



4-H UPDATES



Official Newsletter of Meadowlark Extension District 4-H

Heather Roenne, Meadowlark District Extension Agent



Heather Roenne will begin serving as the Meadowlark District 4-H youth development extension agent, effective **April 14**. Roenne's primary office is in Oskaloosa.

Roenne earned her bachelor's degree in education from Kansas State University. She has most recently been employed as a 4-H youth development event coordinator in the Meadowlark District Oskaloosa office.

4-H youth development agents develop and deliver educational programs for school-aged youth. This includes supporting community clubs, out-of-school programs, school enrichment, volunteer management, and outreach to create new program opportunities with new and existing community partners.

You can contact Heather via email at: hroenne@ksu.edu.

Flint Hills Farm to Fashion Camp

The Farm to Fashion Camp exposes middle and high school students to the sheep and wool industries through a highly hands-on and interactive camp experience.

This four-day camp introduces students to fiber arts and fashion design. The camp includes hands-on experiences with activities such as spinning, dyeing, weaving, and fashion design.

It is on **June 7-10** at the K-State Campus. Middle and high school students going into 7th grade and above are eligible for camp. The camp is **\$100**, but this does not include lodging or food.

For more information and to register: <https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/ids/about/events/farmtofashioncamp/>

VetMed ROCKS Summer Camps

K-State's College of Veterinary Medicine is giving elementary, middle school, high school, and college aged students an opportunity to experience daylong activities at the School of Veterinary Medicine!

Monday, July 28 will be an in-person day for high schoolers (entering 9th-12th grade). There will be an in-person day for middle schoolers (entering 6th-8th grade) on **July 29**. **July 30** will be an in-person day for grade schoolers (entering 3rd-5th grade). These campers will be attending hands-on labs with faculty and vet med student camp counselors throughout their respective days.

Schedule and registration link coming soon! Visit this site for more information: <https://www.vet.k-state.edu/admissions/rocks/>.

May 2025

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Horse Project Mandatory Coggins Test

All horses that will be exhibited at the county level are required to show proof of a negative EIA (Coggins) test conducted by a state-approved laboratory within 12 months prior to exhibition. This requirement is for ALL local shows in 2025 as well as for horses changing ownership. Foals six months of age and younger, accompanying their EIA-negative dams, are exempt from EIA test.

Celebrating Volunteers

National Volunteer Week was **April 20-26**. All three of our offices celebrated their volunteers at each of their 4-H Council meetings. They showed a token of appreciation by offering the volunteers a Meadowlark District Wildflower seed packet: 'Seeds of Kindness'.

The 4-H organization cannot have the impact and outreach without our dedicated volunteers. In the State of Kansas there are 4,196 registered volunteers enrolled in the 4HOnline system. Extension professionals across the state reported a total of 37,763 volunteer hours dedicated to 4-H Extension programming efforts.

According to <https://independentsector.org/>, the 2025 hourly value of a volunteer in Kansas was \$34.79 per hour. When you figure the number of hours reported times this figure, volunteers invested a minimum of \$1,313,774.77 of their time and talents into Kansas Extension Programs!

In the Meadowlark District, we have 220 volunteers registered in the 4HOnline system. This obviously isn't everyone who has an impact on our 4-H program. Our fair board members, single time presenters, and donors are also volunteers, but are not required to enroll in 4HOnline.

Geology State Field Trip

The Geology State Field Trip is going to be **June 13-15**. Headquarters will be located at North Central Kansas Concordia Headquarters.

There will be a variety of workshops and activities planned for Friday and Saturday evenings. There will be numerous stops on the field trip on both Saturday and Sunday. Project members are encouraged to participate in judging and quiz bowl.

More information will be posted soon. Any person who plans to attend, including any siblings and parents/guardians must register. No late registrations will be accepted.

For any additional information, please visit: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/geology-field-trip/index.html>

Insect Spectacular

The Kansas 4-H Insect Spectacular is a two day state-wide entomology workshop. It is designed to be valuable for all levels of experience while still being fun and hands-on! It will be held **June 27-28** in El Dorado. The event is open to all youth and adult volunteers interested in 4-H entomology! Classes will include collection and photo tips, pinning class, identification class and a pollinator garden community service activity.

A parent or legal guardian must register and attend with their 4-H'er. Registration opens **April 25** and closes on **May 26**. No cancellations or refunds after registration closes. Cancellations before registration closes are eligible for 50% refund. For more information, please visit: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/insect-spectacular/index.html>.

Champions Livestock Judging Camp

This is a three-day, intense judging camp designed for 4-H and FFA members (ages 14-18) who are seriously interested in enhancing their livestock judging and oral communication skills. Prior livestock judging experience is necessary for this camp. Workouts will be conducted similar to those at a collegiate level.

Payton Dahmer, KSU livestock judging team coach, will conduct the training for each camp. The camp will focus primarily on the proper format, terminology, and presentation of oral reasons. Camp participants will also be exposed to livestock evaluation skills and incorporating performance records in the decision-making process.

- Camp 1 - **June 2-4** (Monday-Wednesday)
- Camp 2 - **June 9-11** (Monday-Wednesday)

Youth Registration Fee: \$350 | Chaperone Registration Fee: \$100 – Registration closes **Friday, May 16**.

Registration forms can be found at: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/judging-camps.html>.

Senior Spotlight

We will be sending out a special newsletter later in May titled "Senior Spotlight". This newsletter will be dedicated to the 2025 Senior 4-Her's of Jackson, Jefferson and Nemaha Counties. The kids will be providing some information on the following topics:

- What high school they have been attending
- Their 4-H Club
- What is their favorite project and why.
- Favorite 4-H event and why
- What is something that they learned in 4-H that they will use throughout their life?
- What their future plans are.

Kansas 4-H/FFA Wheat Expo

The 2024 Kansas 4-H Wheat Exposition will be **Thursday, August 7** at South Hutchinson Community Building. It is designed to be a fun, educational, and hands-on program for all Kansas 4-H members, siblings, parents, grandparents and KSRE Extension staff. It is a fun day that showcases all things wheat! You are not required to be registered for the crops/plant science projects to participate.

Tours will be available, and will be announced at a later date.

There will be eight contests open to youth members with cash prizes and ribbons awarded. Classes include:

- 1 pound bin run for crops members
- 1 pound bin run for "adopt a producer"
- 1 quart jar sample of clean wheat
- three standard yeast rolls
- three standard sized cookies
- three standard muffins
- wheat photography contest
- wheat educational poster
- Cloverbud (5-6 year olds) class.

All wheat samples must be postmarked to KSU by **July 20** so testing can be completed. For more information and registration, please visit: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/wheat/index.html>.

State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest

The State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest will be held on **Saturday, August 16**, in Manhattan, KS. The contest is hosted for the day by the Department of Horticulture and Natural Resources.

- Intermediates must be 9-13 years old before January 1 of the current year.
- Seniors must be 14-18 before January 1 of the current year.

The objective of 4-H Horticulture Judging is for members to grow in their ability to think, to reason, and to make logical and scientific judgments, through plant identification, knowledge testing and judging classes.

Registration information will be sent to local offices in late June, 2025. Anybody from the age of 9-18 is eligible to compete in this contest. The above link also contains study materials, prior contests, and forms that will be used in the contest.

For more information please visit <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/contests/horticulture-judging/index.html>, or contact Heather at 785-863-2212.

Why 4-H ???

*(Noting the **IMPACT** of the 4-H Program in the lives of young people, in their own words.)*

"I have learned even when I try my best and it seems nothing is doing well, I have the skills to keep trying knowing every experience makes me a better person and builds my resiliency. The 4-H Program has made me the person I am today and will continue to guide me to be the person I will become in the future. No matter what I do or where I go, I will carry the skills and ideals of 4-H with me."



Project Spotlight



Poultry Project

In the poultry project you can explore poultry by learning about raising birds and dive into health issues, poultry products, and careers. You will be able to:

- Learn the basic principles of animal science by owning, caring for, and keeping records on animals.
- Explore knowledge of sound breeding, feeding, and management practices.
- Investigate current issues in the industry and how you can start a career in the poultry business.
- Learn how to raise chicks.

Healthy Living

- Explore the nutritional advantages to eating poultry products.
- Learn how poultry products fit into MyPlate (www.choosemyplate.gov).
- Spend 60 minutes a week on physical activity related to your poultry project.

Science and Agriculture

- Explore science experiments related to poultry.
- Complete an embryology project, learning about incubation and the life cycle.
- Learn the science behind poultry nutrition, growth and development, genetics, and the poultry industry.

Community Vitality

- Volunteer your bird for a community petting zoo.
- Volunteer to help at the county fair poultry show.
- Volunteer to do a poultry promotional presentation.
- Teach others how to safely handle poultry.

Communication and the Arts

- Design a poster on parts of the animal.
- Participate in a judging contest, giving oral reasons.
- Teach someone about the importance of the poultry industry.

Premium Auction Requirements

Any 4-H member wishing to participate in premium auctions at county fair, need to annually complete the premium sale requirement form. This form was reviewed last year to put emphasis on virtual opportunities, serving as satisfactory replacement for in-person activities where applicable. The process encourages year-round 4-H engagement and involvement. FFA member (in counties where eligible for fairs) have a corresponding set of requirements. To review the form please visit: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/docs/4h/fair-forms-for-all-offices/PREMIUM%20SALE%20REQUIREMENTS%204-H.pdf>.

Kids a Cookin' Camp - Open to All

A cooking camp for students in grades 3rd through 6th will be held from **9:00–11:30 AM, May 28–30**, at the Oskaloosa Methodist Church. This year's theme is '**Kansas Foods**'.

There is no charge to attend, but **registration is required**. Space is limited to **24 students**, so please register as soon as possible. Participants are expected to attend all three days of the camp. For more information, contact Cindy Williams in the Oskaloosa office at 785-863-2212.

Jackson County News

Changes at the Fair

Every 4-H family will receive a printed fair book this year. They will be available for you to pick up from your club leader at your **June** 4-H meeting. A tentative schedule for the fair is on our website. Please look over this as there are some changes.

Fair Pre-Entry

Just a reminder that you will enter all your fair entries in our fair entry system called FairEntry.

1. With this program you as the 4-H member will enter all pre-entries. Only enter exhibits that you will be bringing to the fair.
2. We will be printing off the entry cards according to what you enter online into FairEntry. You will pick up and attach cards when you bring your exhibit to the fair.
3. All pre-entries will be due in FairEntry by **Monday, June 24**.

Fairgrounds Clean-Up

The fair board will hold their pre-fair set-up on **Saturday, July 12** at 9:00 AM. It takes everyone's help to make the fairgrounds look nice and get ready for fair. So come when you can and lend a hand and make the fairgrounds look nice.

Fair Packets

The fair packet will contain lots of important fair information. So don't just throw it to the side. Please open it right away. It will include instructions on how to pre-enter fair exhibits online.

Spring Weigh-In

Spring Weigh-In for sheep and goats will be **May 4** from **2:00-4:00 PM** at the NE Kansas Heritage Barn. Tags will be \$3.00 and must be paid for that afternoon.

Swine Tagging

Swine Tagging this year will be on **May 4** from **2:00-4:00 PM** at the NE Kansas Heritage Barn. We will drive through the livestock barn like we do at fair to unload, but all swine will stay on the trailer. Tags will be \$3.00 and must be paid for that afternoon.

4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council Meeting is **7:00 PM** on **June 12** at the NE Kansas Heritage Building. We will be going over last minute fair schedule and activities.

***REMINDER* 4-H Foods & Nutrition Rule for Frostings & Fillings**

Please note that this was the ***NEW*** 4-H Foods & Nutrition Rule for the 2023 Kansas State Fair. The rule is still in effect for this year:

- For food safety purposes, any entries with frostings and fillings must calculate the amount of sugar in the frosting/filling recipe only. Calculation must be attached to entry, or the placing will be lowered one ribbon when judged. Frostings and fillings need to contain more than 65% sugar for safety. Examples on how to calculate this percentage are included in the publication located at: <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF3544.pdf>.

It was added to the 2023 4-H Kansas State Fair-book, <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/fairs/kansas-state-fair/index.html>. Please continue to stress the importance of the safety of frostings and fillings at all fairs and clarify that this rule will be enforced at the 2025 Kansas State Fair in the 4-H Foods Division.

Questions may be directed towards Amy Sollock at asollock@ksu.edu or Karen Blakeslee at kblakesl@ksu.edu.

Spring Livestock Show

The Jackson County Spring Livestock Show will be held on **May 24**. For more information please visit the Meadowlark Extension District 4-H Event page for entry forms or contact Jo Ann Nelson at 785-364-7479.

4-H Event Scholarship

The Jackson County 4-H Council Event/Senior/ Alumni Scholarships are available on our website under Jackson Page. Check it out to see what the guidelines are.

Fair Trash Schedule

- **Sunday Evening, July 13** – Lucky Stars (this needs to be done around 8:00 PM)
- **Monday, July 14** – Denison Builders and Hoyt Live-wires
- **Tuesday, July 15** – Mayetta Mustangs and Pleasant Valley Rustlers
- **Wednesday, July 16** – Straight Arrows and Delia Early Birds
- **Thursday, July 17** – Ontario Busy Bees, North Jackson Jets and Soldier Boosters
- **Friday, July 18** – All Clubs

Jefferson County News

Fair Participants: Deadlines for Required Forms

May 1:

- Last day to add/drop a project- Must be in project to enter exhibits at the fair.
- Check your 4HOnline account! Make sure you are in each part of a project you intend to be (breeding and/or market animals or various fiber arts areas for example). Project records should be filled out and turned into club leaders in September for each project area you are enrolled in.

June 2: Due in local office

- Bucket Calf & Horse ID forms

Due to Club Leaders BEFORE July 1

- **Fair Participants Code of Conduct**—This form is required yearly for ALL fair participants and a parent, in any project area, to read and sign.
- **Meadowlark District Code of Show Ring Ethics**, which all livestock exhibitors and a parent are required to sign, are completed once during your 4-H career. These forms are available on the website or in the office. Call if you are not sure you have on file.
- **Premium Auction Requirements**

July 1: Due in local office

- **JF County Horse Show entry form**
- **Fair Pre-Entries** due for ALL project areas via Fair Entry System. If you would like help with Fair Entry, contact the office at 785-863-2212.
- **Premium Auction Requirements**—If you intend to take an animal through the premium auction, every year you must complete the Premium Auction Requirement form, which is found on our website at https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/fair_resources.html. These forms are due in the Extension office by **July 1**. You are required to have this form signed by your club leader prior to handing it in to the Extension Office. So, make sure to double check this form now.

Fair Concession Stand

We need your help! Join the fun and volunteer to help on the concession stand committee. They plan to meet at 6:00 PM on **Monday, May 19**, at the fair building prior to the 4-H Council meeting.

4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council meeting will be held **May 19 at 7:00 PM**. Agenda items will include: Fairground Improvements, Donations to parade floats, premium fund and Foundation Golf Tournament and Achievement Banquet planning. Please come prepared to discuss these items.

Sewing & Textile Design Project Meeting

There will be a project meeting on **Friday, May 30** from **6:30-8:00 PM** at the Clothing Closet in Valley Falls located at 408 Frazier. You will learn about the Thrifty Threads project and an upcoming citizenship project. Any questions, contact Catherine at cdleitner11@gmail.com.

Bucket Calf

Tagging and paperwork must be completed and turned into the Extension office by **June 2**. There are other bucket calf meetings at Oskaloosa City Hall on **June 3** and **July 10 at 6:30 PM** at the fair grounds.

Fair Royalty Candidates

The Royalty Contest will be held at **7:00 PM** on **Friday, July 18**, at the Valley Falls High School. Candidate names were due in office by **May 1**. Candidates will be mailed contest details and a questionnaire to complete and return. It is an honor to be selected as a candidate, and we encourage all clubs to participate in each division.

BB Gun

Jefferson County 4-H Shooting Sports is headed to Daisy Nationals this summer.

Representing the program on the BB team are Mason Baker, Clover Power; Ian Hoffman, Jolly Juniors; Eli McGaughy, Jolly Juniors; KayLee Meyer, Jolly Juniors; Cameron Moore, Fairview; Cooper Smith, Jolly Juniors; and Bentley Weishaar, Jolly Juniors.

Returning as individual competitors for the Returning Champions BB competition are Aurora Hoffman, Jolly Juniors; Billy Kabus, Jolly Juniors; Harlee Sellens, Clover Power; Lucille Weishaar, Jolly Juniors; and Theodore Weishaar, Jolly Juniors. And attending the Air Rifle competition is Rylee McGaughy, Jolly Juniors.

JF County 4-H Foundation Fundraisers

- **Annual Golf Tournament**—Join the fun on **Saturday, June 28**, at Village Greens Golf Course. Help promote and maybe even organize a team! Sponsoring a hole or cash donation help our Foundation help our 4-Hers!
- **Fair Pie Contest**—The Foundation will have a pie contest at the fair, so consider entering this fun class. Pies will be auctioned off on Wednesday, **July 30** prior to the bucket calf parade.

Foundation Members: Matt Hollis (PRES), Justin Sales (VP), Heather Roenne (TR), Audrey Trowbridge (SEC), Jana Winter, and Debbie Schmitz.

Nemaha County News

District-Wide Woodworking Project Meeting

Are you interested in turning a chunk of wood into a bowl or vase? At **4:00 PM** on **Wednesday, May 21**, Doug Moser will demonstrate wood turning on a wood lathe. This will be done at the AC Retirement Village located at 511 Paramount St., Sabetha. Please RSVP to Abram Beyer at abrambeyer12@gmail.com by **May 16**.

Ambassador Day Camp

The Nemaha County Ambassadors will once again be hosting their annual Day Camp on **Thursday, June 12**. This is open to all youth **ages 6-9**. Those attending do not have to be 4-H members, so invite your friends or cousins. The event will be from **1:00–3:00 PM** at the Community Building in Seneca. More information will be handed out to the schools this month.

Livestock Exhibitors

Do you know what you will be doing with your animal after the fair? It is your responsibility to find a buyer/locker. We do know that some lockers are already getting appointments made. So don't put it off, call now!

Fair Books

We should have our fair books soon. Books will be handed out to Club Leaders hopefully by your **May** meeting. We hope to have it posted on our website in the next few weeks.

Changes at the fair

- In the event of conflict or clarification of any rule/procedure, the fair grievance committee may be called to make a final ruling.
- Sexually intact males are not eligible to be shown in the 4-H/FFA Beef, Dairy, Goat, Horse, Sheep or Swine divisions. The exception to this rule is bull calves show as part of a cow/calf pair.
- The items sold through the auction must have been pre-entered and exhibited by the exhibitor at the current year Nemaha County Fair.
- Each exhibitor must care for and groom his or her own animal during the fair and may use only the assistance of an immediate family member (parents, stepparents, legal guardians or siblings) or another 4-H or FFA member from the Nemaha County Fair who is also an exhibitor at this year's county fair.
- Those showing Bucket Calves must take the YQCA training.

Fair packets

Watch your mail for a **BIG BROWN ENVELOPE** the first part of June. This will contain lots of important fair information. So don't just throw it to the side. Please open it right away! Important instructions on how to pre-enter fair exhibits online will be included.

4-H Event Scholarship

The Nemaha County 4-H Council Event Scholarship is available on our website under Nemaha/Seneca. This application is for youth attending camps. Check it out to see what the guidelines are.

Fair Pre-Entry

1. All 4-H members will enter all pre-entries online using your 4honline account.
2. It is very important to only enter exhibits that you will be bringing to the fair.
3. We will be printing entry cards according to what you enter online into FairEntry. Then you will pick up and attach cards before you get them judged at the fair.
4. **All pre-entries will be due in FairEntry before July 1.**
5. **Premium Auction Requirement form** is due by **July 1**.
6. **YQCA** for all livestock exhibitors must be completed before **July 1**. This includes sending the office a copy of your certificate.

Premium Auction Requirements

If you intend to take an animal through the premium auction, every year you must complete the Premium Auction Requirement form, which is found on our website at https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/fair_resources.html.

These forms are due in the Extension office by **July 1**. You are required to have this form signed by your club leader prior to handing it in to the Extension Office. So, make sure to double check this form now.

Flower Class

Since we had to cancel our Flower Class in March it has been rescheduled for **Thursday, May 22**.

The class will be at Juniper and Thyme in rural Sabetha, from **1:00–3:00 PM**. There will be a \$15 fee and members will need to provide a pint size mason jar. The class is limited to 20 participants. Please register with Deb before **Thursday, May 15**.





Meadowlark Extension District

Oskaloosa Office

P.O. Box 326
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Oskaloosa, KS 66066-0326

Address Service Requested

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|---|--|
| May 1: Add/Drop Projects in 4hOnline deadline
Market Beef state nomination information due | July 10: Bucket Calf meeting, Valley Falls |
| May 3: Shutterbug Event at Botanica, Wichita
Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, NM | June 11-14: KASLA program |
| May 4: Sheep and Goat Weigh-In, JA
Swine Tagging, JA | June 12: Ambassador Day Camp, NM
4-H Council meeting, JA |
| May 15: Flower class registration due, NM | June 13-15: Geology State Field Trip, Concordia |
| May 16: District-Wide Woodworking Project registration due
Champions Livestock Judging Camp registration closes | June 15: Small livestock state nomination information due |
| May 19: Fair Concession Stand meeting, JF
4-H Council meeting, JF | June 24: All pre-entries due in FairEntry, JA |
| May 21: District-Wide Woodworking Project Meeting, Sabetha | June 28: Annual Golf Tournament, JF |
| May 22: Flower arrangement class, NM | July 1: JF County Horse Show entry form due in office, JF
Livestock Premium Auction Req. forms due, JA |
| May 24: Jackson County Spring Livestock Show, JA | July 8: Royalty Contest, Valley Falls |
| May 26: Insect Spectacular Registration closing date | July 12: Pre-fair fairgrounds clean-up, JA |
| May 28-30: Kids a Cookin' Camp, Oskaloosa | July 20: Kansas 4-H/FFA Wheat Expo wheat samples must be mailed in by |
| May 30: Sewing & Textile Design Project Meeting, Valley Falls | June 27-28: Insect Spectacular, El Dorado |
| June 1: Horse identification certificates due | July 28: VetMed ROCKS Summer Camp-High Schoolers, Manhattan |
| June 2: Bucket Calf & Horse ID forms due in office, JF | July 29: VetMed ROCKS Summer Camp-Middle Schoolers, Manhattan |
| June 2-4: Champions Livestock Judging Camp 1, Manhattan | July 30: Fair Pie Contest, Valley Falls
VetMed ROCKS Summer Camp-Grade Schoolers, Manhattan |
| June 3: Bucket Calf meeting, Oskaloosa | Aug. 7: Kansas 4-H/FFA Wheat Expo, Hutchinson |
| June 4-6: Discovery Days | Aug. 16: State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest, Manhattan |
| June 5: Small livestock DNA envelopes ordered by | |
| June 7-10: Flint Hills Farm to Fashion Camp, Manhattan | |
| June 9-10: Champions Livestock Judging Camp 2, Manhattan | |

District Offices Closed on May 26 for Memorial Day.

Holton Office

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