rookie Guide](#). Cost per animal is \$12.00. Exhibitors who nominated animals last year (in 2023) need to use their existing ShoWorks account. Those who need help accessing their account may request a password reset through ShoWorks or contact the Youth Livestock Program for assistance. Returning exhibitors should not create a new account. All market animals and commercial breeding females that families would like to be eligible to show at the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS must be nominated.

There will be two Zoom sessions this spring over the state livestock nomination process.

Monday, April 8 - Cattle

Registration Link: [2024 Beef State Livestock Nomination Zoom Session \(qualtrics.com\)](https://qualtrics.com)

Thursday, May 9 - Small Livestock

Registration Link: [2024 Small Livestock State Livestock Nomination Zoom Session \(qualtrics.com\)](https://qualtrics.com)

Nomination Deadlines:

April 20 - Deadline to order DNA envelopes for Market Beef

May 1 - Market Beef

June 5 - Deadline to order DNA envelopes for Small Livestock & Commercial Heifers

June 15 - Small Livestock & Commercial Heifers

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days

Put June 5-7, 2024 on your calendar to be in Manhattan on the K-State campus. Discovery Days is open to all youth who are 13 to 18 years old by January 1, 2024.

Registration is open now and closes May 5th, but some of the classes will be limited in size, so make sure they don't wait if there is a class they really want. All the information that is available, will be found on our Discovery Days webpage found at Kansas4-h.org

ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2023 will be July 15 - 20, 2024
The Theme is "Moo'in & Groovin'!"



Ellis County Fair Volunteers Needed

Call the office at 785-628-9430 to let us know how you'd like to help. 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.

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!