4-H Camp Options

We’ve not revisited the new 4-H Camp model since the announcement last fall that was direct mailed to all 4-H families. For those of you who are new to 4-H or might have forgotten what is happening with 4-H Camp at Rock Springs Ranch, here are the highlights.

- “County Camps” will no longer be happening. Rock Springs Ranch will be organizing and coordinating all aspects of the 4-H overnight camping experience. This means that those of you who are used to “Pioneer Trails” 4-H camp, will not see that as an option and we will not be collecting camp registration as in the past. However, for those who would like to target the same camp date regionally, the Extension units involved in the old Pioneer Trails group would suggest “session 4 dates June 19-22”. This is when our group would have camped together in 2022.

- Youth/Families can now select the time frame to attend 4-H Camp at the time that works best for you. You can register and pay for 4-H Camp directly at: https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/ Three-night and six-night options are available. Other options for camp outside of the “traditional” camper ages follow.

- Teen Camp: Rising High Schoolers, ages 14-17, will have their own teen camp opportunities. There won’t be “gap years,” and now older 4-H youth who don’t want to be a counselor, but do want to have a camp experience, will have options as well.

- L.I.T Camp: This is a teen leadership camp experience for 15 and 16-year old’s, rising 11th Graders. L.I.T. stands for Leaders In Training. LIT’s will have the opportunity to enjoy many parts of the RSR experience. Time will be split between leadership, community development programming and an introduction to camp staff positions.

- C.I.T. Camp: This Camp will be an age appropriate enhancement to the 4-H traditional teen Counselor experience. Teens, 16 to 17-year old’s, especially rising 12th Graders, may still come to camp as part of our new Counselor in Training (CIT) Camp. The main change here being that instead of being the 24/7 caregiver for a session of camp, they will just do it from breakfast to bedtime. These youth will be able to provide leadership to younger campers while also having their own community and camp experiences, all with the mentorship and supervision of 18 to 25-year-old youth development staff. L.I.T and C.I.T are the replacement experiences for our “traditional” 4-H camp teen counselors.

- Two sessions of Family Camp (June 3-5 & August 5-7) offer a chance for the entire family to attend camp at Rock Springs Ranch.

The 4-H camp model has shifted, but the same quality overnight camping experience will be available to all youth across Kansas. The major changes are how campers register for camp, shift to adult staff counselors for campers, removal of local Extension staff from program delivery at camp and the added opportunities for all youth ages 8-18. To view the full information document, visit: https://www.kansas4-h.org/4-h-programs/camp/docs/Direct%20Mailing%20to%204H%20Families.pdf and check out more at: https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/
Regional 4-H Club Day
Don’t forget to confirm your participation at Regional 4-H Club Day by **March 10** at the very latest, if you were a top entry at your local 4-H Club Day. The Regional 4-H Club Day event will be held in Atchison on Saturday, **March 19**, with those participating receiving additional information the week of **March 14**.

YQCA Reminder
Friendly reminder that there will be a round of face to face training sessions held in March for youth members to receive your annual YQCA certification to show/sell at fairs. Youth need to register BEFORE attending training at: [https://yqca.learngrow.io/](https://yqca.learngrow.io/) using 4HOnline login credentials. All the information related to YQCA can be found on the News page of our website and has been covered in past newsletters. Dates and times are as follows:

- **March 15**, 6:30 PM - Northeast Kansas Heritage Building, Holton
- **March 16**, 5:30 PM - Nemaha County Community Building, Seneca
- **March 23**, 6:30 PM - 4-H Fair Building, Valley Falls

One recurring question that has not been addressed in past correspondence is if Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification will “count” for YQCA? The short answer is NO. Although the quality assurance information overlaps, they are separate certification programs.

92nd Annual Hoard’s Dairyman Cow Judging Contest
You are invited to join the thousands of others who participate in this fun and educational picture judging contest. This interactive web-based portal contains all five classes, and allows you to submit your entries online and receive your scores by email at the completion of the contest. Cash prizes and framed certificates are awarded to winning individuals and groups. Also, each team member who is part of a group entry is eligible for individual prizes. Please go to [https://judging.hoards.com/](https://judging.hoards.com/) to register. This year’s contest entry **deadline** is Thursday, **March 24**.

Super 4-H Saturday—Hays Judging Contest
The Annual Super 4-H Saturday NW Judging Contest, which includes Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Photography and Livestock will be held at Fort Hays State University (FHSU), Hays, Kansas on Saturday, **March 26, 2022**. Indoor Judging will start at 9:30 AM and run until noon. You can judge one or all five contests. The Livestock judging registration will start at 12:30 PM with contest starting at 1:30 PM. Mark your calendars and watch for the final details to be announced soon.

Picture Perfect Photography Event
Shawnee County is hosting a “Picture Perfect” Photography Event on **April 24** in Topeka, led by 4-H club leaders. Programming will include: Hands-on classes in the park, online spotlights of careers in photography, youth photo judging contest, plus videos to improve technical skills. What to Bring: camera and/or smartphone, blanket to sit on, reusable drink container, colorful umbrella.

Register by **April 1** at [https://tinyurl.com/mamevyuy](https://tinyurl.com/mamevyuy). Informational flyer can be found at: [https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/creative-arts/Picture%20Perfect%20State%20Workshop%202022%20Flyer%20Updated%208.2.2022.pptx.pdf](https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/creative-arts/Picture%20Perfect%20State%20Workshop%202022%20Flyer%20Updated%208.2.2022.pptx.pdf)
Applications Due for Summer Inbound Exchanges
Families wishing to host students from Costa Rica, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan need to be completing hosting applications soon. These youth are ages 12-18, depending on the exchange program. The placements for families to host students from Japan will be managed within Kansas by Pam Van Horn, State Coordinator. Placements for students for Costa Rica, South Korea and Taiwan are managed by Mary Kay Munson. Families should submit online applications to States' 4-H International Exchange Programs. The same application can be used for all of these exchanges. The link to the application is found on the Kansas 4-H web page at: http://beanstalk.agronomy.ksu.edu and questions can be addressed to beanstalk@ksu.edu. Note that the registration deadline is Monday, February 28, 2022.

Update on Citizenship Washington Focus
Unfortunately, Kansas did not get enough registrations to fill our potential trip for 2022. While this is disappointing to all, we are happy to be able to offer an alternative option. Oklahoma 4-H has organized a CWF trip as well and is looking for people to help fill their group. Their trip would cost $2200, just as ours, but is scheduled for June 16-25. If this option still interests you, please contact the State 4-H office. Another option for those that aren’t 18 yet, would be to participate in the Kansas trip next year, with the hope to open registration by June 1, 2022, in able to allow for youth to raise funds to support the trip. Here is the link for more information about the Oklahoma trip: https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/citizenship-washington-focus/index.html Please email dsratliff@ksu.edu directly if you are interested in the Oklahoma CWF trip!

Hosting Japanese Exchange Summer 2022
Looking for some new fun and excitement this summer? Host a new friend from Japan in your home this summer, July 22–August 16. Kansas 4-H International Exchange Programs are offering hosting opportunities for 25-30 families this summer. Host families are needed who would be willing to host a Japanese boy or girl. The Japanese youth will be between the ages of 12 and 15. Our responsibility is to make host family assignments matching each delegate with an American same-gender host sibling as soon as possible so that families and exchange delegates can communicate and get to know each other. Any Kansas family with children aged 10-16, who is interested in the Japanese culture, may host. A separate bed is required, but not necessarily a separate room from the host sibling.

Delegates are 100 percent medically covered with 4-H insurance and bring their own spending money. They can go on host family vacations, camping trips, or join their host sibling for summer camps and the county fair. The focus is everyday family life. If you have further questions, please call Pam Van Horn, Kansas 4-H Japanese Exchange Coordinator, 785-826-8917, or email pvanhorn@ksu.edu.

2022 Willie and the Beanstalk Contest
You are invited to participate in the 2022 Willie and the Beanstalk contest! The contest is to see who can grow the biggest soybean plant in a 40-day period. Judging will take place on April 9 at the K-State Manhattan campus as part of the 2022 K-State Open House activities. All contestants who submit a plant for judging will receive a free t-shirt and there will be plaques and certificates for the winning teams. Additional information is available on the contest web site at http://beanstalk.agronomy.ksu.edu and questions can be addressed to beanstalk@ksu.edu. Note that the registration deadline is Monday, February 28, 2022.
**Swine Project Meeting**

Swine project members, mark your calendar! Project leaders from Jefferson County have organized a project meeting on **March 10** to start your year off right in the swine project. Please plan to meet at the Oskaloosa City Hall by 6:30 PM to learn about swine selection, feed/nutrition and care. Please register with the Extension office in Oskaloosa by **March 7**. A virtual/ Facebook Live will be shared on the Jefferson County 4-H Fair Facebook page.

**Leadership Event**

Are you in the Leadership Project and not sure what you should be doing? Well plan to attend the Leadership Crossover Event in Onaga. The Meadowlark District will be teaming up with Pottawatomie County for a 2-part series. Part one will be **March 20** at the Fairgrounds in Onaga with lots of food and fun. Part two will be a Day Retreat in **June** to be determined by the group. Please RSVP to the Seneca Extension office by **March 10**.

**Jefferson County Spring Beef Show**

4-H Beef exhibitors take note! The annual Jefferson County Spring Beef Show will be held Saturday, **March 26** at the fairgrounds in Valley Falls. This is one of the first spring shows of the season and a great opportunity to get your calves out. Entry forms need to be postmarked by Friday, **March 18**. A complete entry form with show information can be found on the Meadowlark District 4-H Events website and/or the state show list that is maintained in Manhattan https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/spring-shows/index.html

**Rabbit Clinic**

**March 27** will be a day for 4-Hers to learn all about rabbits! Activities will be held at the Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex Livestock barn at 1:00 PM. Topics include: selection, breed standards, showmanship, feeding/nutrition, daily care, preparing for show and more! Please RSVP to the Extension office in Holton by **March 24**. A flyer can be found on the Events page of the Meadowlark District 4-H website, https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/events.html.

**Poultry Opportunities**

Saturday, **April 9**, can be a full day of all things 4-H Poultry! The annual Jefferson County Spring Poultry Show will begin at 9:00 AM at the fairgrounds in Valley Falls. Entry form and fees are due **April 2** to Katie Rhodelander. A flyer with information and entry form can be found on the Events page of the Meadowlark District 4-H website for this show and the clinic, highlighted below.

An informational poultry clinic will be held later that afternoon, beginning at 4:00 PM at the Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex Livestock barn in Holton. Topics include: selection, showmanship & handling, feeding/nutrition, show preparation, breed standards and more! RSVP to the Extension office in Holton by **April 6**.

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**Why 4-H???**

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

“My favorite thing about 4-H is hanging out with my friends. I tell others about 4-H and all of the fun projects they could do. I hope to have more friends in 4-H next year.”
Club Day
Thank you to everyone that participated and the volunteers who helped make Club Day run smoothly. We had a great turnout and appreciated everyone for helping. Just a reminder that all results are posted on our website under the Jackson County page.

Rabbit Clinic
March 27 will be a day for 4-Hers to learn all about rabbits! Activities will be held at the Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex Livestock barn at 1:00 PM. Please RSVP to the Holton Extension office by March 24. A flyer can be found on the Events page of the Meadowlark District 4-H website.

Poultry Clinic
A poultry clinic will be Sat., April 9 beginning at 4:00 PM at the Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex Livestock barn in Holton. RSVP to the Extension office in Holton by April 6.

Project Meetings
Looking for ideas for Project Meetings for this upcoming spring. If there is something you would like to learn about or have someone interested in teaching please contact the office and let us know.

Fair Participation
As we ride out these winter months, think about what you can do to get your club active. Perhaps set a date aside from the monthly club meetings as a fun “project day” where each 4-Her walks away with a completed project they can display at the 2022 Jackson County Fair. Keep in mind that it is the “doing” that makes 4-H great. Getting active also allows for our 4-H youth to work alongside knowledgeable adults in completing a project or task.

Superintendents Needed
Superintendent sign up will be emailed out to all 4-H families. If you are interested in helping out during the fair, please fill out the form and return to the Extension Office. We are still needing help in following areas: Foods, Welding, Posters, Educational Displays & Notebooks, Wildlife.

Welcoming New Families
As new families come into your club, please make sure you have assigned someone to greet these families and make them feel welcome. Feeling welcome can be the difference between a family staying with the 4-H program for years to come, or dropping out after a few meetings. New Family Handbooks are available at the Extension Office to share with your new families.

Adding/Dropping Projects and Enrollment Status
The project add/drop deadline for new and returning 4-H’ers is May 1. 4-H members must be enrolled in the project by May 1 and be approved in 4-H Online to be eligible to exhibit in the corresponding project area at the Jackson County Fair. Project enrollment is an important component of the project experience. 4-H families can update this information any time in 4-H Online by simply clicking the Edit button in the Projects tab within the 4-H member’s profile. This option will be available through May 1 and after that the system will not allow any changes to be made to a 4-H member’s projects. If you have questions about project enrollment or the May 1 deadline, please contact your club leader or the Extension Office.

Important Dates

Regional Club Day
Those who received a Top Purple from Jackson, Nemaha, Jefferson, Brown, Doniphan, Atchison & Leavenworth Counties will have the opportunity to present at Regional Club Day on Saturday, March 19. This year the event will be held in person. Entries are due to the office by March 8.

Spring Leader Forum
We will hold the Spring Leader Forum on Tuesday, April 12, at 6:00 PM.

4-H Council Meeting
Our next Council meeting will be Thursday, April 14, at 7 PM at the Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex.

Livestock Tagging and Weigh-In
Don’t forget if you are planning to show market livestock you must have your animals weighed and tagged at a District weigh in or ID’d by the ID date. Tags must be paid for at weigh in and breed must be identified.

Sheep & Goats – May 12 from 6:00-7:00 PM at the Northeast Kansas Heritage Barn

Swine – All swine must be tagged and proper paperwork with pictures returned to the office by May 1.

If you have questions, please contact the Extension Office.

Fair Help Needed
Volunteers to help with the handing out Building Awards during the times listed at fair.
**Livestock Weigh-In**

1. Weigh-in/ID sheets for all species available at weigh-in.
2. Each animal specie has mandatory per animal fees which may include ear tag, scale fee and optional per animal fees of implanting and deworming (beef). Please have cash or checks, payable to Jefferson County 4-H Council, with you at weigh-in. Ear tags will be $3.50/tag for beef and $3.00/tag for other species.
3. Work with animals so they can be led into scales at weigh-in. Members of weigh-in committees reserve the right to refuse animals on the basis of animal temperament.

**Beef-Market Steers**

- Saturday, March 5—10:00-noon at Valley Falls Fairgrounds. Listen to local stations if cancellation due to weather or check JF website. Please enter upper south driveway to avoid congestion. Snow date is Saturday, March 12.
- Market beef steers, not weighed at this or another Meadowlark District Beef Weigh-In, are not eligible to show at the Fair. Let the office know if you plan to weigh at Jackson or Nemaha weigh-ins.
- Current Committee members are: Frank Boyce, Toni & Randy Reeves, Jason Roenne Family, Donny Smith Family & Kris & Karson Kahler.

**Sheep and Goat**

- Wednesday, April 27, 6:00-8:00 PM at 4-H Fairgrounds, Valley Falls

**Space Tech/Rocketry Meetings—Save the Dates!**

3:00 PM at the Fair Building on Sundays: February 27 (beginners’ intro to project, kit selection), March 27, and April 24 (seasoned/new members work on rockets and Q&A time). Registering with office one week prior is helpful in case handouts are provided.

**Jeff. Co. 4-H Scholarships**

If you are a High School Senior, College Freshman or working towards a career/technical education pathway during your Junior or Senior year(s) of high school, then you are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Check out the Oskaloosa webpage, talk to your school counselor, or contact the office for more information. Application due in office on March 15 by 4:30 PM.

**Poultry Show**

If you are enrolled in the Poultry project, plan to attend this show! It is Saturday, April 9—8:00 AM at Valley Falls Fairgrounds. You will learn a lot by volunteering to help set up, judging and talking to others. Call Katie Rhodelander at 785-231-0413 with questions or to volunteer. Check out the events page, [https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/events.html](https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/events.html) for registration form which is due April 2.

**Congrats!**

We had two 4-Hers chosen from NE Area Screening to advance for state project award consideration. They are Clara Johnson of the Winchester 4-H Club in Family Studies, Rabbits, and STEM-Energy Management, and Heath Allen of the Valley Victors Club in STEM-Space Tech. Wishing them the best at the state level!
News from the Seneca Office

Clubs Day
Thank you to all who participated and the volunteers who helped make Club Day run smoothly. We had a nice turn out and very talented presenters. Just a reminder all results are posted on our website under the Seneca Office - Nemaha tab.

Food Stand Committee Meet
If you signed up to be on the 4-H Council Food Stand Committee, we will meet Monday, April 11 at 6:30 PM before the Council Meeting. We will be planning the menu and going over any needs for the Concession Stand. Every club is asked to have at least 2 representatives from their club on this committee. This does not include those that are on 4-H Council. Please make sure you let Deb know who will be on the committee from your club.

Council Events Scholarship
Have you attended or plan to attend a state camp this year? Help pay for it by applying for the Council’s Events Scholarship. It is a good idea to print that off and be making notes of what you have done, as far as the check offs needed. [Link]

Help Us Find Missing Camp Photos
We are still missing a few 4-H Camp photos. If you or someone you know has photos from 1968, 1976, 1980, 1983, 1987, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2002, or 2004 please contact Deb. We would like to scan your photo so we can put it up on our display. Please ask family and friends who attended camp any of these years to dig those photos out and help us complete our display.

Kansas Pride Theme
At the last 4-H Council meeting it was voted to have the Kansas Pride Theme as “Kansas Agriculture”.

Project Meetings
Are you looking for ideas for Project Meetings this spring? If there is something you would like to learn about or have someone interested in teaching, please contact Deb. Be watching your emails for some possible project meetings in the near future.

Virtual Judging
We have several different judging opportunities on our website that you can participated in at any time. These are open to anyone and is a great way to try something new and see how you do. They do change so make sure to watch the website [Link]

Congratulations
We are happy to announce two of our 4-Hers Project Award Recognition have been chosen to go on to state judging. John Langill will send his Dairy and Isabelle Walker her Communications and Health & Wellness. Best of luck to both of them.

Photo Opportunity
How would you like for a picture you took to be on the cover of the 2022 fairbook? Pictures need to be based on this year’s fair theme “4-H is How We Roll”. You do not have to be in the Photography project to do this. These photos can be taken anytime not just this year. Please submit your photo to dahenry@ksu.edu before April 1.

Superintendents Needed
If you are interested in being a Superintendent of a certain area, please contact Deb at her email, dahenry@ksu.edu.

4-H Discount
Reminder, 4-Hers can receive a discount on their purchases at KU, Bomgaars and JoAnn Fabric. Make sure to ask about this when you get ready to check-out.

Important Dates

Regional Club Day
Those who received a Top Purple from Nemaha, Jackson, Jefferson, Brown, Doniphan, Atchison, and Leavenworth Counties will have the opportunity to present at Regional Club Day on Saturday, March 19 at the Atchison Grade School. Entries are due to the office by March 7.

Leadership Event
Are you in the Leadership Project and not sure what you should be doing? Well plan to attend the Leadership Crossover Event. We will be teaming up with Pottawatomie County for a 2-part series. Part one will be March 20 at the Fairgrounds in Onaga with lots of food and fun. Part two will be a Day Retreat in June determined by the group. Please RSVP to the extension office by March 10.

4-H Council Meeting
Our next Council meeting will be Monday, April 11, 7:30 PM at the Community Building.

Livestock Tag/Weigh-In
Don’t forget if you are planning to show market livestock you must have your animal weighed and tagged at a District weigh-in.
- Sheep and Goat weigh in Saturday, April 23, at fairgrounds 7:30-8:30 AM.
- All Swine animals must be tagged and proper paperwork with pictures returned to the office before May 1.

If you have questions, please contact the Extension Office.

Fair Dates
Mark your calendars for the Nemaha County Fair July 28–Aug 1. Pre-fair judging will be on Wednesday July 20.
Mar. 1: Fairbook changes due, NM State Scholarship Deadline
Mar. 4: Vol. Excellence Award appl due
Mar. 5: Club Day, Jackson Heights Beef Weigh-In, VF Jr. Beef Producer Day
Mar. 6: Beef Weigh-In, Holton
Mar. 7: Swine Project Meeting register
Mar. 10: Reg Club Day confirm Swine Project Meeting Leadership Event RSVP
Mar. 15: YQCA Training, Holton JF Co Scholarship appl. due
Mar. 16: YQCA Training, Seneca
Mar. 20: Leadership Event, Onaga
Mar. 23: YQCA Training, Valley Falls
Mar. 24: Cow Judging entry deadline Rabbit Clinic RSVP
Mar. 26: Spring Beef Show, VF Hays Judging Contest
Mar. 27: Space Tech/Rocketry Meet Rabbit Clinic, Holton
Mar. 28: 4-H Council Meeting, VF
Mar. 31: Foundation Meeting, VF
Apr. 1: Pic for Fairbook Cover due, NM
Apr. 2: Poultry Show registration, VF
Apr. 6: Poultry Clinic RSVP, Holton
Apr. 9: Spring Poultry Show, VF Poultry Clinic, Holton Willie & Beanstalk Contest
Apr. 11: Food Stand Comm. Meeting 4-H Council Meeting, Seneca
Apr. 12: Spring Leader Forum, Holton
Apr. 14: 4-H Council Meeting, Holton
Apr. 23: Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, Seneca
Apr. 24: Photography Event, Topeka Space Tech/Rocketry Meeting
Apr. 27: Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, VF
Apr. 30: GeoCAT Amb Appls. Due May 1: Swine ID due to offices
May 12: Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, Holton
June 16-25: Oklahoma CWF trip
June 21-25: GeoCAT Amb. Training

CONGRATULATIONS to all the 4-H Members who submitted 4-H Project Reports to the Northeast Regional Records judging event. Ten Meadowlark Extension District 4-H youth sent twenty Project Reports, in sixteen project areas. Of those four members with seven project areas have been selected to go on to State judging. We wish the following 4-Hers best of luck as they work towards the possibility of being named a State 4-H project winner.

Heath Allen: STEM: Space Tech;
Clara Johnson: Family Studies, Rabbits, STEM: Energy Management;
John Langill: Dairy and
Isabelle Walker: Communications, Health and Wellness.