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

MAJOR CHANGE IN THE FAIR ENTRY PROCESS
As most of you know, ALL project work (livestock and static) that you would like judged at the fair MUST be entered in our new Fair Entry program. Please see the enclosed instructional tip sheets to help you through this process. Entries must be completed by July 1st. With any new system there will be questions as we learn this together. Let us know of any problems you find and please don’t wait until the last minute to start the entry process!

FAIR SCHEDULE is enclosed and posted to the Oskaloosa website.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND SHOWRING CODE OF ETHICS
If you haven’t turned these forms in already to your club leaders, NOW is the time to do so! The Code of Conduct form is required yearly, and the Showring Code of Ethics (for all livestock exhibitors) once in your 4-H career. If you are not sure whether you have completed, check the list that each club leader received earlier this year. Due in office by July 1st.

OFFICE DROP BOX AVAILABLE
Normal office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm. If you can’t make it to the office during this time, there is a drop box outside the south main entrance that forms can be left in.

GENERAL LIVESTOCK INFORMATION
Livestock Premium Sale Requirement Form—If you plan to sell an animal at the auction, make sure you complete the Livestock Premium Sale Requirement Form and turn it into your club leader for their required signature. Clubs must turn in forms to office by July 1, so don’t wait until the last minute to get it to your club leader.

Bucket Calf Parade Script—Anyone participating in the Bucket Calf Parade will need to write their own script and give it to the Bucket Calf Superintendent by noon on Tuesday, July 27th. Scripts should include name of child, parents, and calf, 4-H club, and theme of costume for calf and 4-H members. It should be ready to be read as is.

YQCA Training—Don’t forget that if you have not completed YQCA yet, and plan to sell an animal in the livestock auction, you must have this training completed by July 1st. Online training is your only option at this point. Thanks to all of you who have gotten this done!

FAIR BOOKS
Fair Books will be electronic again this year. It can be found on the Oskaloosa website, along with fair schedules. Please review the general rules and your project areas closely. Reading carefully, and contacting the office or your club leader with questions, will help you be more prepared for the fair.
NEW 4-H MEMBERS
One of the great things about our 4-H family is that you can always find someone who is willing to offer a helping hand or provide information to your family. Club meetings are important to attend and are a valuable information source. Don’t hesitate to ask questions to your club leaders, or the office, when you need help. Office staff can be reached at 785-863-2212.

FAIR PREMIUM DONORS WANTED
We appreciate our fair premium donors who contribute yearly to help with awarding all of our 4-Hers who had fair entries. 4-Hers receive premium checks following the fair, with the amount based on their placings. If you would like to be part of this donor group, please contact the office for more information.

HAS YOUR 4HONLINE ACCOUNT INFORMATION CHANGED?
If you have had a change since enrollment in address, email, phone numbers, or medical information, please make these changes in your online account. We don’t want you to miss out on important information we need to get to you.

CLOTHING PROJECT MEMBERS
Information regarding judging and fashion revue will be mailed to all members soon.

PHOTO-MOUNTING
Mounting boards and sleeves are available at the office during normal business hours. Cost is $5.50/pack of five boards and plastic sleeves. There will be a photo-mounting workshop held before the next Council meeting on Monday, July 12th, from 6:30-7:30 pm. Boards will be available for purchase at the workshop.

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

FAIR CONCESSION STAND
The concession stand will be open this year as normal! Make sure you know when your club shift is and be there to help. If you have a schedule conflict, work during another club’s shift. Make sure to sign-in, as this is tracked for your Premium Sale Requirements. Adults are needed to make change for each shift, help the cooks and many other responsibilities.

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

No ribbon or award will last as long as the things young people learn. This event is just one part of the learning process. When fun is the focus, young people learn and grow. This is the 4-Hers event. Work with them, not instead of them. Assist and support them in a positive way. Each young person is a winner for trying. Encouragement from one adult can make a big difference in a child’s life. Kids are watching you today. They are learning from your words and example. Winning is NOT the most important thing that happens at this event. Focus on their efforts, not the outcomes. No matter what the member’s project is, focus of the volunteer, parent, superintendents must be the 4-H MEMBER! Youth are more important than the items made or grown. *Be a role model. *Be sincere. *Be positive. *Be friendly. *Be helpful.

Poultry Testing at Fair

With national shortages of poultry testing antigen, 4-H Poultry project members have gotten out of the habit of testing poultry for Pullorum/Typhoid over the past couple years. With a re-supply of antigen, the testing requirement for all poultry (except waterfowl) will be in effect for 2021. Times have been set up with the Kansas Department of Agriculture for Thursday, July 8. Testing will be at the fairgrounds in Seneca from 3PM to 4PM, then Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex in Holton from 5:30-7PM. Local testing for Jefferson will be held closer to fair. Please reach out if you have questions or concerns about this process.

4-H Horticulture Judging

The State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest is scheduled to be held Saturday, August 14, 2021 on the campus of Kansas State University, Manhattan. The reopening of campus is planned, and we are still waiting on some specifics about how this can take place. The study material will continue for 2021. It is taken from a variety of Healthy Yard Videos detailed on the Kansas 4-H Website on the Horticulture Judging Contest page. [https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/contests/horticulture-judging/index.html](https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/contests/horticulture-judging/index.html) Contact the Extension office before August 1, if you are interested in this opportunity.

Preparing Horticulture Fair Entry Resources

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

Some of you may be more visual learners. The University of Illinois Extension has prepared a series of videos on Youtube, about how to prepare produce for the fair. These videos give step by step instructions on how to select and groom various types of vegetables. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6H5dIgI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6H5dIgI)

48 Hours of 4-H

Save the date now for 48 Hours of 4-H! The weekend after National 4-H Week, is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project and join the 48 Hours of 4-H Service Challenge, October 9-10, 2021. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers and 4-H Alums too! By starting to discuss and plan now, you can find the perfect project for your group and engage important partners and it might just be the perfect way to start the New 4-H Year! More information will be shared in the coming months.
Livestock Sweepstakes
The 2021 Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is tentatively scheduled for August 21-22. The 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes event includes the state 4-H livestock judging contest, meat judging contest, livestock skillathon, and livestock quiz bowl. Updates will be announced as more information from the University regarding events becomes available. Regardless of the format, an opportunity for youth to display their knowledge of the livestock industry will be held. Contact Ross before July 31 if interested!

Salina All-Breeds Dairy Show
The Dairy Action Team is pleased to announce that the 2021 Kansas All Breeds Junior Dairy Show is scheduled for August 12, 13 & 14 at the Saline County Livestock and Expo Center in Salina. More details on this year’s event and how to register will be coming out July 1. https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/dairy/jr-dairy-show/ K-State Research & Extension and the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce are excited to team up again to bring this unique opportunity to the dairy youth of Kansas. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for the 2021 Kansas Jr. Dairy Show!

2021 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Swine Classic
This annual event is scheduled for July 9-10, at the Riley County Fairgrounds in CiCo Park, Manhattan. This two-day event includes an educational swine skillathon, photography contest, showmanship, and a prospect and market hog show. It is open to all Kansas youth ages7-18 as of January 1, 2021. Online entries are required at http://bit.ly/21SwineClassicEntry Checks to accompany entry must be postmarked by June 15.

Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and KJLS Entry Information
The entry deadlines for the state youth livestock shows are approaching. Remember that a complete nomination does NOT constitute entry; it is only the first step in animals being eligible for the state fair and KJLS. Entries for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive (4-H/FFA youth livestock show) are due July 15. Entries are being accepted now through their website. All animals must be entered directly through the state fair using the online system, which is ShoWorks. Only online entries will be accepted. For more information, visit https://www.kansasstatefair.com/p/participate/grand-drive. Entries for KJLS will be due by August 15, also using ShoWorks. However, they are separate shows, so families will need to create a new account when entering KJLS. All exhibitors must register online, using the link found on the KJLS website: https://kjls.org/. Families are encouraged to enter early in order to avoid missing the deadline and experiencing technical difficulties. Exhibitors also need to read the rules for each show before submitting their entries. Questions regarding entries need to be directed to each show, as they manage their own entry processes.

2021 Kansas 4-H State Wheat Expo in Wichita-Area
The 2021 wheat expo will be one of Kansas 4-H’s first face-to-face state 4-H events since COVID-19 shut down physical/face-to-face 4-H programming in March 2020. We are excited to bring the wheat expo back for a fun, educational and hands-on program in person for all Kansas 4-H members, siblings, parents, grandparents, and KSRE Extension staff.
The Kansas 4-H State Wheat Expo is a wheat fun day showcasing all things wheat. Join us for the annual event in early August tentatively scheduled in Wichita-area. There will be eight contests open to youth members with cash prizes and ribbons awarded. Cost will be $6.00 per person registration cost for using the CVent registration system. Registration will go live by June
Capture What's Great in Midwest States 4-H Photography Challenge

It’s time to get out and explore the Midwest states. 4-H is again challenging youth of all ages to grab a camera and head outdoors. This time, the challenge is to capture the places that make your state great. The Capture What’s Great in Midwest States 4-H Photography Challenge is an effort to promote creativity, healthy living and outdoor exploration. Youth should highlight something that stands out about their town, county, state or travels to another Midwest state. There are many hidden gems in the Midwest so get out and capture them.

Eligibility is open to youth in grades K-13 in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Submissions will be accepted through June 30. Find more information at [https://z.umn.edu/Midwest-states-photo-challenge](https://z.umn.edu/Midwest-states-photo-challenge).

Once registered for the challenge, youth can get creative and show what makes the Midwest states great. Subject matter is open to all things Midwest. On-demand lessons are available on the Minnesota 4-H Photography Project page, including how angles, light and composition to enhance your photography. Youth may submit up to three of their favorite photos of what makes the Midwest great for this challenge.

Submitted photos will be displayed in a slideshow. Volunteer photography judges will provide feedback and recognize the top quality images. All participants will have their names entered in a random drawing for prizes. The 4-H photography project is a youth development offering of the University of Minnesota Extension: Learn more at: [https://z.umn.edu/4h-photography](https://z.umn.edu/4h-photography).

Why Do We Receive Purple, Blue, Red and White Ribbons in 4-H?

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

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

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

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

A blue ribbon 4-H member with a red ribbon exhibit is more desirable than a red ribbon 4-H member with a blue ribbon exhibit!
PHOTO CONTEST SPONSORED BY THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The beauty of Kansas agriculture has been celebrated throughout the state’s ag industry, and we encourage photographers to capture that beauty and share it with others through the Kansas Department of Agriculture’s annual photo contest. KDA began accepting photos on June 7, and will continue accepting entries through August 16.

This year’s KDA Photo Contest categories were selected to promote different aspects of Kansas agriculture. Kansas Weather, Celebrating Local Foods, Water in Kansas and Rural Kansas categories will showcase the many places and ways we experience agriculture across the state of Kansas — from the beauty of the Flint Hills and the western plains to the family-run local ranches and colorful farmers’ markets, and the many ways that weather and water have an impact on Kansas agriculture. And for the first time ever, we have added a Video category to showcase drone footage, harvest videos, or other short clips of under 30 seconds. As always, there will be a separate Youth category, for young photographers under age 19. Prizes will be awarded to the top two winners in each of the six categories.

KDA serves to advocate for agriculture, the state’s largest industry and economic driver. Photos which best capture the categories will be used throughout the year as we tell the story of Kansas agriculture. After submission, KDA is granted permission to use any photograph for publications, social media, websites, displays, etc. without payment or other consideration from the photographer.

Photo entries should be sent in .jpg format to KDA.PhotoContest@ks.gov. Videos should be sent in .mp4 or .mov format. Entries must include a title and brief description, where and when the photo/video was taken, the photographer’s full name and age, entry category hometown and email address.

Guidelines for the KDA Photo Contest, including deadlines, categories and prizes, can be found at agriculture.ks.gov/photocontest. Voting to select finalists will begin on KDA’s social media sites in late August. For more information, contact Heather Lansdowne, KDA director of communications, at Heather.Lansdowne@ks.gov or 785-564-6706.

— Kansas Department of Agriculture

ALL 4-H FAMILIES

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

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

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT THE FAIR!
GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR PROJECT WORK!