4-H Club Goals & Area KAP

Completed club goals for the 2020-21 4-H year, are due in the Extension office by January 4, 2021 by 4:30 PM. This form can be found on the forms page of the Meadowlark District website: http://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html Also due to the office this day are KAPs heading to the NE Area Screening. Youth eligible to submit KAPs at this level should have received correspondence at or after 4-H Achievement Events in November.

Volunteers Needed for Area KAP Screening!!!

The Northeast Area KAP screening will be held in Manhattan on Thursday, January 21. Meadowlark Extension District is able to take NINE volunteers to review KAPs at the area level. This is a wonderful opportunity to see project work summarized in a KAP from across the entire NE Area of Kansas. Prior records/KAP review at the local level is helpful, but we will take anyone with a sincere desire to volunteer and learn more. Contact your local office by January 4 if this is something that interests you. Typically, we have pooled rides to and from Manhattan. Should this judging be converted to virtual format, we will share those details and will make sure you will have the ability to judge in that format, too. Thank you for your consideration!

State 4-H Scholarships

Attention all seniors and college aged 4-Hers & 4-H alumni! For the 2021 Kansas 4-H Scholarship process, we will be moving to online applications. These will be available by December 23, 2020 at: https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-library/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html. Please continue to check back for more information. For additional information OR if you must complete a paper application, please contact kansas4H@ksu.edu.

Make sure to follow the instructions exactly! You will need your transcript, letters of recommendation, and an Extension Staff member’s signature to complete your application, as well as other additional requirements noted. Kansas 4-H posts a list of the specific scholarships that will be awarded, so be sure to check back for this list using the link above. This one application covers the majority of scholarships, however, some scholarships have unique or additional requirements.

Don’t delay – get started today as it will take time to gather all of the required items! If you have been maintaining an accurate Permanent Record you will find this to be an invaluable resource to you during this process! If you have any questions, please contact the 4-H staff in your local District Extension office.

Kansas Clover Classroom Needs YOUR Help!

Are you passionate about a particular 4-H project area? Have expertise to share? We need YOUR help! Developers of the Kansas Clover Classroom are working to create 4-H Project Challenges in every 4-H project area. What better way to share your skills and talents with 4-Hers from across Kansas, than to work up a Clover Classroom Challenge? Please check out this program at: https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/cloverclassroom.html and visit with Ross if you want to submit an idea!
Regional 4-H Club Day Goes Virtual

If you can think back to the third weekend of March, 2020, most of our lives changed in very dramatic ways. Unfortunately, the Regional 4-H Club Day event fell victim to those changing times and was cancelled. Since that time, many have expressed how you missed the opportunity for this long-standing, regional 4-H event. Most if not all of us have had to adapt to very new and different ways of life – the 4-H program is no exception.

The decision has been made to hold a virtual Regional 4-H Club Day in 2021. This is a new format, but one that will allow us to plan for participation, no matter what the health environment is in March. Details of the virtual event are being discussed and will be shared as we get closer to March. For today, please hold the date of Saturday, March 20, 2021 as a time to come together virtually across northeast Kansas. We do know that virtual live and recorded options will exist for 4-H members to showcase their presentation skills. More to come!

Parenting Through a Pandemic - Kansas 4-H Webinar Series

Kansas 4-H Families, in this challenging time, Kansas 4-H is here for you. Using the resources of Kansas State University, we are offering a webinar series designed to support you as a 4-H parent to deal with some of the new struggles facing your family. Once registered please feel free to join one or all the planned sessions. The sessions will also be recorded and posted as a resource if you are unable to attend one and want to catch up at a later time. Each session will last approximately an hour and will begin at 6:30 PM on each of the scheduled days: Nov 30, Dec 3, Dec 7, Dec 14 and Dec 17.

- Nov 30 - Parenting During Remote Learning
- Dec 3 - Partnering with Projects: Learning Together – Building Resilience with your child!
- Dec 7 - "Conversation about family resilience: Getting ready for the winter/holiday break together"
- Dec 14 - "Conversation about family recovery: Getting through tough patches during winter/holiday break together"
- Dec 17 - "Conversation about resistance and return: Preparing for 2021 together"

The website to register is https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3vYM9cb9vYHtYN. There is no cost for these events we just ask that participants register so log-in information can be sent out.

Happy Birthday Kansas!

The annual ‘Happy Birthday, Kansas! photo contest’ is now open for submissions at https://www.kshs.org/p/student-photo-contest/18622 Students in 1st-12th grade from across the state can submit up to 5 photographs that they took. The theme for this year’s contest is “Learning in Kansas in 2020”. Students are encouraged to be creative with the theme, the photos must be taken in Kansas during this calendar year. New this year is sharing a short video, up to a minute, telling about your experience and your photograph. What a great way to share 4-H Photography with others!

The Kansas Historical Society partners with the Kansas legislative spouses to put on this contest each year. It was originally started by Marearl Denning, wife to Senator Jim Denning, and a photographer herself. The deadline to submit your photograph(s) is December 15, 2020 at: https://www.happybirthdayks.org/ First and second place winners from each grade level are invited to a special virtual recognition ceremony at the Capitol building on Kansas Day, January 29, where their photos will also be on display. All first-place winners receive an iPad and all second-place winners receive a Kindle.
**2020 4-H Computer Science Virtual Conference for Volunteers**

The 4-H Computer Science (CS) Virtual Conference will take place during Computer Science Education Week, **December 8-10**, hosted by National 4-H Council in partnership with Google. This three day - half day conference delivered through Zoom will cover what you need to know to get started in CS. Computer science and computational thinking (CT) is everywhere around us, from horse competitions to quilting! Learn from specialists and educators in the field on how to wrap CS programming into your current work or start your own 4-H CS program. Discover how easy it is to learn CS and how applying CT concepts can make a positive impact in your youth program. Information and registration link can be found at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-h-computer-science-cs-virtual-conference-tickets-125515471153?recipientid=contact-0a20c4a908ebe911910a001dd8b71c7f-3063f3b8eb2648d78cb82fd8135c3ddf&_cldee=cG90dGVyc0Brc3UuZWR0a20c4a908ebe911910a001dd8b71c7f-3063f3b8eb2648d78cb82fd8135c3ddf&

**Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)**

YQCA is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21 with a focus on three core pillars: food safety, animal well-being, and character development. YQCA includes information for youth showing the following food animals: Beef, Dairy (Cattle & Goats), Meat Goats, Market Rabbits & Poultry, Sheep and Swine. Rabbit and Poultry youth **please NOTE**: if you are NOT planning to take a MEAT PEN, you will not need this certification, but you (and any youth!) are welcome to take training! Additionally, youth wishing to sell eligible animals in Premium sales within the District must complete this process ANNUALLY before July 1st! **Please NOTE** that 7 year olds are not able to be certified through this system and will be exempted of this requirement locally.

Currently, we are not planning to offer face to face training given the COVID concerns. Online training is now open! Log in at: https://yqca.learngrow.io and choose to use the 4HOnline Sign In Option, selecting “Kansas 4-H Youth Development” and using your family 4HOnline log in email and password. Youth need to sign up for module that corresponds to appropriate 4-H age on **January 1, 2021**. Online Courses will cost $12, which should be paid for electronically with a credit/debit card online. To fulfill training, youth will complete all the online modules.

**Jan-April 2021 Winter Pen Pal Program**

States' 4-H is launching online registration for its second Pen Pal Program. Pen Pal friends will be from one of the States’ 4-H partner countries: Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Norway or Romania. Interested Kansas 4-H’ers can go to the World Citizenship web page for more information and link to the application site at: https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/global-citizenship/kansas-4-h-international-exchanges/index.html. **Registration closes December 11, 2020.** Space is limited on a first-come, first-serve basis, so don’t delay.

In the first Pen Pal Program, spaces filled immediately upon announcement. Interested members should register as soon as possible and watch the e-mail address they list for follow-up information. Inquiries about the program may be sent to Mary Kay Munson, Kansas 4-H Exchange Coordinator at mkm2@ksu.edu.

**Get to Cooking in 4-H**

Meadowlark District recently had a generous donation of a plethora of cookbooks that were from Marilyn Sommer’s friend’s mom. The family wishes to share them with 4-H members to use in your foods & nutrition, citizenship or other 4-H project area. Please contact the Holton office if you are interested in some cookbooks!
Kansas 4-H Records

The 2020-21 updated Kansas 4-H records are now available to all Kansas 4-Hers. It is NEVER too soon to start on 4-H record books and you will be most successful if you work on them all year long. These are the reports that Meadowlark District piloted in the past 4-H year. Meadowlark District is still piloting ZBooks within ZSuite – which is not yet an option for others across the state.

All the information you need to get started can be found at: https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/project_records.html PLEASE USE ONLY THESE LINKS AND ALWAYS REFERNECE THE MEADOWLARK DISTRICT WEBSITE FOR ALL FORMS! You will want to review the Guide to Kansas 4-H Project Recognition and MED 4-H Record Book Tips. Setting goals is a great place to start, the goal-setting guide www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/4H1100.pdf may help you set meaningful goals within your project work. Please keep these items in mind as you get started this year.

- ALL of the PDF and Word forms MUST BE DOWNLOADED AND SAVED to a machine, drive, etc… if you want to edit, save, print later and use throughout the year.
- If you do not have the latest version of Adobe Reader, you WILL have issues, so please follow the instructions found on our website above, on getting that installed on your machine.
- The Personal Information Page found linked on our website is the only one that will be accepted. If you have old versions saved on machines, please replace with this form-fill PDF.
- The Permanent Record had some minor formatting changes. You are welcome to start using the one dated 2020 or continue with the 2008 form – EITHER is acceptable.
- Only the Project Report forms found on our website or within ZSuite will be accepted. PLEASE NOTE that there are 3 age divisions and you need to use the one corresponding to your 4-H age on January 1, 2021!!! Additionally, there are two types of reports – one for animal projects and one for all other project areas. If you are unsure of what report to use – PLEASE ASK!
- No matter if using ZSuite or PDF formats, the amount of submission “spots” on the Project Report pages are fixed. If you have more of a particular section that what “fits” you will need to summarize in a format that works best for you, as these reports DO NOT expand or shrink. ZSuite does allow unlimited entries, but only a fixed amount can be “included in Record Book”.
- Working/scratch copies are always a good idea, especially if you work on records throughout the year! We can get paper copies of records to you, if you request this.

4-H at Home - Hands-On Activities for Kids

With COVID-19 disrupting learning for 55 million young people, 4-H professionals from across the United States are bringing 4-H to your home with fun and educational activities and curriculum for kids of all ages. Explore the resources and join the newsletter to stay updated about new 4-H at Home activities. https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/

Why 4-H ???

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

“4-H has made me the person I am today. The skills that I have will stay with me and always be helpful. 4-H has been a great thing in my life that will always be a part of me and I will always be proud to advocate for.”
The Parents Committee - A Vital Part of the 4-H Club Leadership Team

Healthy, thriving 4-H clubs usually have a strong 4-H Parents Committee. This committee can relieve some of the responsibilities typically taken on by the club’s leader. It helps keep parents involved in all aspects of the club, as well as providing assistance, advice, and counsel to the 4-H club leader. Parents Committees play an important role in maintaining and improving the quality of the 4-H club. The primary purpose of the 4-H Parents Committee is to identify and recruit volunteer leaders. The committee functions as a team, ensuring that the club has the necessary leadership to provide positive learning experiences.

A 4-H Parents Committee, can support the club in many other ways. For example, by:

- promoting membership expansion
- promoting 4-H to the public in your community
- attending club meetings
- representing parents in club activities
- assisting with problem-solving and decision-making within the club
- providing orientation to new 4-H families
- providing orientation and training to new project leaders
- helping with award application evaluations
- serving as a liaison for the club’s parents
- assisting with club conflict resolution and management

Meadowlark Photography Challenge

Thinking of the 4-H pledge, submit a photo that you feel represents each of the following challenges as it applies to 4-H. During December and January, we will be offering 6 challenges for all 4-H members to participate in. Please visit https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/ for details.

- Email photos to meadowlark4h@ksu.edu
- Please include your Name, Age and 4-H Club
- Photos will be posted on Meadowlark District 4-H Facebook page and the photos with most likes during their weekly challenge will be your weekly winners.

Welcoming New 4-H Families

Make a special effort to welcome all new 4-H members and their families. Try to involve them in club activities--not just at the first meeting, but throughout the year. Remember how you felt as a new 4-H’er and 4-H family. Help those new to the organization not be overwhelmed. Here are some suggestions to welcome new 4-H families.

- Explain the “sometimes” confusing 4-H terms. Don’t assume they understand.
- Form a “mentor”/”buddy” system by having older 4-H’ers help new 4-H members with meetings, records and events. Don’t forget the parents. Sometimes new parents need a “mentor” too.
- Be sure to give those new to the club a chance to speak up. Involve them in conversations and explain what is happening in the meeting.
- Advise new families of deadlines. Explain the major events that happen in 4-H, such as 4-H Club Day, Fair, 4-H Camp, etc.
- Let new 4-H families participate at their own pace. Involve them in club activities, but allow them to participate at a level that is comfortable to them.
- Be aware of special family circumstances and be flexible. All families are an important part of our 4-H program.
- Remember, your club is like a family of sorts. In families, we need to make everyone feel important, help them find their own niche, challenge them to be more involved, and most importantly, accept them for who they are!
**National 4-H Youth Summit Series**

The 4-H National Youth Summit Series brings together high school students for three days of hands-on activities and workshops, led by leaders and educators in these fields. For 2021, these events will be held virtually.

- Register and attend in small groups or as an individual
- Work alongside students and experts with shared interests
- Learn and strengthen technical and leadership skills
- Earn accreditation to feature on college or job applications
- For more information, visit National Youth Council Summit Series or go to [http://4-h.org](http://4-h.org)

**Healthy Living Summit Online, February 11-14, 2021 - Registration Opens Soon**

At the National Youth Summit on Healthy Living, high school students develop the knowledge and skills to address issues surrounding nutrition, physical fitness, wellness, and emotional well-being. Working alongside professionals in family consumer science and healthy living, students will create action plans they can implement in their communities to teach other youth about what they have learned.

**Agri-Science Summit Online, March 4-7, 2021 - Registration Opens Soon**

At the National 4-H Youth Summit on Agri-Science, high school students develop the skills and knowledge needed for the challenges facing agriculture, food security, and sustainability. Students will work with each other and experts in the agricultural community in this collaborative, hands-on educational setting.

---

**Holton News**

**4-H Council Elects Officers**

4-H Council met via zoom on Wednesday, **November 18**.

Election of officers was held and the following will be your 2020-21 Council Officers:

- President – Karlie Albright, Hoyt Livewires
- Vice President – Madeline Montgomery, Lucky Stars;
- Secretary – Aidan Colter, Hoyt Livewires;
- Treasurer – Brooke Slipke, North Jackson Jets;
- Reporter – Olivia Rickel, Hoyt Livewires.

**4-H Club Day**

4-H Club Day is scheduled to be held **March 6, 2021** at Northridge Church in Sabetha. Please be watching for updated e-mails and sign up forms coming out in January.

**Virtual Project Meetings**

With the recent county mandates due to COVID-19, we will not be able to hold our December project meetings face to face. Plans are in the works to hold virtual project meetings during this time so please be watching for updated information on this and if you haven’t done so already, please like our District 4-H Facebook page (Meadowlark District 4-H).

**Livestock Premium Sale**

Fair board met and voted that only 1 animal is allowed to be sold in the Livestock Premium Sale for the 2020-2021 Jackson County Fair. As of right now, you can still floor as many animals as you like with the beef, sheep and goats and we are doing some checking with the swine floor buyer to see if they can still take a large number of hogs, but only 1 animal per 4-Her will go through the livestock sale. Please remember to check out the premium sale requirements and to be attending those club meetings and to participate in at least 4 of the approved activities.
Achievement Event

We would like to congratulate everyone on all their hard work they put into their record books this year. A special thanks to the Ambassadors for leading the event.

We will be posting a video of “A Look Back on 2020” on our website at https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html after Dec 1.

Congratulations Key Winners

This year we had two 4-Hers receive the Key Award. This is a very prestigious award. Congratulations to:

Kiara Niehues - Red Rustlers
Thomas Edelman - Stateliners

Project Event and Food Fare

At this time, we have postponed these two events. We are hoping we can do something at a later date. If your club has not yet picked a Disney Movie theme for the Food Fare, please do so and send to Deb.

Fair Sponsors

Do you or someone you know want to be a sponsor at the fair this year? The Fairboard will soon be sending out sponsor letters. Forms can be found on our website at http://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html

Photography “Kansas Pride” theme

Do you have an idea for the Photography “Kansas Pride” theme? We will be voting on this at the January 4-H Council meeting. So either get that idea to your club’s council rep or to Deb.

Important Dates

Oskaloosa

January 1 -
Fair Book changes due, office
January 4 -
Club Goal forms due in office
January 25 -
4-H Council meeting, 7:30
March 6-
Beef Weigh-In at Valley Falls Fairgrounds from 10:00-Noon. Snow date March 20.
April 28-
Sheep and Goat Weigh-In from 6:00-8:00 PM
June 5 -
4-H Carnival @ Fairgrounds
July 2-30 -
Fair Week

Seneca

4-H Council

Congratulations to our new 2020 – 2021 4-H Council officers. They are:
President - Leah Renyer, Vice President - Karly Tangeman, Secretary - Monica Stallbaumer, Treasurer – Jake Heinen, Reporter – Isabelle Walker. The next 4-H Council meeting will be held January 11 at 7:30 PM via zoom. All 4-H Council representatives and leaders are asked to attend.

Fairbook Changes

Did you see a mistake in the fair book this year, or maybe something did not make sense? We need all fairbook changes by February 1.

2021 Fair

Mark your calendar for the 2021 Fair will be July 22-26. The 2021 fair theme will be “The Fair Must Go On”.

Achievement Celebration

We appreciate your understanding as we saw the need to postpone our November 14 Achievement Celebration due to COVID concerns. Stay tuned for details on how this will be completed in the days ahead.

Youth Livestock Quality Assurance Training (YQCA)

See the district pages on how this training will be completed. It is required for all fair livestock exhibitors and is one of the Fair Premium Sale Requirements.

Jefferson Co. 4-H Foundation

The annual meeting will not be held in January as usual. The Foundation does plan to have a display at 4-H Club Day, and will be selling chances to win a lap quilt. Hoping that 4-Hers will be able to attend events in 2021 because the Foundation wants to help make this a possibility financially. Keep them in mind for club or personal donations!

4-H Club Day Presentations

It’s never too early to start thinking about what you would like to share about a favorite project, or present a talent that you have, like playing an instrument or performing a dance routine. Club Day provides the opportunity for you to present, be evaluated, and perhaps have a chance to take your demonstration to the Kansas State Fair in September.

Tentative dates for 2021 are Saturday, February 20, with a snow date of March 13. If we are not allowed to meet in schools at that time, we will look at alternate locations and formats. If required, think ahead on how you can complete your presentation virtually.

Seneca News

Achievement Celebration

We appreciate your understanding as we saw the need to postpone our November 14 Achievement Celebration due to COVID concerns. Stay tuned for details on how this will be completed in the days ahead.
Nov 30: Parent Remote Learning webinar
Dec 3: Project Partners Learn Together
Dec 7: Family Resilience webinar
Dec 8-10: Virtual Comp. Science Conf.
Dec 11: Pen Pal registration closes
Dec 14: Family Recovery webinar
Dec 15: Kansas Day photo contest due
Dec 17: Resistance & Return webinar
Dec 23: State Scholarships avail. Online
Jan 1: JF Co Fair Book changes due
Jan 4: Club Goals due
Jan 11: NM Co 4-H Council via Zoom
Jan 21: KAP screening volunt. Needed
Jan 25: JF Co 4-H Council meeting
Jan 29: KS Day photo contest ceremony
Feb 1: NM Fair Book changes due
Feb 11-14: Healthy Living Summit
Feb 15-20: Jr Swine Producer Week
Feb 20: JF Co/4-H Club Day Present.
Mar 4-7: Agri-Science Summit Online
Mar 6: Beef Weigh In, V.F.
Mar 15-20: Jr Meat Goat Prod. Week
Mar 20: Virtual Regional 4-H Club Day
Apr 28: Sheep & Goat Weigh In, V.F.
June 5: JF Co Tent, 4-H Carnival, V.F.
July 19-24: JA Co Fair/Carnival
July 22-26: NM Co Fair
July 26-30: JF Co Fair

Office Closed
- Christmas/New Years Break - Dec 24 through Jan 1, 2021
- Martin Luther King, Jr. - January 20, 2021

Inclement Weather/COVID-19

The Meadowlark Extension District may have limited office hours due to inclement weather. Please call before traveling in.

Due to a rapid increase in positive COVID-19 cases in our district and in Northeast Kansas, our offices will require all visitors to remain at the main office entrance until further notice. No face to face visits will be allowed unless all involved are practicing social distancing and the wearing of face masks. All office visitors are asked to stay no longer than 10 minutes per visit.

***A mask mandate is now in place for Jackson, Jefferson and Nemaha Counties. Therefore, masks will be required for all visitors to our Holton, Oskaloosa and Seneca offices.***

Holton Office
114 W. 5th St.
Holton, KS 66436-1778
785-364-4125

Oskaloosa Office
P.O. Box 326
100 East Washington
Oskaloosa, KS 66066-0326
785-863-2212

Seneca Office
1500 Community Dr.
Seneca, KS 66538-9808
785-336-2184