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February 2024

Ellis County

4-H Happenings

It's time for 4-H Day, everyone is welcome to join! Good Luck to every 4-H member who is planning to participate at this year's event!!

The [guidelines and registration packet for 4-H Day](#) is posted on our website. You can print off and return a hard copy OR you can go on-line and register with the links. Either way, **entries are due in the Extension Office by Friday, February 23.**

Club skits will go first, at 1:00 p.m. **It will be your responsibility to sign up for a judging time.** Schedules will then be posted outside of each room and it will be FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.

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 – 7 pm, Feb 13, Extension Office back meeting room

4-H Home Ec., BBQ, Food stand – Watch for a Doodle Poll



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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

- February 9** – Enroll in Market Beef Project by Tomorrow
- February 12** – Sign up for Jr. Beef Producer Day @ KSU
- February 23** – Ellis Co. 4-H Day Entries Due
- February 26** – Sign up for Jr. Sheep Producer Day @ KSU
- March 1** – Sponsor a County Fair Award
- March 1** – State 4-H Scholarships On-line

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

You can now update your own 4-H project enrollments! You can 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.

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 10th from 9 – 11 a.m. at the Fairgrounds. **You need to be enrolled in the Market Beef project by the February weigh-in date.** (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 2024 are unchanged from last year. Please take time to review this.



Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

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 is an annual training, so youth need to complete it each year. For this year, you will have the option to do the training on line at \$12 per member or in person on April 7th. (More details to come later) Visit yqcaprogram.org to get your training completed for 2024.

4-H Council

At the February meeting 4-H Council will be working to finalize the 4-H Fair Schedule. It is important that you attend club meetings to give your input and to stay informed.

State 4-H Scholarships Due in March

Now's the time to start planning. You can apply for KS 4-H Scholarships and Ellis Co. 4-H Scholarships. **State scholarship aps are due March 1, 2024.**

Get an early start on your application for the [2024 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, resume, several letters of recommendation, an essay and a short video, 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 County Scholarships

The Ellis Co. 4-H scholarship app will be available soon. Seniors, watch for it to come in an email from Tamara!

4-H Day is Coming—Sunday, March 3 – North Oak Community Church - Hays

4-H Day is a chance for 4-H members to showcase their project learning through public presentations. ***If you ask 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 3 on your calendar and make plans now to participate in 4-H Day. Some clubs have already started working on skits, project talks, talent, etc. [Check out the website](#) for the latest information, rules, entry form, 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. [Check out the website to see](#) the series of "how to" video presentations by our Ellis Co. 4-H'ers.

4-H Public Service Announcements

This year we are getting times set up with a local radio station to record PSA's to be played throughout the year! Promote 4-H through this fun and creative speaking event. 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 prior to 4-H Day for more information.**

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. Clubs will tape their own meetings this year and submit to the Extension Office. This year all clubs will include the motion "to amend a motion" into your clubs meeting. The club receiving the top ribbon placing will represent Ellis Co. at Regional 4-H Day on April 5th.

4-H Day Room Monitors

Each club has a dedicated room during 4-H Day on March 3rd. Visit with your club leader or stop by the Ellis Co. website to learn more about your room monitor duties.

Jr./Int. Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks – **VV**
Readings – **GH**
Talent (Skits, Dance & Other Talent) – **Sanctuary – ES**
Project Talks, Show & Tell – **BJF**
Public Speaking, Extemp. Speaking, Sr. Demo – **BCA**
Warm Up Room & ARI – **GJ**

K-State Junior Beef Producer and Junior Sheep Producer Days 2024

Jr. Beef Producer Day is March 2 and Jr. Sheep Producer Day is March 16. Visit the [Youth Livestock Program website](#) for all the latest information. Registrations are \$20 and are due in February, both youth and adults attending need to register!

4-H SUPER SATURDAY – March 23 FHSU

March 23 is a day filled with great 4-H activities for the whole family! New this year, there will be another contest included – Livestock Skill-A-Thon! 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 be several workshops in the afternoon to help 4-H'ers explore project learning. Watch for more info as these activities are finalized.

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.

ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2024 will be July 13 - 20, 2024
The Theme is "Moo'in & Groovin'!"



Ellis County Fair Volunteers Needed

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 is posted on our website. Check out the areas that are listed and think about helping sponsor a special award for the Fair.



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