



JUNE/JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER/OSKALOOSA OFFICE

This newsletter covers information pertinent to Jefferson County 4-H families. As our Jefferson County fair approaches rapidly, we want to keep you informed of the events and deadlines coming up. As always, if you have questions, please contact the office at 785-863-2212. Wishing you the best as you work on your projects and learn many life skills in the process. It's not all about the ribbons at the fair. It is about the lessons you are learning and the memories you are making are all important too!

FAIR ENTRY PROCESS

ALL project work (livestock and static) that you would like judged at the fair **MUST** be entered in the Fair Entry program. Use this link for Fair Entry Resources: https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/Fair_Entry.html Entries must be completed by **July 1st**. Let us know of any problems you find and please don't wait until the last minute to start the entry process!

BLOOD DRIVE

Jefferson County 4-H is partnering with the Community Blood Center for a county-wide blood drive on **July 7 from 1:00–5:00 pm at the Delaware Township Hall in Valley Falls**. The 4-H Club, with the most life-saving units collected, will receive cash awards from a generous donor! Donors can designate a club of choice when they check in. You can register to donate [savealifenow.org/group](https://www.savealifenow.org/group), enter Group Code: XP or call Heather at the Extension Office, (785)863-2212. 4-Hers are needed to help run the registration and snack tables. This is a great event for citizenship! Donors need to be over the age of 16.

ROYALTY CONTEST

The Royalty Contest will begin at **7:00 pm on Friday, July 18**, at the Valley Falls Schools. Letters have been mailed to all candidates. Clubs do not need to provide cookies for this competition. Royalty winners will be announced at the Public Style Revue on **July 25th at 7:00 pm**.

BANNERS FOR THE LIVESTOCK ARENA

If your business would like to support Fairground improvement and have their banner hung in the livestock arena at the 2025 Fair, please contact the office for details (785)863-2212. This is a great opportunity to visibly support our 4-H exhibitors.

NEW 4-H MEMBERS

With fair approaching so rapidly, you are sure to have some questions. One of the great things about our 4-H family is that you can always find someone who is willing to offer a helping hand or provide information to your family. Club meetings are important to attend and are a valuable information source. Don't hesitate to ask your club leaders, or the office, when you need help. Office staff can be reached at (785)863-2212.

GOAT AND SHEEP WORKSHOP – June 7th beginning at 2:00 pm at the Fairgrounds

Bring your sheep and/or meat goat for a hands-on workshop on preparing for the country fair. Clipping and grooming tips will also be covered. We will work on showmanship and give lots of tips. Please contact the Extension Office at (785) 863-2212 or Ryan Tucker at (785) 691-5519 with questions.

OPEN CLASSES AT FAIR

The Jefferson County 4-H Foundation will be having a Pie Contest this year. Non-perishable pies may be entered on **Wednesday, July 30**. Classes include:

- a) JF CO 4-Hers 7-13 yrs. old
- b) JF CO 4-Hers 14-18 yrs. old
- c) JF CO Residents
- d) 4-H Alumni

The pies will be auctioned at 7:30 pm on Wednesday night prior to the Bucket Calf Parade. All proceeds will go to the 4-H Foundation to support youth activities within Jefferson County 4-H.

FAIR BOOKS

The digital version is on our Oskaloosa webpage. Please review the general rules and your project areas closely. Reading carefully and contacting the office or your club leader with questions will help you be more prepared for the fair. There is a limited amount of spiral bound copies available. Contact the office or club leaders if interested.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND SHOWRING CODE OF ETHICS

If you haven't turned these forms in already to your club leaders, NOW is the time to do so! The Code of Conduct form is required yearly for ALL members, and the Showring Code of Ethics (for all livestock exhibitors) once in your 4-H career. If you are not sure whether you have completed it, check with your club leader. Clubs turn into the office by **July 1st**.

YQCA TRAINING

Don't forget that if you have not completed YQCA yet, and plan to sell an animal in the livestock auction, you must have this training completed by **July 1st**. Thanks to all of you who have this finished! If you need help or have questions, see the Friday updates for information, past newsletters, or contact Heather at the office.

FAIR PREMIUM DONORS WANTED

We appreciate our fair premium donors who contribute yearly to help with awarding all of our 4-Hers who had fair entries. If you would like to be part of this donor group, please contact the Booster Club for more information.

OFFICE DROP BOX AVAILABLE

Normal office hours are **Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm**. If you can't make it to the office during this time, there is a drop box outside the south main entrance that forms can be left in. Email the office at mpentlin@ksu.edu to notify the office.

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR PROJECT WORK!

GENERAL LIVESTOCK INFORMATION

- **Livestock Premium Sale Requirement Form** - If you plan to sell an animal at the auction, make sure you complete the Livestock Premium Sale Requirement Form and turn it into your club leader for their required signature. Clubs must turn in forms to the office by **July 1st**, so don't wait until the last minute to get it to your club leader.
- **Bucket Calf Deadline** -You **must** have your tag bought and form into the office by **June 2**.
- **Bucket Calf Meetings** will be held at the Oskaloosa City Hall at **7:00 pm** on **June 3** and the fairgrounds on **July 10**. There is a Group-Me chat set up for bucket calf members. If anyone needs to join, text Morgan at (785)633-2685. If you are not on the email list, reach out to Morgan and she will add you.
- **Bucket Calf Parade Script** - If you are writing your own script for the Bucket Calf Parade, please send it to Morgan Gleason, Fair Superintendent, by **July 29**. If you are not writing your own script, costume ideas should be set in stone by **July 26** & given to Morgan at the consultation judging, along with name of 4-Her, parent names, calf name, and 4-H club. If you know your costume well in advance, please send that to Morgan so she can get a head start writing scripts.
- **YQCA Training** - Don't forget that if you have not completed YQCA yet, and plan to sell an animal in the livestock auction, you must have this training completed by **July 1st**. Thanks to all of you who have completed this! If you need help or have questions, see the Friday updates for information, past newsletters, or contact the office
- **Spring Weigh-Ins**-We appreciate all of the Livestock Superintendents and committee members who helped with spring weigh-ins. **Thank you** for your time and efforts!

NEW FAIR ACTIVITIES

This year, we have two new activities you can try! The first one is an **Ice-Cream Roll**. Teams of two 4-Hers will mix and freeze ice-cream in a ball or coffee can. After the freezing time, they will dish up their delicious treat to be judged and shared! Please contact the office with any questions. There will also be a **Pinewood Derby**. The racing cars are being crafted and raced by members of the woodworking project. You can come out and cheer on these 4-Hers as they race down the track! More information will follow!

PHOTO-MOUNTING

Mounting boards are available at the office. The cost is **\$2.00 per board**. Be watching for upcoming photo project meetings and a photo-mounting session. Plastic sleeves will be distributed at fair judging.

FOODS PROJECT MEMBERS

Check AHEAD of the fair to be sure that any item containing questionable food products (cream cheese, fresh fruit, etc.) meets food safety guidelines. Check the fair book or call the office with any questions. See the rules in the Foods section of the fair book regarding ingredients or products that could cause disqualification. There is a new rule that requires sugar calculations for all frostings and fillings. Being disqualified would be a big disappointment, so please do your part to ensure that this does not happen. Practice makes perfect, so start baking now!

2025 Jefferson County Fair Schedule of Events

Sunday, July 13 – 4-H Fairgrounds

8:00 am (Cutoff 10:00 am).....4-H Horse Show Check-In

9:00 am4-H Horse Show

Friday, July 18– Member’s Home

Interior Design and Architecture & Woodworking refinished or repaired judging. A schedule for judging will be sent to each member of the project once entered.

Saturday, July 19– 4-H Fairgrounds

10:00 am..... Dog Obedience - Rally-O Show - Showmanship
(Check-in Time 9:30 am)

Monday, July 21 - Delaware Township Hall-Valley Falls

9:00 am-Finish.....Fashion Revue and Shopping in Style Consultation Judging
(Scheduled Times)Sewing &Textile Design Consultation Judging

Wednesday, July 23 - Delaware Township Hall-Valley Falls

1:00 pm.....Photography Judging
(Scheduled Times)

Wednesday, July 23 – Fair Building -Enter through the west doors

1:00 pm..... Visual Arts, Fiber Arts, Performing Arts
(Scheduled Times)

Friday, July 25 – Valley Falls Delaware Township Hall

7:00 pm.....Public Fashion Revue and Royalty Crowning

Saturday, July 26

8:00 am.....Fairground Set-Up 4-H Fairgrounds

8:00 am – Finish.....Bucket Calf Consultation4-H Fairgrounds Main Building

6:00 pmDog Agility Show..... *Bill Conser Residence* (Check in 5:30 PM)

Monday, July 28

7:30-9:00 amHogs entered and weighed-sale order numbers drawn 4-H Fairgrounds

8:00 am-NoonConsultation Judging..... 4-H Fairgrounds
(Energy Management, Entomology, Geology, Self-Determined,
Shooting Sports, Wildlife, and Woodworking)

10:00 am-Finish..... Consultation Judging4-H Fairgrounds
Foods, Foods Preservation, Table Setting

9:00-10:30 am.....Goats & Sheep Entered and Weighed-Market & Breeding-
sale order numbers drawn..... *Scale House/Fairgrounds*

10:00-10:30 am..... Honey Consultation Judging *Main Building/Fairgrounds*

10:00 am-5:00 pm..... Clothing entries entered.....*South End/Main Building*

4:00 - 8:00 pm.....Rabbit Check-In..... *Horticulture Building*

5:30 pm..... Flag Raising Ceremony – Ambassadors *Near Concession Stand*

6:00 pm.....Swine Show*Show Arena/Fairgrounds*

7:00- 9:00 pm Enter all other projects--Poultry (7:00-8:30 pm), remaining livestock
(rabbits 8:00 pm), and banners. Ambassador School Enrichment and Day Camp
projects may be entered at the Ambassador Booth in the main building.
(7:00-8:00 pm Club Exhibits Set-Up/Entered)

Tuesday, July 29

8:00-10:00 am.....Ambassador Day Camp Projects may be entered for display*Ambassador Booth*

..... Club Exhibits Set-Up/Entered

9:00 am..... Poultry Show*Rabbit/Poultry Barn*

Tuesday, July 29 (cont.)

10:00 am.....Cake Decorating Consultation Judging.....*South End of Fair Building*
.....(Decorated cakes to be entered and in place by 9:45 am for judging)
10:00 am.....ALL ENTRIES IN PLACE(Judging starts for projects not previously judged)
10:30 am-12:00 pmAgronomy/Weed/Horticulture Judging*Horticulture Building*
10:00-10:30 am.....Heifer Check-In at Scale House-Animal not required
10:30-11:30 amBeef Steer (Weigh-In and Ultrasound).....*Scale House*
.....(Beef Sale Order Numbers Drawn at weigh-in)
1:00 pmPoultry Showmanship*Poultry/Rabbit Barn*
11:00 am-1:00 pmClover Bud Entries Due (Show and Tell).....*NE Corner of Fair Building*
12:00 pmBucket Calf Weigh-In immediately following steers.....*Scale House*
12:00 pmIce Cream Roll*South End of Fair Building*
1:30 pmBucket Calf Show.....*Show Arena/4-H Fairgrounds*
5:00 pm.....Sheep Show followed by Meat Goat Show*Show Arena*
6:00 pmCake and Ice Cream Social (Hosted by PEO Chapter DK).....*Concessions Area*
7:00-8:00 pmPinewood Derby*Lions Club Bingo Building*

Lions Club Bingo in Evening**Wednesday, July 30**

8:00 amRabbit Show*Rabbit/Poultry Barn*
8:30 am.....Beef Steer-Heifer Show*Show Arena*
9:30 amRabbit Showmanship*Rabbit/Poultry Barn*
12:00 pm -2:00 pm.....Ambassador Games.....*Meet at Lions Club Bingo Building*
10:00 am-12:00 pm.....4-H Foundation Pie Contest entries due*South End Main Building*
10:45 amPet Show.....*Show Arena*
5:45 pm.....Parade Line-Up.....*Mary Street*
.....Floats and Motor Vehicles*Line up South of Maple*
.....Horses.....*Line up at Riverside Park*
6:00 pm.....Judging of Parade Floats
6:30 pm.....77th Annual Parade-Sponsored by Valley Falls Chamber of Commerce
7:30 pmPie Auction sponsored by the Jefferson County 4-H Foundation.....*Show Arena*
8:00 pm.....Parade Winners Announced, Introduction of Royalty*Show Arena*
.....Bucket Calf Parade*Show Arena*
.....Pedal Tractor Pull (to follow Bucket Calf Parade)

Free Watermelon (Valley Falls Chamber) - Lions Club Bingo in Evening**Thursday, July 31**

9:00 am.....Dairy Goat Show*Show Arena*
9:30 amDairy Show*Show Arena*
10:30 am.....Livestock Round Robin Showmanship Finals*Show Arena*
11:00 am-1:00 pmWrite thank you notes w/Ambassadors*Concessions*
12:00 pmState Fair Entries Due in Fair Office
1:00-6:00 pm.....Exhibits Released
1:45 pmLowering of Flags—Ambassadors
5:30 pmHerdsman's Awards Announced*Livestock Arena*
6:00-7:30 pmDance Set-Up
6:00 pm4-H Foundation Donor Recognition
6:00 pmLivestock Premium Sale*Livestock Arena*
8:30-11:00 pm.....Dance-\$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per couple*Fair Building*

Friday, August 1

8:30 am.....Fairgrounds Cleanup
.....Everyone who has fair entries must help with clean-up

HAS YOUR 4H ONLINE ACCOUNT INFORMATION CHANGED?

If you have had a change since enrollment in address, email, phone numbers, or medical information, please make these changes in your online account. We don't want you to miss out on important information we need to get to you.

BAKED GOODS FOOD SALE

All 4-H members enrolled in the Foods & Nutrition Project are invited to donate their entries after judging to the bake sale following judging. This includes all non-perishable entries and decorated cakes, cupcakes, and cookies. The food sample, for non-perishable items, will be kept for display during the fair. The remainder of the product can be donated to the bake sale. If a product is selected as Champion or Reserve Champion, a picture will be taken and displayed instead of the product. All funds raised will go to the foods project to purchase new display cases.

JEFFERSON COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION ANNUAL GOLF TOURNEY

The tournament is set for Saturday, June 28, at Village Greens Golf Course. Each club should help promote this tournament within our county and surrounding areas. Maybe even organize a team! Sponsoring a hole or cash donations to help the Foundation help our 4-Hers are always appreciated. Money raised for the Foundation is given back to 4-Hers within the county!

PREPARING HORTICULTURE FAIR ENTRY RESOURCES

As fair season approaches, Horticulture members, please be aware of some resources available to you. K-State Research & Extension publications Exhibiting Fruits and Vegetables and Preparing Cut Flowers for Exhibit are excellent resources for 4-H members and adults that are planning to exhibit their vegetables or flowers. These publications are often used by judges as they evaluate fair entries, <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/bookstore/pubs/C405.pdf>

Some of you may be more visual learners. The University of Illinois Extension has prepared a series of videos on YouTube, about how to prepare produce for the fair. These videos give step by step instructions on how to select and groom various types of vegetables.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6H5dIS-kGLI>

ALL 4-H FAMILIES

Recording your project work is important! Keep record of expenses, time spent, lessons learned, project meetings attended, etc. Take lots of pictures of you working on/with your project throughout the year, and with your fair entries. This information and pictures will be wonderful assets for you as you work on project records later.

Don't wait until the last minute to start and finish your fair entries. Read and understand the fair book now, and find someone who can help you with your projects and questions if needed. Make a list of items you will be entering and all supplies you need to bring to the fair. Allow time to take pictures and have them developed where needed. Experienced 4-Hers - Take time to help and encourage other, less-experienced 4-Hers.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT THE FAIR!

WHY DO WE RECEIVE PURPLE, BLUE, RED AND WHITE RIBBONS IN 4-H?

4-H uses the Danish judging system at county and state fairs. This means that exhibits are judged against a “standard” rather than against other exhibits. For example, a dresser that has been refinished by a 4-Her is not compared to other dressers. Rather, it is judged according to what characteristics of the dresser meet standards of quality for refinished furniture.

- A purple ribbon means that the exhibit meets superior standards and quality.
- A blue ribbon shows that the exhibit meets high standards & good quality work is shown.
- A red ribbon represents average quality work; improvement is needed in some areas.
- A white ribbon signifies below average quality, and the exhibit does not meet standards.

You’ll notice that the Danish judging is very different from a contest where there is one “winner” whose exhibit is the best of all those present. In the Danish judging system, there could be any number of purples, blues, reds or whites because one exhibit is not compared to another. In 4-H, we believe that using the Danish judging system gives every 4-H member the recognition deserved for the work that was done. It also helps young people recognize the need to improve their skills within a non-competitive atmosphere. Relevant to judging of exhibits, we believe:

- 4-H members are more important than 4-H exhibits.
- Learning how to do a project is more important than the project itself.
- There is more than one good way to do most things.
- A balanced program of work and play, geared to individuals’ needs is more important than winning.
- Every youth needs to be noticed, to feel important, to experience success and to be praised.
- A blue ribbon 4-H member with a red ribbon exhibit is more desirable than a red ribbon 4-H member with a blue-ribbon exhibit!

FAIRGROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

There’s always work to be done at our fairgrounds, and we hope you are planning to help with your club’s project there. Let the office know what you will be doing and when you plan to complete the work, so we can make sure to have any needed supplies. Clubs are welcome to donate supplies as well.

FAIR CONCESSION STAND

The SignUp Genius link for concession stand shifts is on page 82 in the fair book. The earlier you sign-up, the better your chances of getting the shift that is best for you. **ALL** members and at least one parent are expected to work at least one shift. Make sure to sign-in when you arrive in the concession stand, as this is tracked for your Premium Sale Requirements. Adults are needed to make change for each shift, help the cooks and many other responsibilities.

STATE FAIR VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

If you are an adult or older teen, please consider volunteering at the State Fair in September. There is a great need for volunteers to help with the check-in process, judging, running between buildings, check-out process, and other fair wrap-up. Please consider helping in this way, and let the office know if you are interested.

STATE FAIR DATES ARE SEPTEMBER 6-15, 2024, IN HUTCHINSON



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Address Service Requested

