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December 2021/
January 2022

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

I made an announcement at 4-H Council last Sunday that I'll be retiring from my position as 4-H Agent in January 2022. I have enjoyed getting to work with many of you over the past years. It is always a joy to watch youth grow in their skills and confidence through their 4-H experiences.

I'll be transitioning back to our family farm in Eastern Nebraska where we are starting a greenhouse operation.

It may be awhile before they are able to hire to this position, so please be patient with the local team members. If you have any concerns or issues during this vacancy, please contact District Director, Donna Krug at (620) 793-1910.

Keep up that GREAT 4-H work and enjoy "Finding YOUR Spark" in 4-H this year!

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 Ag Livestock – Watch for a Doodle Poll coming your way soon

4-H Council – Watch for a Doodle Poll coming your way soon

Ways to Contact Us

- You can reach the 4-H Office Voice Mail at (785) 628-9430
- Extension Office fax # is (785) 621-2002
- sschlich@ksu.edu
- www.cottonwood.ksu.edu

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

- December 8** – Register for 4-H Officer Training
- December 15** – Submit prize winning recipes to KWC
- December 21** – Register for 4-H Day with the Wildcat Women's BB game
- January 14** - Kansas 4-H Project Reports for Dist. Competition due in Ext. Office
- January 15** – Sign up for 4-H Horse Panorama
- January 25** – KS 4-H Scholarship Aps Due in Ext. Office
- February 1** – Kansas 4-H Project Award Evaluator Aps Due to State 4-H Office
- February 1** – Sign up for 4-H Citizenship in Action (CIA) in Topeka
- February 1** – Enroll in Market Beef Project by Weigh-in Date
- February 15** – Sign up for Jr. Beef & Sheep Producer Days @ KSU
- February 22** – Ellis Co. 4-H Day Entries Due

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 Officer Training – “Find YOUR Spark in 4-H!”

This year we're offering a Regional 4-H Officer training. Your club can join the fun at a regional 4-H Officer Training held on Friday, December 10, 6 – 8:30 p.m. in Russell. You don't have to be a current officer to participate in the regional training. This is your chance to learn more about a specific office and meet some other 4-H members, too. There will also be a session for parents on the new on-line ZSuite record keeping system.

To join this fun learning session, **register on-line by Wednesday, December 8 to get registered for this FREE session.** https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3QzfHWvYqsqcbzM

4-H Council Canned Food Drive

Thanks to everyone who donated to the 4-H Council Canned Food Drive. Those items were delivered to St. Joseph's Food Pantry. If your club would like a great service project, they are always looking for groups to come in and help box and organize the food donations. Contact them directly to arrange for a service project.

4-H Shooting Sports – BB Gun & Air Rifle Workouts

If you are interested in getting started in bb gun or air rifle disciplines, you should contact Chris Quint at (720) 219-0062 to get started. They are practicing on Sundays at 4 p.m. and Mondays at 6 p.m. They will accept new participants through December.

4-H Growing Leaders Club Meeting

The new 4-H Growing Leaders club will meet on Monday, December 13 at the Front meeting room at the Extension Office at 7 p.m. We'll be learning about soils and worm farming at this month's meeting. All current 4-H members are welcome to come and learn more about growing things. If you know of anyone who is not currently in 4-H, but has an interest in learning more about growing, please pass this invitation on to them. Thanks.

4-H Champion Food Recipes Wanted

Each year many 4-H'ers receive purple and champion awards on their baked products that Kansas county fairs. The Kansas Wheat Commission Test Kitchen would like to invite youth to share their prize-winning recipes. They will spotlight 4-H'ers and their recipes through social media, recipe booklets and their website. Recipes submitted may be a cake, pie, cookie, quick bread, yeast bread or roll recipe. A limited number of recipes will be selected and tested for publication. Please submit your complete recipe and photo of the product, if available, **by December 15 to cfalk@kswheat.com**

If you love to bake, a great resource to check out is the Kansas Wheat Commission's National Festival of Breads website. There are some outstanding recipes to check out. And you can watch for details on how to enter their competitions here, too. They have youth divisions and great prizes!



4-H Horse Project Club Reorganizing

If you are interested in the 4-H Horse project, contact Tatum Kimzey at tatumkimzey@gmail.com. They are looking to get a group together again. If you know of anyone who is not currently in 4-H, but has an interest in learning more about care and riding their horse, please share Tatum's contact information with them, as well.

Kansas 4-H Horse Panorama

4-H Horse Panorama will move back to Rock Springs, January 28 – 30, 2022. Horse Quiz Bowl, Hippology and Public Speaking Contests will be in person. Photography, logos, posters and the model horse events will be held as hybrid classes, allowing those unable to attend the opportunity to submit entries. Watch for more specifics at kansas4-h.org as they become available.



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 5 or 12 (depending on the date of the KS Winter Classic livestock show-watch for final date confirmation as soon as we know the show date.)** from 9 – 11 a.m. at the 4-H 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 2022 are in the process of being revised. Please take time to review them after the January 4-H Ag livestock committee meeting. New in '22 - All livestock species will have the option of bringing their animals to the weigh-in site and having the tag verified, rather than taking the animals across the scale. Remember that weighing the animals is a good "bench mark" tool as to the progress of the project animal.



K-State Beef and Sheep Producer Days 2022

Jr. Beef Producer Day is March 5 and Jr. Sheep Producer Day is March 19. Visit the [Youth Livestock Program website](#) for all the latest information.



Project Leaders Needed

As members enroll in projects, it is important to provide them with learning experience in those areas. Adults and teens are needed to guide the members in their project earning. If you have a skill to share, visit with you club leader to get involved.



4-H Project Support

Kansas 4-H has a series of recorded sessions to inspire you in a variety of project areas. There are lesson plans and other project related resources available here for your use as a project leader or a parent looking for ideas of how to do project work in these project areas:

Wildlife

Livestock

Visual Arts – Barn Quilts

Financial Literacy

Textile Science

Public Speaking

Service Learning

STEM – Rocketry

Visit kansas4-h.org to learn more. . .

4-H Day is Coming—Sunday, March 6 – 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 6 on your calendar and make plans now to participate in 4-H Day. It will begin early afternoon. 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 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. Create a 30 second "info-commercial" about why your friends should join 4-H. **Record and submit your entry to the Extension Office prior to March 6.** 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 to schedule your club's meeting. The club receiving the top ribbon placing will represent Ellis Co. at Regional 4-H Day in **March**.

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.

Kansas 4-H Day with Wildcat Women's Basketball is January 23

Join us for Kansas 4-H Day with Wildcat Women's Basketball! This event will be held on Sunday, January 23rd with ticket pickup from 11:30am to 12:30pm. You will receive a ticket to the K-State vs. Oklahoma Women's Basketball Game, a t-shirt, and a \$10 meal voucher to use at the main concession stands at the game. [Registration is due December 21.](#)



AWARDS CORNER

ZSuite Project Records

Have you identified your goals for the new 4-H year? If not, now's the time to get them in writing! Once you have them written down, it's time to get them entered into your ZSuite project report.

To get started, go to: <https://4h.zsuite.org/> If you haven't already created a family profile and member profile, now's the time to do so. Then off you go!

Each club should have a parent and teen trained on how to use the system. Visit with them or give our office a call. There is also a recording of the "Getting Started" training and a quick guide posted on our front webpage.

There were several 4-H'ers who completed multiple Project Records this past year, due to the ease in completing them. Don't wait until September, come see what it's all about and get started now!



ELLIS COUNTY FAIR 2022 is July 16 - 23, 2022

The Theme is "Barnyard Mardi Gras"

Ellis County Fair Volunteers Needed

We'll soon be sending out cards to ask for help with the County Fair. We have posted an on-line form that you can complete 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.

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.

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!