



What's Inside?

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August/September 2021

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to 4-H'ers, your families, and every volunteer who made the 2021 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 13**. Here's the link: <https://tinyurl.com/2021ECFFeedback>

Hats off to everyone who stepped in and volunteered . . . at the Schenk Building, the Foodstands, in the barns, at the events . . . your help was greatly appreciated and it helped to make everything run smoothly. With the sign-up system, we were able to track over 1200 volunteer hours worked during the Fair. We all know that many more hours were given and not specifically tracked. 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

Yours in 4-H,

Susan Schlichting

Susan Schlichting
District Extension Agent – 4-H Youth Development

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Meetings Coming Your Way

4-H Council – Watch for Doodle poll to set date

Ways to Contact Us

- 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
- www.cottonwood.ksu.edu

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

- August 1** – KS 4-H Wheat Expo Registration Closes
- August 5** – KS 4-H Hort Judging Contest Entries Due
- August 6** – Youth Roundup Poetry Contest Entries Due
- August 15** – KJLS Entries Due
- August 15** – Submit Designs for 4-H Dog Conference
- September 3** – Indoor Exhibits for Kansas State Fair to Extension Office
- September 7** – 4-H Kansas Award Portfolios & Membership Pin Aps Due
- September 8** – Food & Hort Exhibits for KSF to Ext. Office 7:30 – 8:15 a.m.
- September 24** – Rosemary Smith 4-H Scholarship & Club Award Entries Due
- September 24** – I Dare You & KS 4-H Key Award Aps Due

K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating

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IT'S KANSAS STATE FAIR TIME!

Indoor exhibits are due in the Extension Office by Friday, September 3.

Food and Horticulture exhibits may come in from 7:30—8:15 a.m. on Wednesday, September 8.

Exhibits are returned to the Ext. Office on Monday, September 20. 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 exhibitors participating in this year's Fair.



ELLIS COUNTY FAIR WRAP UP

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 4-H'ers at the Fair!

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

Life Skills Judging—Fair

Jr./Int. 1st place – Aliyah Conner, GJ; 2nd place - Grace A. Schmeidler, BJF; 3rd place – Alaina Yarmer, BJF; 4th place – Marisa Wasinger, GH

Sr. 1st place – John Weisenborn, GJ; Sr. 2nd place – Luke Montgomery, BJF; 3rd place – Wyatt Grabbe, GH; 4th place – Dustin Rajewski, GJ

Livestock Judging

Jr. 1st place – Lizzy Vajnar, GH; 2nd place – Ella Neher, VV; 3rd place – Konner Haas, GH; 4th place – Faith Schmeidler, BJF

Sr. 1st place – Jaiden Pfannenstiel, GH; 2nd place – Dalton Robben, VV; 3rd place – Emma Anderson, VV; 4th place – Karli Neher, VV

Champion Fitting & Showing

Senior Champion – Konnor Pfeifer, ES

Senior Reserve Champion – Karli Neher, VV

Intermediate Champion – Keeli Kimzey, BJF

Intermediate Reserve Champion – Ella Neher, VV

Junior Champion – Karci Kimzey, BJF

Junior Reserve Champion – Maddie Robben, VV

Herdsmanship Winners

Beef – Buckeye Jr. Farmers

Sheep – Victoria Vikings

Swine – Ellis Sunflowers

Meat Goats – Gemini Jrs.

Rabbits – Good Hope

Poultry – Buckeye Jr. Farmers

Animal Management Skill-a-thon

Jr. – 1st – TIE – Ella Neher, VV; Esther Neher, VV; Maddie Robben, VV

Sr. 1st – Jaiden Pfannenstiel, GH; 2nd place – Dalton Robben, VV

PREMIUM CHECKS

Fair Premium Checks are in the Extension Office for you to stop by and pick up. If you received a 4-H special award (listed in the back of the fairbook) at this year's fair, you'll need to write your thank you note and bring it in a stamped envelope to the Extension Office to receive your premium check and cash award! ***The Fairboard has asked that you please cash 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 managers, Mike and Amy Jensen for all the extra efforts in providing a safe and positive place for 4-H families to come work, learn and serve together.

YOUTH ROUNDUP POETRY CONTEST

Young men and women age 18 or younger have the opportunity to win scholarships and prizes through the 2021 Kansas Cowboy Poetry Youth Roundup. This is a cowboy poetry contest that is being conducted online.

There is no charge to enter the Youth Roundup. Contestants will be asked to write an original western-themed poem and post a video of their presentation of it online. The top three winners will receive educational scholarships of \$500, \$300, and \$200, in addition to gift cards to leading western wear stores and award certificates signed by the Governor. Videos of the poems will be posted on YouTube for viewing by the panel of judges and the public and the number of likes will be factored into the final ranking.

Youth roundup entries are due online by August 6, 2021. For more information, go to www.cowboypoetryyouthroundup.com.

LET'S TALK

A 4-H Council committee has been busy putting details together for an exciting leadership event called Let's Talk. It was originally scheduled for August 28. With the school year not yet started, they have decided to move the date later into the fall to help with recruitment and sponsorship of the event. Stay tuned and get ready to join us when the plans are finalized!

KANSAS YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

The [Kansas Youth Leadership Forum](#) will be November 20 - 21, 2021 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. The Forum is for youth ages 14-18, as of January 1, 2022. **Registrations are due October 15.** This event includes: speakers, workshops, consulting groups and election of the 20th State 4-H Council.

KS 4-H YOUTH COUNCIL

Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 by January 1, 2022 may apply to be a 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 1.**

KS 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS DUE IN EARLY 2022

Get an early start on your application for the [2022 Kansas 4-H Scholarship](#). They are due in the local Extension Office in late January each year. **Current college students and graduating seniors are eligible to apply.** A list of scholarships available to apply for will come out closer to the end of the year.

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

Are you interested in Shooting Sports? Air Rifle, BB Gun and Air Pistol will begin in October. Contact Leslie Dexter NOW if you'd like to get involved. Leslie Dexter, County Coordinator 785- 656-3452 (evenings/weekends) or e-mail her at eldext@gmail.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. 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. They will meet in September. Thanks to everyone for stepping up and filling your shifts in the Scholarship Foodstand at the Fair!

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

KS 4-H WHEAT EXPO

Join us for the 2021 Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo on Wednesday, August 11th at the Butler County Community Building in El Dorado. We are excited to bring the wheat expo back for a fun, educational and hands-on program in person for all Kansas 4-H members, siblings, parents, grandparents, and KSRE Extension staff. You do not have to be enrolled in crops/plant science projects to participate.

Cost is \$6.00 per person. Pre-registration is required by Sunday, August 1st, 11:59 p.m. to ensure an accurate meal count and for tour divisions.

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!



AWARDS CORNER

4-H Awards

It's time to begin thinking about wrapping up the 2020-21 4-H year! While County Fair is still fresh in your mind, and before school gets in 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. If you'd like help in getting your KAP or Pin Ap completed, give the Extension Office a call.

Kansas Award Portfolios & Member Pin Aps Due September 7

Your Kansas Award Portfolios (KAPs) & [Pin Aps](#) are **due in the Extension Office on Tuesday, September 7**. You will print off your Record Book pages for your KAP 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 ?s 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 Tuesday, September 7**.

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 **Friday, September 24**.

"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 Friday, September 24**.

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 Friday, September 24**. Let's try for 100% completion in 2021!

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 **NO LATER THAN Friday, September 24**.

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 Friday, September 24**.

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 Friday, September 24**.

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 KAP
Clover Pin - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—7 optional requirements AND 4-H Personal Page, 4-H Story, Photos OR 9-13 year old KAP
Emerald Pin - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—9 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
Silver Pin - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—10 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
Silver Guard Pin - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—12 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
Jr. Leader Pin - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—16 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
Gold Pin - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan— 19 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
Gold Guard - Complete Ellis Co. Achievement Plan—21 optional requirements AND 1 Project KAP
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 Award Portfolio (KAP). 32 project areas available. Seniors advance to the Regional screening held in January each year. Regional winners submit their KAP 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 Tuesday, September 7.

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!**