

4-H Clover News

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Ford County Monthly Newsletter

August 2020

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Check us out on the web!

www.ford.ksu.edu
www.kansas4-h.org



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Don K. Wiles Arena at Fairgrounds....

I have been asked this year and in previous years, who is Don K. Wiles and why is the small livestock arena named after him? I realize most current 4-H members probably had never met him and because he recently passed away, you never will have a chance to visit with him. I had the pleasure to work with Don here in the Extension Office for over 10 years. I learned a lot from him and always enjoyed his visits even after he retired. Don was a past Extension Agent here in Ford County for over 40 years. He first came to Ford County from Nebraska, where he was an Extension Agent, to serve as the County 4-H Agent. He then moved to Clark County and was their Agriculture agent until transferring back to Ford County in 1964, where he served as the Agriculture Agent and worked with 4-H and other youth with livestock judging, land judging, livestock and other ag related projects. He was nationally known for his land and soil judging teams from Ford County (many teams placing in the top 5 or winning)! Some of our current 4-H parents were members of these teams. Many of their winning plaques and trophies are in the trophy cases in the Fair Building. Take a few minutes and look the next time you are there. Several have pictures of the teams.

Don retired in 1991 after a 41 year career in the Cooperative Extension Service!! Don was well known with in our county for his agriculture advise but specifically for horticulture and his love for trees.

After retirement he served as a Ford County Commissioner, serving two consecutive terms. He was presented numerous awards during his life, of note having the livestock arena at the 4-H Fairgrounds named in his honor. Don was extremely involved in many organizations to include the Kansas Agriculture Extension Services, Kansas State University, Dodge City Community College, Dodge City Chamber of Commerce, Dodge City/Ford County Santa Fe Trail Chapter, Dodge City Senior Center, The Dodge City Shade Tree Commission, Optimist Club, AMBUCS, Ford County Historical Society, and writing "Words from Wiles" for the Dodge City Daily Globe for many years.

Don died on Tuesday, July 28 at the age of 93 and is survived by his wife, Donitta Wiles; three children, Deborah Gregoire, Denise Kline, and Dennis Wiles; four grandchildren and three great grandchildren; and a sister.

I hope the next time you see the "Don K. Wiles Arena" sign you will remember the dedication he had for Extension and his love of teaching the youth here in Ford County.

Ethel Schneweis



THANK
YOU

THANK YOU REMINDER...

You will be receiving a list in the mail of Thank You's you need to write from the fair association soon. Your premium checks will be ready to pick up in the Extension Office (100 Gunsmoke St.) after that. The required Thank You's on your list will be for the sponsors who donated for *grand champion premium, reserve grand champion medallions, miscellaneous awards, belt buckles, livestock/foods auction premium and additional add-ons you received from the fair.*

To receive your premium check, you will need to bring in the 'ready-to-mail' thank you cards and check list you received in the mail to the Extension Office. (A 'ready-to-mail' thank you includes a thank you card with an envelope, mailing address, return address and a stamp.) Even if you do not know the mailing address of the business or person you are writing to, please put their name on the envelope and we can fill out the rest.

Please write your thank you's and pick up your checks in a timely manner.

Clubs and families can write a general Thank You and have members or siblings sign just one vs several thank you cards. Let us know if your club does this so we can mark it off. We will have a large Thank You for Victory Electric (t-shirts); Winter Livestock (premium sale), Ford County Commissioners and possibly other general sponsors for members to sign at the office, so you will not need to do an individual thank you to them. Check with us to be sure if we have a specific sponsor.

More information on awards and ribbon pickup will be sent to exhibitors at a later date. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

PREMIUM AUCTION SALE

We hope you had a chance to check out the online auction this year. We want to acknowledge and thank Winter Livestock for working with us to provide this option this year!! A big THANK YOU to Brian Winter and Tanner Turley for all your help!! We thought the sale went very well and had people tell us they enjoyed seeing the exhibitors pictures.

If you exhibited livestock/food that sold through the online auction this year, remember it is YOUR responsibility to thank the individuals, businesses, or organizations that paid your premium for your animal. A list of who provided your premium was emailed out to all members who sold an animal or champion foods after the sale. (Those who sold foods will need to make arrangements to deliver their food to the sponsor.) Please take the time to thank them properly. If we want our auction to grow in attendance and dollars, we need to make sure our buyers know they are appreciated!

County Fair Thanks from Andrea, Ethel and Cassie

This year's Fair was different from anything in our past! We all missed our usual opportunity to socialize with our friends and family and just hang out at the Fairgrounds for several days with other 4-H'ers.

We also missed seeing your families, past members, grandparents, etc. We had a short time to prepare for the fair and we would have preferred to have the fair just like we have always had. We do appreciate your support and understanding with all the changes and restrictions. We know it wasn't the fair we all wanted, but we made the best of our situation!

Please let us know if there was something you thought worked extremely well and would like us to consider for next year. We will be using the FairEntry Program again for pre-entries, programs, cards, etc.

RATE OF GAIN FOR BEEF

Rate of Gain information can be found on our Extension website or by coming into the Extension Office or contacting Andrea. Congratulations to Kyle Ruehle for receiving Grand Champion and David Fischer for Reserve Grand Champion.

BEEF CARCASS WINNER

Congratulations to Eli Holeman. His market beef animal receives the Grand Champion Beef Carcass Award! Ethan Holeman's steer received Reserve Grand Champion. Complete Beef Carcass results is available at the office.

County Fair Exhibits and Ribbons

4-H fairs are used to provide youth with opportunities to have their work judged against a set of standards. To plan, practice, and present a finished product is to "learn by doing." The exhibit is not an end in itself, nor does it illustrate all of the learning that has taken place during the 4-H year. An important goal of 4-H is to teach skills to young people that they can use now, as a youth, and in later life. Standards of excellence help 4-H'ers to evaluate the skills they are learning. Standards of excellence can be useful for products (skirts, cookies, tomatoes, livestock, etc.) and skills (speaking, decision making, demonstrating, etc.).

The Ford County Fair uses the Danish System to evaluate exhibits. Here is a brief explanation of ribbons.

DANISH SYSTEM The Danish system of judging is a method of evaluation where an exhibit or process is evaluated against a set of standards, and recognition is awarded on the degree to which the standard has been met by each 4-H member. The standards of excellence are often printed on a judge's scorecard, and allows for the exhibit to be judged on one's own merit, and not in comparison with others in the class. The following ribbons apply:

PURPLE (Class Champion) and **LAVENDER** (Reserve Class Champion): Superior, outstanding on all standards. *Everything done as it should be for the age of the child with a Wow factor.*

BLUE: Excellent, minor improvements needed. Exceeds minimum standards. *Done like it should be done for the age of the child could also have one thing that should have been done differently*

RED: Good, some improvements needed. Meets minimum standards. *Still a good project but had more than one thing that could have been improved.*

WHITE: Fair, denotes much improvement needed. Fails to meet minimum standards. *The project needs much improvement for the age of the child.*

First determination is White through Blue, then from the Blue projects each Class names a Champion & Reserve Champion, from Class champions, then selection of division Grand & Reserve Grand Champions.

We hope you will review the judge's comments, consider what they have written, but also remember this is one person's opinion on one specific day. There is no shame in receiving a ribbon lower than a blue. This only means you have room for improvement in the eyes of this specific judge.

Shout Outs & Thanks

- ALL of the **Fair Board Members and superintendents** for a GREAT FAIR, even with all the changes and precautions for COVID—19, for all the pre-planning & working at this year's fair!
- To all 4-H'ers and their families for adapting and participating in the County Fair at the level they felt comfortable.
- To our Ambassadors who helped announce for all of our shows. You did a great job!

Kansas State Fair UPDATE!

Kansas 4-H is working on the details to provide virtual alternatives for each state fair division listed: Clothing/Fiber Arts, Crops, Energy Management, Entomology, Fashion Revue, Forestry, Food Preservation, Foods – Nutrition, Geology, Home Environment, Horticulture, Photography, Public Presentations, Rabbit, Shooting Sports, SpaceTech, Wildlife, Woodworking

Providing youth with quality educational feedback for their project-based learning remains a high priority for Extension and the Kansas State Fair. Youth will be able to display, through virtual means, their State Fair quality exhibit and showcase the knowledge they've developed while participating in 4-H projects.

We in Kansas 4-H who organize State Fair judging are hard at work retooling the exhibiting experience so 4-H youth are given an opportunity to receive exhibit feedback and a ribbon evaluation. We appreciate the time and effort extension professionals and volunteers have invested in preparing youth for State Fair throughout the year.

Registration information, revised rules, a tentative schedule and more details for the alternative format will be communicated after Aug. 17. The new registration deadline will be released with the other details soon.

While our methods are changing, our Kansas 4-H and K-State Research and Extension mission remain the same.



Announcement

Kansas State Fair has approved support for a virtual judging alternative for 4-H Youth who qualify to advance to the State Fair level in their project area.

Kansas 4-H is working on the details to provide virtual alternatives for each state fair division listed:

- Clothing/Fiber Arts
- Crops
- Energy Management
- Entomology
- Fashion Revue
- Forestry
- Food Preservation
- Foods – Nutrition
- Geology
- Home Environment
- Horticulture
- Photography
- Public Presentations
- Rabbit
- Shooting Sports
- SpaceTech
- Wildlife
- Woodworking

RECORD BOOKS/KAP'S?

Why turn in a Record Book/KAP?

The Record Book is an organized summary of your entire 4-H experience that contains a comprehensive report of your goals, plans and accomplishments. It is one way to make a formal review of your goals and achievements and is a helpful tool to plan your own growth for the future. Your records and report will be a good keepsake for years after you've finished your 4-H career. The record you build opens doors to many awards and benefits such as medals, trips, scholarships and other kinds of recognitions. Completing a record book will make it easier when applying for scholarships/state awards.

4-H Members develop the following life skills through record keeping:

- * Maintaining records of 4-H project and club work, school and community activities
- * Keeping personal and business records
- * Improving communication with other people
- * Learning time management and organizational skills
- * Learning responsibility and developing goal setting skills

Do I have to do a Record Book/KAP for EVERY project I'm enrolled in?

The answer to that question is **NO!** Only fill out a record for the projects you would like to be considered for an award in. For example, Suzy is enrolled in Beef, Foods and Visual Arts. She only actively participated in the Beef and Visual Arts Projects during the year. She did take one entry of cookies to the fair. Because she was highly active in Beef and Visual Arts, these are the projects she would consider doing a KAP for.

What kind of awards can I apply for?

Each of the 30 project areas will award a certain number (a percentage of the total number of 4-H'ers enrolled in the project) of 'project pins' to the award winners.

Visit: <https://www.ford.k-state.edu/4-h/forms/recordbook.html>

To find all of the forms needed to fill out your record books. Most forms are available in a form fillable PDF, Word Doc, or RTF, or we can provide you with a copy!

Additional resources include at the website:

4-H Record Books - Purpose ; KAP Q & A; KAP Intro & General Instructions; Project Goals; Knowledge & Skills Learned in Project; Citizenship vs Leadership; Planning for Leadership Roles; etc.

START NOW ON RECORD BOOKS & AWARDS FORMS

With the end of the 4-H year in sight, there is some paperwork/record keeping that must be taken care of! **The following forms and applications must be turned in to your club leaders on or before the date they specify (typically late September).**

KAPS and Award applications are due into our office by October 1. Attached is the **NEW Record Book Check in Sheet** to replace the old Awards Designation form.

RECORD BOOKS

Remember, all 4-H'ers (with the exception of Cloverbuds) should complete a 4-H record book. All record book forms are available from our website at www.ford.ksu.edu. Please make sure you use the correct age forms.

A complete record book includes:

Personal Page

4-H Story -one for each projected KAP—one for each projected

(Junior -7-9 age fill out the KAP for 7-8 year olds; Seniors 10 and older — fill out the KAP for 14 & older. Members younger than 14 can receive county awards and members who are older are eligible for area judging.)

4-H Permanent Record (brought forward from previous year).



If you do not have internet access, please contact the Extension Office. If you need help or get confused, please call the office!

ACHIEVEMENT PIN APPLICATIONS

These applications are due with your Record Book. "Pin Apps" are an easy one or two page application for a 4-H'er to fill out each year. These forms are available on our website or in the office. With COVID -19 consider any Virtual meetings or activities you participated in when filling out your forms.

KEY AWARD

The Key Award is given to youth 16 years or older, who have completed 4 years of 4-H membership, and who have been enrolled in the leadership project for more than 4 years. Youth must meet an additional requirements. It is a very prestigious award, and we encourage all who are eligible to apply! Again, the form is available on our website and has been modified for 2020 due to COVID-19.

CLUB OFFICER NOTEBOOKS

Reporters, Secretaries, Treasurers...did you know you can turn your notebooks in for county judging? Turn it in by due date to your club leader.

4-H AMBASSADOR/EXCHANGE MEETING



Come check out our Ambassador/Exchange group and what all they do. Consider joining for next year. Ask any of the current members about our yearly activities and about their exciting past exchanges with other states. We will be hosting the Delaware 4-H delegation next summer as they were unable to travel to Kansas this year. Please let Ethel know if you are interested in joining this next year and plan to attend **the next meeting on August 24 at 7 pm at the Fair Building.**

Ages requirements for the Ambassador/Exchange Group is: 12 and up for Ambassadors; 12-13 for in-state Exchange; 14 and up for state-to-state Exchange; and for the group's Officers - ages 14 and up.

Ambassadors serve a leadership role in our county. It is their responsibility to promote 4-H to the public and within our own organization. This is our prime leadership development group.

The Cultural Exchange program is designed to help youth gain more independence, a greater appreciation for other parts of the state and country, new friends, and new experiences. It is a **two-year** commitment. It is recommended that you enroll in the self-determined project to receive credit for the many activities and experiences you will have while in Exchange, but it is not required. **This is a youth group with parent support and involvement.**

August or September Meeting Suggestions

With the new 4-H year starting soon, your club may be conducting officer elections in September. Since the new year begins in October, new officers should be elected so they can attend county officer's training and begin their new duties.

When considering running for a club officer position you need to consider what the duties of each office are. Before elections take place, your club leader or a current officer needs to explain the duties of each office; share any qualifications needed to run for office; attendance, participation... ; discuss the need to elect members for their ability rather than for their popularity; and discuss the procedures to be followed in the election.

When electing someone to be your club's 4-H Council representative, consider if they will be able to attend most of the meetings, be able to represent the club in decisions and be able to report back to the club from the council meeting.

Meeting our Families Expectations ... Things to consider.

Below are some excerpts from a State 4-H publication entitled Seven Keys to Consider: Exceeding Family Expectations in 4-H Club; explains what families are looking for when attending 4-H club meetings. These concepts were based on: "Inside the Magic Kingdom: Seven Keys to Disney's Success", written by Tom Connellan.

- ◆ The competition is anyone the customer compares you with. Who is our competition? As for 4-H youth development, most of us can quickly list the obvious: Scouts, Sports, Boys & Girls Club and/or Big Brothers & Big Sisters. However, competition can be found even beyond that. Essentially Disney believes that their competition is anyone who raises customer expectations – because if someone else satisfies customers better than you, no matter what type of business, you suffer by comparison.
What are people's expectations when they come to a 4-H club meeting? How is the club meeting those expectations?
- ◆ Pay fantastic attention to detail. How little things make a big difference.
In our 4-H Clubs, if we knew that increased attention to detail would improve 4-H Family retention, how much more attention would a club be willing to focus on it? What are people's first impressions of 4-H?
- ◆ Everyone walks the talk. Everyone in club leadership needs to "walk the talk". Actions speak louder than words. There are things that obviously need to be accomplished. Some things may be one person's specific role. Others may be something all of us should consider a part of our role.
What are some of those things everyone in club leadership should be doing? How can this common sense lesson turn into common practice?
- ◆ Everyone makes a difference. Every person has a role—and they are all equally important to the overall experience. In 4-H Clubs, everyone has a role to play and does make a difference. We know when someone is missing. Who has an impact on 4-H members: the one that greets them at the door of the club meeting, the one that calls to remind them of the next meeting, the 4-H'er that takes time to introduce them to others during recreation, the project leader that teaches them new skills or the one that encourages them to go to 4-H camp?

ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN YOUR 4-H CLUB!!

Consider asking your friends to join your 4-H club. The State has put together this invite card and we can make copies for you to give to your friends or others within your community. Let us know how many you need and we can get them sent to you.



4-H Club Recruitment and Guidelines

As we start recruiting for new club members for the new 4-H year, remember according to our State 4-H Policies Guide, a community club is an organized group of at least five youth from at least three families, led by two or more VIP-registered adults, with a planned program that is carried on throughout all or most of the year. Also, remember, if a 4-H member graduated from High School but is still 18 (4-H Age) as of January 1, they have one more year of eligibility to be in 4-H. As a current member you are the best person to personally invite someone to join by asking them to come to your next club meeting.

4-H Meetings and Covid-19 guidelines

Volunteers and professionals need to consider the needs of their audience and make reasonable adjustments to the program to best engage the needs of learners with these guidelines in mind. For example, streaming a meeting or providing virtual engagement between meeting dates. The health and safety of all 4-H members, volunteers, parents, guests, and staff is the top priority of Kansas 4-H. To help reduce the risks associated with the spread of COVID-19, the following guidelines from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) should be followed to protect yourself and others during 4-H Club meetings and other 4-H programs:

1. Stay home when sick and avoid contact with other people unless you need medical attention.
2. Follow common-sense steps such as washing your hands often and well; covering your coughs and sneezes; and cleaning and disinfecting.
3. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
4. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
5. Avoid close contact with people by staying at least 6 feet apart.
6. Wear cloth face coverings in public settings where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
7. Wipe down all common surfaces as recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Common surfaces include tables, counters, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, chairs, etc.

For complete guidelines, check out the K-State publication at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/docs/COVID-4H-Meeting-Guidelines.pdf>

Dear 4-H Families,

This newsletter contains lots of great information about fair thank you's and KAP's. While we know that neither one of these things is probably your favorite thing to do, it is important to complete them! We had great contributions of support for the Ford County Fair this year by sponsors who continued to support something they believe in- YOU! Your KAP story will be a great story to read and share years from now, as it will document how great 4-Her's overcame lots of adversity and challenges and continued to learn, grow and "make the best better."

While school might look different this year, remember to be patient, be kind and go into all things with a positive attitude. You will do great things and we wish you the best!

As we continue through this time of uncertainty, realize we are walking through it with you and are here for you. We are not sure what many of our fall events will look like, so be patient as we continue to "think outside the box" and plan for a great new 4-H year. We love new ideas and questions, so don't be afraid to share or ask!!



Ethel Schneweis
County Extension Agent



Andrea Burns
County Extension Agent



K-STATE
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**K-State, County Extension Councils,
Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating.**

**K-State Research and Extension is an
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4-H RECORD BOOK CHECK-IN SHEET

I, _____ have completed my current year
(4-H'er Name)

4-H Record Book and have assembled the book in the following order:

- _____ PERSONAL PAGE -- Current 4-H Year Personal Page
- _____ 4-H PROJECT STORY (one story per KAP)
- _____ KAPS PER PROJECT
Current years' project KAPs in alphabetical order as listed on personal page
- _____ PROJECT PICTURES (per KAP)

You may use tab divider sheets that are labeled by project between project. These are only used at county level and would need to be removed if selected for area judging.

Previous years project records should not be submitted with current year record book.

KAPS being submitted are:

(Overall awards- ex: achievement, ag, livestock, FCS, will be determined by those judging the record books, based on individual project rankings.)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Achievement Pin Award Application (please check application being submitted)

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| ___ Membership – 1 | ___ Silver Guard - 6 |
| ___ Bronze Pin – 2 | ___ Leadership - 7 |
| ___ Clover Pin – 3 | ___ Gold Pin - 8 |
| ___ Emerald Pin – 4 | ___ Gold Guard - 9 |
| ___ Silver Pin – 5 | |

Special Awards: ___ Key Award ___ I Dare You Award ___ Outstanding 4-H'er