May 1 - An IMPORTANT Deadline Date!!!

There are many important dates in the 4-H calendar year, but May 1 is one of the busiest!! A very important deadline in 4-H is the ADD/DROP project deadline. Have you decided that a 4-H project is simply not working out or that you have found something new you would like to try?? May 1 is the last point in which you can officially add or drop a project from your 4-H enrollment for the year. Remember, this is PROJECT ENROLLMENT, not what you plan to enter for fair. You can be enrolled in a project and not take anything related to that project to the fair, that’s okay!

To ADD or DROP a project, all you need to do is to log back into your 4HOnline account and make the changes yourself! If you are having problems adding or dropping a project, simply reach out to your local Extension office and staff will assist in making changes to your 4HOnline account.

May 1 is the deadline for new members to be enrolled to participate in your county fair this summer. Keep in mind, a 4-H project record should be completed on each project you are enrolled in and that you can only enter 4-H classes at the fair related to project that you are enrolled in!

May 1 is also the deadline date for other things such as Swine Identification paper submission, KSF/KJLS Market Beef nomination deadline and Horse ID deadline to name a few!

National Volunteer Week—April 21-27

The 4-H program is what it is because of the AMAZING volunteers we have! Please take time to thank the 4-H volunteers in your life during April, National Volunteer month. National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to celebrate the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society’s greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world. Each year, we shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent and voice to make a difference in their communities. Whether online, at the office, or the local food bank; whether with a vote, a voice, or a wallet – doing good comes in many forms, and we recognize and celebrate them all. Visit https://www.pointsoflight.org/nvw/ for ideas on ways to celebrate!

Meadowlark District may select and submit three volunteer names for the Volunteer Salute to Excellence awards. These individuals then will have an opportunity to be selected as the Kansas Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer and Volunteer of the Year. The two Kansas honorees then become Kansas’ nominees for the North Central and National 4-H awards. Contact the Extension office if you’d like to learn more about this honor.
K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy (KASLA) 2024

Applications are now open for the 2024 K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy. The goal of this academy will be to further develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field. In 2024 the program will be held June 5-8. Applications must be postmarked by April 15, 2024.

The four-day session focuses on increasing knowledge of Kansas’ diverse livestock industry, as well as building participant’s leadership skills. Twenty high school students will be selected to participate based upon educational, community, and agricultural involvement, as reflected through an application process.

The program’s itinerary will feature interactive workshops, tours and faculty mentor time with ASI professors. Industry leaders will also join the participants frequently to share their knowledge and expertise. Throughout the week, participants will work in teams to evaluate current events within the animal science industry and educate others. This experience will culminate with a closing reception on Saturday morning.

Participants will stay on campus in university housing with program staff. Transportation to and from the event is the responsibility of the participant, along with a $50 fee to reserve his or her space. The fee is only due upon acceptance and not at the time of application. LMIC generously provides all other sponsorships.

Hosted by the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry and sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC), Inc, the academy’s goal is to develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field.

For questions about the academy, please contact Sharon Breiner, Director, at 785-532-6533 or sbreiner@ksu.edu. The link for the application is located at https://www.asi.k-state.edu/24_KASLA_app.pdf.

State Livestock Nomination Information

It is imperative that you plan ahead if you plan to take livestock to the State Fair or KJLS. This is an online based nomination process that is multiple steps!

1. Purchase official DNA envelopes through ShoWorks. DNA Envelopes prior to 2021 WILL NOT be accepted.
   These must be ordered ten days prior to the respective nomination deadline.
   - April 20 – Beef
   - June 5 – Market swine, commercial gilts, market lambs, commercial ewes, breeding and market goats

2. Enter animal and exhibitor data through online system by nomination deadline.
   - May 1 - Beef
   - June 15 - Market swine, commercial gilts, market lambs, commercial ewes, breeding and market goats

3. Mail completed DNA envelopes and copy of online submission receipt by nomination deadline. It is preferred that these are sent via certified mail, so there is a receipt.

4. Online approval by extension agents (4-H) and FFA advisors (FFA)

It should be noted that a completed animal nomination DOES NOT constitute a completed entry into the State Fair or KJLS! Nominations make market animals or commercial breeding females eligible to be entered and shown in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS. After completing the nomination process, exhibitors must submit show entries, and pay the affiliated entry fees, directly through each show's entry link by the entry deadline to participate.

Information and resources regarding the state livestock nominations process may be found at https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/. All families, regardless of experience level, are encouraged to read through the Rookie Guide and use the other resources available!

Alpha of Clovia

Alpha of Clovia is a 4-H Cooperative Leadership House located near the Manhattan campus of Kansas State University. Since 1931, the women of Alpha of Clovia have lived together in a cooperative manner – sharing housework and possessions to reduce the overall cost of living. Throughout the years, women from various backgrounds across the country have become members, participating in activities such as: philanthropies, house retreats, the annual national Clovia meeting, and homecoming, among other social events. All of these activities and more are done while maintaining a high sense of academic scholarship while studying at Kansas State University.

For more information, please visit: https://www.alphaofclovia.org/
YQCA Instructions

Hopefully everyone is familiar with YQCA now! As a quick reminder, youth showing any food animal that is exhibited at the Meadowlark District Fairs, Kansas State Fair and KJLS are required to complete YQCA. Ross and I have completed two of our three instructor-led trainings, and will complete our Nemaha County training March 26. Ross and I will not offer another instructor-led training once that one is complete. If you were/are not able to attend one of the three training sessions we offered, you are welcome to go to another county/district or take the web-based training.

You must send your certificate to Clay at croland@ksu.edu. If this step is not done, the youth will be ineligible to sell their animal in the premium auction at the fair. The following instructions will give you a walk through on how to complete accessing your certificate.

1. Sign up for the class (if you have done this, skip to step 2)
   a. In www.yqcaprogram.org, find the appropriate age of the youth(s) under your desired course; instructor-led or web-based.
   b. Add to cart. Ensure that the name enrolled for the course is the youth’s name.
      i. A document under the “MORE INFO -> Youth & Parents” drop down tab can give you further instructions on this step.
   c. Pay via credit card on the website.

2. Take pre-course survey
   a. Web-based
      i. This should automatically populate as you click the “Take Course” button located at the top of your browser.
   b. Instructor-Led training (This must be completed even if you have already taken the course)
      i. Click on the blue button that exhibits your username at the top of the page.
      ii. On the drop down, select “Enrolled Trainings”
      iii. Access and take the pre-test.

3. Take the post-course survey
   a. Click on the blue button that exhibits your username at the top of the page
   b. On the drop down menu, select “Course Certificates”
   c. Download the certificate – this will prompt the post-course survey

4. Download the certificate and email it to Clay at croland@ksu.edu.

Discovery Days

Kansas 4-H is hosting the 101st iteration of Discovery Days. Discovery Days stated objectives are as follows:

- Help youth learn new ideas, techniques, and skills they can use personally and in their 4-H clubs or groups and communities.
- Give youth in-depth training through hands-on educational sessions from content and youth development experts.
- Prepare youth to make informed decisions about their careers and college path.
- Enhance personal growth by giving opportunities to develop responsibility, confidence, independence, accountability, problem-solving, decision-making, and time management skills.
- Help youth meet new people and make new friends from different places and with different backgrounds from across the state.
- Provide an opportunity for youth to experience the K-State campus and its wealth of resources.
- Develop college and career readiness skills which prepare participants academically and socially for a successful transition to college and life as an adult.

When: June 5-7
Who: Youth ages 13-18 before Jan 1, 2024 are invited to register.
Cost: $225 – Some class sessions may have additional fees

For more information like class sessions or registration, please visit: https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/discovery-days/index.html
This summer I had the privilege of talking to several people from each county in the Meadowlark District. My intent was not only to include parts of them here in the newsletter but I have taken them back to the state council to gather more information about youth involvement in the state. There is so much that the state council can learn from youth talking about their experiences and interests. Throughout the next few months I will be sharing more of these interviews for you all to read.

The next interviews I want to share with you are from 4-H Ambassadors from each county, Abe Noll from Jefferson County, Chloey Strathman from Nemaha County, and Christian Kucan from Jackson County.

**Abe Noll**
- What is your favorite project? - “Poultry”
- What is your favorite opportunity in all of 4-H? - “Meeting new people”
- What is a fair tradition that you enjoy? - “Water Balloon Fights with the ambassadors”
- What is something you would change about your fair or county 4-H? - “More advertising to the non-4-H community”
- What is something you would tell your younger self relating to 4-H? - “Focus on one thing and then choose how big you want to go”

**Chloey Strathman**
- What is your favorite project? - “Clothing Construction”
- What is your favorite opportunity in all of 4-H? - “The lifelong friendships you make along the way”
- What is a fair tradition that you enjoy? - “Hanging with all my friends but more specifically, playing cards in the trailers”
- What is something you would change about your fair or county 4-H? - “Emphasis on 4-H”
- What is something you would tell your younger self relating to 4-H? - “Talk to people, you may have more in common than you think”

**Christian Kucan**
- What is your favorite project? - “Beef”
- What is your favorite opportunity in all of 4-H? - “Getting to go to all the livestock shows and making new friends”
- What is a fair tradition that you enjoy? - “The Barnyard Olympics that the ambassadors put on”
- What is something you would change about your fair or county 4-H? - “The 4-H board”
- What is something you would tell your younger self relating to 4-H? - “Keep going, no matter what happens”

I am still so grateful for the time I got to spend serving Kansas 4-H and am excited to do it again this year.

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**Brooke Slipke**  
**Kansas State Youth Leadership Council**  
**Jackson County—Meadowlark**

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**4-H Shutterbugs at the Zoo**

The State Photography Committee will be holding a photography workshop in Garden City, Saturday, May 4 at Lee Richardson Zoo. Doors open at 8:30 AM, workshops begin at 9:00 AM and will conclude at noon. Committee members will be available to teach all aspects of photo composition, how to work with kaleidoscopes, pan blurs, creating a story and more! Please have members bring a smartphone or a camera. There will also be cameras available to check out during the workshop, members are asked to bring their own SD card so they can take their photos with them when the workshop is over. There is no charge for the workshop, but we ask that you please register so we can contact participants in case of inclement weather or last-minute changes. Registration can be found at: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6m4Slk474r4A58i
Beef Weigh In
We weighed in 71 steers at the 2024 Beef Weigh In. Thank you to all the Superintendents and Volunteers who helped with weigh in. We couldn’t have done it without you guys!

4-H Club Day
Congratulations to all 4-Hers who participated in County Club Days on Saturday, February 24 at Jackson Heights. Thanks goes out to the clubs and volunteers who helped make the day possible. If you received a purple on your project talk and would like to take it to the State Fair in the fall, please be sure to register it when you register your other projects in August.

Shooting Sports
Congratulations to all the shooters that took part in the Bullmasters match which was held March 9. Also would like to thank all the volunteers and parents who helped make the match run smoothly. We truly appreciate everything you do for the youth.

Thank you!
Thank you to all the clubs, 4-Her’s and volunteers who donated candy and eggs for the Ambassador Easter Egg Hunt.

Important Reminders
Everyone please keep selling the Fair Booster Memberships. Asking each family to sell at least 5 & the money goes towards paying for Fair Judges, Ribbon Premiums and other Fair Expenses. If you are interested in being a Fair Superintendent please contact Cara at the Extension Office. We are still looking for County Fair Superintendents for Woodworking and Rabbits.

Looking for Pictures for Fair Book
We are still looking for pictures for the 2024 Fair Book. If you would like to submit a picture, please e-mail them to Cara at carar@ksu.edu.

4-H Council Meeting
The April 4-H Council Meeting will be April 11 at 7:00 PM. This meeting we will be inviting 4-H Volunteers to present to them a thank you gift for volunteering their time to help out the Jackson County 4-H Program.

Dog Practice
4-H Dog Practice will start April 2 and is on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM at the fair building. Fees are $25 per family.

Consider in April
• Check your club mailbox
• Consider hosting a club project meeting
• Have club members give feedback from Club Days
• Encourage Discovery Days 2024
• Remind Families of the May 1 enrollment deadline for dropping/adding projects
• Encourage members to sell fair boosters

Spring Weigh-In
Spring Weigh In for sheep and meat goats will be Thursday, May 9 from 6:00-7:00 PM at the NE Kansas Heritage Complex. You will pay for your tags that day and tags will be $3.00. All Sheep and Goats must have a scrapies tag in their ear. What you classify your animal at weigh-in will be the breed it shows in at the fair.

Swine Tagging
You will be receiving your swine ID forms and letter in the mail if you haven’t already. Tags can be picked up at the Extension office as soon as we receive them. They are $3.00 each. Please return any unused tags. Swine ID forms along with pictures are due to the office May 1.

Livestock Premium Auction Requirements
If you plan to sell an animal through the fair auction, make sure you are reviewing the Auction Requirement form periodically to make sure you qualify. These forms will need to be turned in by July 1.
Change from the Fair board on Livestock Auction:
• There will be no flooring of under or over-weight animals. The 4-Her must make their own arrangements with these animals.

Volunteer Screening
Any Club Leaders, Project Leaders, and other adult volunteers in direct contact with youth will need to fill out a profile in 4HOnline and complete training if they haven’t done so. Information about creating or updating a profile in 4HOnline and the required training offered through 4HOnline is available at: https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/volunteers.html
Thank you for helping to make sure Jackson County 4-H members have a safe 4-H experience.
Carnival
A huge shout-out and thank you to all of the great volunteers and participants who helped make the carnival a success! It was a wonderful event full of fun and community fellowship!

Rocketry Meeting
On Sunday, **March 24** beginning at 4:30 PM at the Fair building, there will be a rocketry project meeting. Contact Shauna Allen with any questions at sra3193@gmail.com.

Woodworking Meeting
On Sunday, **March 24** beginning at 2:30 PM at the Fair building in Valley Falls. Please contact Sam Pence via his email at pencefamily42@outlook.com.

Bucket Calf Project Meeting and Tags
There will be a bucket calf meeting on **March 28** at 6:30 PM at the Oskaloosa City Hall. Tags are also in the office. They will be available at the meeting for $3.00 each or they can be purchased at the Extension Office. If you are purchasing at the meeting, please bring the exact change.

Spring Beef Show
**March 30**, beginning at 10:00 AM at the Valley Falls Fairgrounds. Check-in will be from 7:00–8:30 AM. Contact Toni Reeves at 785-640-8457 for more information or see the registration form on the Oskaloosa 4-H website.

**Congratulations Horse Judging Teams!**
We sent three teams to compete in horse judging at Equifest on Thursday, March 14.
- The Intermediate Team placed 3rd overall with **Audrey Handke** (WI), **Makena Reeves** (VV), **Sierra Tucker** (JJ) and **Alayna Westbrook** (VV). Individually, Audrey placed 7th.
- We had two senior teams.
  - Team 1 including **Danielle Reeves** (VV), **Bowie Weishaar** (MC) and **Katheryn Twitchell** (GV). They placed 3rd in judging. As individuals, Bowie placed 3rd and Katheryn placed 10th.
  - Team 2 including **Rori and Sydney Darveaux** (GV) and **Adelaide Haverkamp** (PE). They placed 4th in judging, 2nd in reasons and 3rd in overall. As an individual, Adelaide placed 1st.

  Congratulations to these 4-Hers and a huge THANK YOU to the leaders and volunteers that helped make it happen.

**Jefferson County Educational Extension Unit Scholarships**
High school seniors and college freshmen attending in-state colleges or Vo-tech programs are eligible to apply. See your school counselor or contact the Extension Office for paper applications. The application form is also accessible on the Oskaloosa 4-H webpage. The deadline is **April 1**.

**Spring Poultry Show**
This show is on **Saturday, April 6** at the Valley Falls Fair building. Doors open at 7:00 AM and the show begins at 8:00 AM. Set-up for this event will be Friday evening, **April 5** at 6:00 PM. For more details, contact Katie Rhodelander at HoneyCreekFarms@hotmail.com or call/ text her at 785-231-0413. The entry form can be found on the Oskaloosa 4-H webpage.

**Archery Project Meeting**
There will be a parent/archer informational meeting on **Sunday, April 7** in the Fair building beginning at 5:00 PM. Be watching for an email in the coming weeks. Questions: Contact CJ Bunce at jeffcoarchery@yahoo.com or 785-393-3933.

**County T-Shirt Club Orders**
“Caution: Future 4-H Leaders Under Construction:” Club orders for this year’s county t-shirts are due in the office on **April 15**.

**Sheep and Goat Weigh-In**
**Wednesday, April 24** from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Valley Falls Fairgrounds: Market lambs and meat goats must be weighed at this time to enter the Jefferson County Fair and be eligible for the livestock sale. ID forms will be available at the weigh-in or on the Jefferson Co. webpage by April 1 and tags will be at the weigh-in. Be sure you are enrolled in the project(s) in 4HOnline before weigh-in.

**Livestock Premium Sale Requirements**
If you plan to sell an animal through the fair auction, you need to review the sale requirement form periodically to make sure that you qualify to sell. These forms need to be turned in to your club leader by the club deadline. Minimum sale weights are: steers 1200 lbs., hogs 220 lbs. minimum and 315 lbs. maximum, lambs 95 lbs., goats 40 lbs., poultry 3 lbs./ each, and rabbits between 3.5-5.5 lbs./ each.
Nemaha County News

Club Day
Thank you to everyone that helped in any way with Club Day. It was a great success! We had 175 of our Nemaha County 4-Hers participate in this event. If you have any suggestions, please email them to Deb at dahenny@ksu.edu. Thank you all!

If you received a Purple or Blue on your Demonstration, Project Talk, Public Speaking or Reading and are 9 years and older, you are eligible to take your presentation to the State Fair in September. You will need to pre-enter it with all other state fair pre-entries in August.

Dog Practice
4-H Dog Practice for Nemaha County began March 25. There is still time to join if you would like. Practices will be held Monday nights at 7:00 PM at the Community Building in Seneca. If you have any questions, please call Karen VanWinkle at 785-799-5745.

4-H Council Food Stand Committee Meeting
There will be a food stand committee meeting April 8, at 6:30 PM in the Extension office meeting room. Each club is to have at least two adult and two youth on the food stand committee besides those from council.

4-H Council Meeting
Don’t forget the next 4-H Council meeting will be held on April 8, at 7:30 PM in the Community Building meeting room.

Sheep & Meat Goat Weigh-In
The sheep and meat goat weigh-in will be held on Saturday, May 4, at the Nemaha County Fair North Barn from 7:30 – 8:30 AM. All market lambs and meat goats must be weighed and tagged on the 6th to show at the fair and be eligible for the livestock premium sale. Please plan to pay for your tags at weigh-in at a cost of $3.00 per tag. It is not required for the 4-H exhibitor to be present at the tagging. If you cannot be at the weigh-in, you must find someone else to bring your animals.

Swine Tagging
Do you plan to show a pig at the fair this year? You must have your swine purchased, tagged, and paperwork completed and returned to Extension Office before May 1. Families must purchase 4-H tags from the Extension office for $3.00 a piece, and unused tags MUST BE RETURNED. Tagging information forms and pictures must be returned to the Extension Office by May 1 to be eligible to show and sell your market hog at the Nemaha County Free Fair.

Drop / Add Deadline
Don’t forget May 1, is the deadline for dropping or adding any projects for this year’s county fair. You will need to do this in your 4honline account. There are several project names that have changed. If you are planning to bring a Lego display you need to make sure you are enrolled in Building Block Engineering. Buymanship is now called Shopping in Style and Crops is now called Agronomy. If you are not sure about a project, please contact Deb.

Ambassador Day Camp
Mark your calendars for June 12! This Day Camp is not just for 4-Hers. Information will be handed out in May at all schools.

Livestock Premium Auction Requirements
If you plan to sell an animal through the fair auction, make sure you are reviewing the Auction Requirement form periodically to make sure you qualify. These forms will need to be turned in by July 1 but can be turned in at any time to the Extension office.

2024 Fair Books
The fair book can be found on our website at https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html as soon as we have all updates. We hope to have printed books to your club leaders by the end of May.

Fair Activities
Are you tired of selling items, but need a fundraiser? Why not spend one, two or even three days at the Nemaha County Fair doing something fun! The Fair board is looking for groups to have games or sell fair food at this year’s fair. Examples could be ball toss, minnow race, dunk tank, homemade ice cream or funnel cakes, etc. For more information, contact the Extension office.

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Calendar of Events

**Mar. 24:** Rocketry meeting, JF
**Mar. 25:** Dog practice starts, NM
**Mar. 26:** YQCA instructor-led training, NM
**Mar. 30:** Spring Beef Show, JF

**Apr. 1:** 2024 Fair book Cover Photo Submissions due, NM
    JF Co. Educational Ext. Scholarship applications due
**Apr. 2:** Dog Practice starts, JA
**Apr. 5:** Spring Poultry Show Setup, JF
**Apr. 6:** Spring Poultry Show, JF
**Apr. 7:** Archery project meeting, JF
**Apr. 8:** 4-H Council Food Stand Committee meeting, NM
    4-H Council Meeting, NM
**Apr. 11:** 4-H Council Meeting, JA
**Apr. 15:** T-Shirt Club Orders due, JF
    K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy app. due
**Apr. 20:** Beef nomination DNA envelope purchase deadline
**Apr. 24:** Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, JF

**May 1:** Swine ID paperwork & pictures due to office
    Add/Drop project deadline
    New members to be enrolled deadline
    KSF/KJLS Market Beef nomination deadline

**May 1:** Horse ID deadline
**May 4:** Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, NM
    Shutterbugs at Lee Richardson Zoo, Garden City
**May 9:** Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, JA
**June 5:** Market Swine, Commercial Gilts, Market Lambs,
    Commercial Ewes, Breeding & Market Goats DNA
    envelope purchase deadline
**June 5-7:** Discovery Days
**June 5-8:** K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy
    Ambassadors Day Camp
**June 15:** KSF/KJLS Market Swine, Commercial Gilts, Market
    Lambs, Commercial Ewes, Breeding and Market
    Goats nomination deadline
**June 24:** 4-H/FFA online entries due, JA

**July 1:** Livestock Premium Auction Requirements form due
**July 15-18:** Jackson County Fair
**July 26-29:** Nemaha County Fair
**July 29-Aug. 1:** Jefferson County Fair

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