



What's Inside?

- New 4-H Year
- 48 Hours of 4-H Service
- 2022-2023 Council Elections
- Leadership Opportunities
- Officer training
- 4-H Achievement Banquet

October 2022

Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

The new 4-H year is HERE! What is your family going to focus on in 4-H this year? Take advantage of the great opportunities to practice and learn new skills by being actively involved in the Ellis Co. 4-H program. It's time to set goals and plot your plan for getting the most out of this year's 4-H experience.

4-H Week is October 2-8. What's your club doing to invite new families to join us? **Be sure to WEAR GREEN** and **invite your friends** to come and get involved!

48 Hours of 4-H is October 8-9. KS 4-H is sponsoring this special service weekend. Learn more elsewhere in this letter. Be sure your club gets registered for this great way to give back to our community.

There are many great learning opportunities ahead in the new 4-H year. We'll look forward to working and learning together!

As always, if you have questions, don't hesitate to ask . . . a leader, a 4-H member, or Extension Staff.

Yours in 4-H,
Stacy, Theresa, Tamara & Taylor

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Meetings Coming Your Way

NEW 4-H Council – October 17, 7:00 p.m. – Ext. Office Backroom

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

- October 1** – KS 4-H Youth Council Aps Due
- October 1** – 4-H Dog Conference Registration Deadline
- October 1** – Register for KS 4-H KVF @ Rock Springs
- October 19** – RSVP for 4-H Achievement Banquet
- November 1** – 4-H Online Volunteer Renewals completed in 4-H Online
- November 1** – 4-H Club Financial Reports due
- November 1** – Register for KS 4-H KYLF @ Rock Springs
- December 1** – 4-H Reenrollments Updated for new 4-H year in 4-H Online

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

All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

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.



KANSAS STATE FAIR

Congrats to all 4-H'ers who exhibited or participated in this year's fair. There were a number of personal "bests" at the event. Way to represent, Ellis Co. 4-H'ers!!!

KANSAS STATE FAIR EXHIBITS

Watch the Hays Arts Council for your state fair exhibits to be on display starting October 18th. Exhibits that are on display for National 4-H week will return to the Ext. Office on October 28th, you can pick them up any time after that.

4-H Enrollments

Welcome to the New 4-H year! The 4-H Online enrollment system is open now to update your enrollment choices for 2022 - 23. **Even if you are enrolling in the same projects, you will still need to log-on and update your profile and make project selections.**

The \$15 fee per member is payable to the KS 4-H program as you enroll. Your enrollment is not considered complete until you make a payment and hit the **SUBMIT** button. You can pay by credit card or by check to the State 4-H Office. **Payments do not come to the local Extension Office.** If this fee is a hardship for your family, you can select the "Request a Waiver" button and the State 4-H Office will consider your request.

We ask that you take time this month to complete this process. Reenrollments should be finalized by December 1.

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 usually weighed in early February and Small Livestock weighed in in late April early May.

VIP (Volunteer Information Profile)

4-H volunteers working directly with youth in the club, as a leader or project leader are required to go through this screening and training process. The application is available as part of the 4-H On-line website. You will complete a profile for yourself under your family account. Take part in the training modules available on that site.

Contact the Ext. Office to let us know you've completed these steps and schedule an interview. At that time, we will provide you with a link to the background check process. Aps can be submitted at any time during the next few months, but the screening and training process **must be completed by January 1.**

National Background Checks—Kansas 4-H requires national background checks for all volunteers. 1/3 of our 100+ current VIP volunteers will go through this process this year. Your club leader has this list and will be contacting you to complete this process now. **All volunteers will be required to go through this process every 3 years.**

Current Volunteers - If you are a current screened volunteer in your 4-H club and plan to continue to do so, please **UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION** on the 4-H On-line system as you complete **VIP Renewal Form by November 1.**

New & Returning Volunteers – **will need to add yourself to your family profile in 4-H On-line.** Visit with your club's leader or our office if you need assistance with this!



48 Hours of 4-H

Join us October 8-9 in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend after National 4-H Week, is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers, and past 4-H'ers too!

Find all the information here and start planning your projects.

<http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/index.html>

4-H Leaders – Remember to register your club's project on the kansas4-h.org website so that they can track how many youth and hours went into this statewide effort!

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

Are you interested in Shooting Sports? Air Rifle, BB Gun and Air Pistol will begin in October. Contact Cory Depenbusch NOW if you'd like to get involved. Cory Depenbusch, County Coordinator 785-639-1652 or e-mail him at cdepenbusch@yahoo.com for more information.

4-H Council Meeting

At the next 4-H Council meeting (October 17), we will hold elections and begin setting goals for the new 4-H year. We will meet at the Fairgrounds for a potluck meal and some fun prior to the meeting. Please bring a dish to share and a chair. Council representatives can run for office, alternates cannot. We will elect persons to the following offices:

President	Secretary	Parliamentarian	Fair Board Representatives
Vice President	Treasurer	Reporter	Adult Sponsors

Think about stretching your leadership abilities by running for an office. Be sure that ***if you decide to run that you are able to be committed and fully participate*** in the 4-H Council meetings. We will also take nominations from the floor at the meeting. If you'd like to have your name placed on the ballot ahead of the meeting, please contact the Extension Office.

KANSAS YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

The [Kansas Youth Leadership Forum](#) will be November 19-20, 2022 at Rock Springs Ranch. The Forum is for youth ages 14-18, as of January 1, 2023. **Registration will open mid-October and deadline is November 1.** This event includes: speakers, workshops, consulting groups and election of the State 4-H Youth Council.

4-H Volunteers

The Kansas Volunteer Leaders Forum is an opportunity for volunteers from around the state to learn together while building a network of likeminded passionate adults. Participants will have the opportunity to dive into interactive content they can use to engage their youth members, connect with state and local extension staff to learn about new and exciting 4-H happenings, and engage with the Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers as a support system for volunteering efforts throughout the year. This event is at the same time as KYLF, November 19-20 at Rock Springs Ranch.



To learn more and to register, visit <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/kansas-volunteer-leader-forum/index.html> **Deadline to register is October 1.**

4-H AMBASSADORS

Would you like to help others learn more about our great organization? If so, consider applying to be a 4-H Ambassador! 4-H'ers 8th – 12th grades are invited to apply for this high energy team. They do promotions during the Fair and throughout the year. More information coming at a later date!!

4-H WATER AMBASSADORS

Teens 13 and up are invited are invited to apply to join the 4-H Water Ambassador team for 2023. Here's a chance to help educate others on the importance of our water resources. The team members will receive training and go out into the community to teach others at schools and community events throughout the year. Applications will be accepted soon! Watch for more details!

4-H WEEK WINDOW DISPLAYS

The 2021-2022 Achievement Banquet, 4-H Day, Promotion committee set up a window displays on Main Street. Check out the special displays and thank Tri-Central Office Supply and the Hays Arts Council for allowing us the use of their store windows in downtown Hays. Also, thanks to Trio Hometown Supply in Ellis and Gorham State Bank in Victoria for displaying our coloring contest entries during 4-H week and beyond.

4-H Dog Conference and Quiz Bowl at Rock Springs is October 22-23

If you love working with your dog, check out this great statewide event all about dogs! The educational sessions are open to youth and adults interested in the Kansas 4-H Dog project. **Registration will be available in September and be due October 1.**

OFFICER TRAINING – “UNEARTHING POSSIBILITIES”

Again, this year we're offering a free Regional 4-H Officer training. Your club can join the fun at a regional 4-H Officer Training held on Tuesday, November 22, 6 – 8:30 p.m. in Russell. You don't have to be a current officer to participate in the 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 & leaders.

To join this fun learning session, **register on-line by 5pm on Friday, November 18th.** [Get registered for this FREE session.](#)

4-H Achievement Banquet – Beads and Bling – It’s an Achievement thing!

Each year we meet at the end of the current 4-H year to celebrate the successes of our members, parents, leaders and to thank our 4-H supporters. Be on the look out for an invitation in the mail with all the details!

This year’s theme is *“Beads and Bling – It’s an Achievement thing!”*. The committee’s been working hard to bring you a fun event. **Plan to join us for a special fun activities**, supper and award presentations. Everything gets underway at 5:30 p.m. Meal will be served at 6 and award ceremony at 6:30.

Mask Art Contest – Everyone is encouraged to participate in decorating a masquerade mask. **Pick up a blank mask at the Extension Office, decorate, and bring them with you when you come to the banquet.** There will be 4 age divisions, including adult. **Prizes will be awarded in each division. Everyone in attendance can vote by making a monetary contribution to the mask they like best.**

Attire – Dress for this event is casual but don’t be afraid to dress up!! We will have a photo backdrop so you and your friends can have your picture taken!



Please RSVP to the Extension Office by Wednesday, October 19 to reserve your meal. While there currently is no cost to attend, please be aware that if you sign up and don’t show up to eat, we still have to pay for your meal! And that takes \$s away from other important 4-H activities that 4-H Council sponsors. **Your club will be billed \$12 for every meal that is not served as reserved.** The caterer will provide the meal and the dessert this year.

We’ll again be holding the **Basket Silent Auction and Live Auction** to benefit the Scholarship Fund. Thanks to the clubs for donating a basket of \$40 value for this project! **Be sure to notify Theresa of your theme choice and have them there by 5:30 p.m. on October, 29th.**

Introductory Fishing Clinic

As part of the next Growing Leaders 4-H club meeting on October 10th (Ag Research Center at 5:30pm), Scott Waters, KS Wildlife and Parks District Fisheries Biologist will be hosting an introductory fishing clinic. Fishing clinics are geared toward younger children and others who may not have much experience with fishing techniques and tactics. Content may include fish identification, management, casting demonstrations, equipment and water safety. Rods, reels, and other necessary fishing equipment will be provided for use at the clinic. Please let the Extension Office know if you are interested in attending.

AS EACH 4-H YEAR BEGINS, REMEMBER...

- 4-H youth are more important than the project exhibit itself.
- Learning how to do a project is more important than the project itself. To “learn by doing” through a useful project is fundamental in any sound educational program, and is characteristic of the 4-H program.
- There is more than one good way of doing most things.
- Our job is to teach 4-H members how to think, not what to think.
- Winning isn’t always measured by the results of the ribbon or judging event, but by the character of the 4-H’er, parent and leader