

# 4-H Clover News

**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension



Ford County Monthly Newsletter

**FEBRUARY 2023**

## How to Reach Us:

### Ford Co. Extension

100 Gunsmoke St  
Dodge City, KS 67801  
620.227.4542

### Hours:

8:30am—12 noon  
1:00pm—5:00pm

### Agents:

Andrea Burns, CEA  
Ethel Schneweis, CEA

### Office Professional:

Cassie Sanko

### Emails:

aburns@ksu.edu  
eschnewe@ksu.edu  
csanko@ksu.edu

### Cell Phones:

Andrea—620-682-5530  
Ethel—620-338-3676

### Check us out on the web!

www.ford.ksu.edu  
www.kansas4-h.org  
facebook.com/fordcounty4h



Important  
Message

## Re-Enrollment & Volunteer Screening

Keep reminding everyone in your club and your friends to re-enroll on 4-H Online! We need to get everyone re-enrolled as soon as possible. **If they plan on participating in club day, any camps, conferences, or exhibiting at the county fair they'll need to enroll before they can participate.** The last day to change, drop or add a project is May 1. **Also note that in order to weigh-in any livestock, the exhibitor must be enrolled before weigh-in.** Approval of enrollment can be streamlined if you indicate payment is by coupon and pay enrollment fee into our Extension Office.

If you are a current screened volunteer in your 4-H club and plan to continue to do so, please complete online your Renewal. Almost everything can be completed at 4-H Online, just click on your name and edit, go to volunteer resources section and click on screening or renewal. If you have questions please contact Andrea and she can walk you through it. They are also available on our website or can be found on-line at [www.kansas4-h.org](http://www.kansas4-h.org) and click on the Volunteer link for a form-fillable version.

If you have any questions on what you still need to complete on your 2023 volunteer paperwork, please contact the office!

## County Club Day—February 4

County Club Day will be at the Dodge City Senior Center, 2408 Central, Dodge City. We will start at 8 a.m. with events. An email was sent to you after your enrollment through Signup Genius. A schedule is also posted on our website.

Remember you must be enrolled to participate in a club activity.

## Regional Club Day — March 4

Saturday, March 4, 8:00 am, Dodge City Nazarene Church  
1700 W. Ross Blvd, Dodge City

Schedules will be available online the week prior.

Participation will be in person presentations. If a County Club Day presentation receives a Top Blue, you will be notified.

## COUNTY FAIR & OTHER SHOWS LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN DATES—

If you are planning on showing livestock this year at the County Fair, you MUST weigh and tag your livestock at the respective weigh-in dates. **Beef weigh-in has been set for Thursday, February 16 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.** at Winter Livestock. In case of bad weather that day, it will be moved to Thursday, Feb. 23. You will be notified if it changes. Small livestock weigh-in will be Tuesday, April 18, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds.

### **State Fair and Other Shows (not County Fair livestock)**

A service charge of \$25 will be applied per trip to tag animals for **other shows not brought to respective weigh-in dates.**

What if the 4-H'er is unable to be at the weigh-in? No worries, the ANIMAL can be brought to the weigh-in by anyone. If you have questions, just let us know!

**EAR TAG POLICY** 4-H Council policy allows a 4-H'er up to six (6) ear tags per species (i.e. up to 6 for beef, 6 for sheep, 6 for goats, 6 for swine). Any tags over the provided six will be at the expense of the 4-H'er and their family and will need to be reimbursed to 4-H Council.

### **4-H Ambassador/Exchange Meeting**

The next Ambassador/Exchange meeting will be Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m.

4-H Exchange members/families are still selling Hal-laday's Harvest Barn Herb Dips and Seasoning Blends, Cheesecake Mixes and Soup Mixes. We have a variety of flavors so give one of the members a call or stop by the Extension Office to purchase in February. This is one of the group's fund raisers. Please consider supporting our group!

Spring Flea Market will be held on March 25. If you would like a vendor space, give the office a call.



### **Shooting Sports Instructor and Apprentice Certification Training**

Level 1 Shooting Sports Instructor and Apprentice Certification Training will be held March 24th-26th at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Registration will come out the middle of February. Training costs and schedules will be released in early February with registration opening mid-February. Local Extension Units must approve potential new instructor. The volunteer will then need to register in 4-H Online and complete volunteer screening through the office. Volunteers will NOT be allowed to attend training without all prior volunteer steps being completed.

# WANTED!

## LOOKING FOR 4-H

### **County Wide Project Leaders & Volunteers!**

The Ford County 4-H Program is always looking for County-Wide Project Leaders who will share their expertise, time and effort with our 4-H'ers. If you know of anyone who wants to get involved with the 4-H Program, please have them contact the Extension Office! Project Leaders give our members an extra 'edge' in their 4-H Experience!

### **::4-H Shout Outs::**

- ◆ To Clark Burgert, Aubrey Gerdes, Adeline Robinson and Kyle Ruehle. They had record Books that competed at area judging.
- ◆ Congratulations to Clark Burgert for having his Clothing, Performing Arts and STEM record books selected for state judging.
- ◆ Congratulations to Kyle Ruehle for having his Beef, record book selected for state judging.
- ◆ Congratulations to Aubrey Gerdes for having her Leadership Record Book selected for state judging.

February 2023 Ford County 4-H,

February is a great month for all of us to use our Hands, Head, Heart, & Health to show others we care! It's also a time where all FC 4-H Clubs and individuals are gearing up for County Club Days where they showcase their talents in music, drama and public speaking. I hope you have registered!

At January's Council meeting, Andrea and I spoke about record books. I presented a graph indicating the percentage of completed record books for Ford County in the last 3 years. In the year 2020, we had a county percentage of 40% of completed record books. In the year 2021, we had a county percentage of 49% of completed record books. In 2022 (last year), we had a county percentage of 47% of completed record books. I asked the question: What is our goal for 2023?

Can Ford County 4-H reach 50% this year?

If every FC 4Her completes a record book, there are currently incentives in place to possibly win prizes for you & your club – thanks to the FC 4-H Foundation! Also, you might have the opportunity to compete at regionals, state and attend National 4-H Congress. It's an experience of a lifetime! Congratulations to the 4Her's who completed a record book(s) and the seven 4Her's who had their record books selected for area judging last month! With this type of knowledge & skills from our current and past FC 4-H record book participants, you may want to consider asking a 4Her to be a guest speaker at your next club meeting!

As a reminder to council members, please make sure you have signed up for a committee this year and to find an appropriate substitute for the meeting if you are unable to attend. I am looking forward to the next meeting and congratulating those Club Day participants!

I encourage everyone to take time this February to use your Hands, Head, Heart and Health to participate in a community service activity.

Kyle Ruehle, 4-H Council President



## JUNIOR PRODUCER DAYS REGISTRATION OPEN

The 2023 Kansas Junior Producer Day dates have been set! Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day will be Saturday, March 11 with Kansas Junior Goat Pro-

ducer Day scheduled for Saturday, March 18. Both events will be hosted in Weber Hall on the K-State campus in Manhattan. These events are one-day educational events for families to learn more about the selection and management of a specific specie. Youth, adults, extension agents, project leaders, and volunteers are invited to attend!

Presentations will be provided by K-State faculty, staff, students, extension agents, and guest speakers. Topics range from selection, to nutrition, to meat science and showmanship. Tentative schedules and registration information are forthcoming. For more information, including details to sign up, please follow the @ksuylp Facebook page and check the KSU YLP website: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/ks-jr-producer/index.html>. Registration is due February 15 (Swine) and February 22 (Goats) and both are a \$20 registration fee.

## 4-H Traveling Photography Display

The 4-H Traveling Photos selected from last year's county fair will be on display at the Dodge City Public Library in February. Take time and check out the display in the Library's front entrance!.



## **FORD COUNTY FEE POLICIES**—EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014

### **REMINDER OF OUR FEE'S POLICY**

- **For any activity registration:** Payment arrangements can be made in writing with the Extension Office to set up a payment schedule. Full payment is due by the registration deadline.
- **For online registrations:** Full payment is due to the Extension Office by the online event deadline unless a written payment agreement is made between the Extension Office and the participant. Failing to meet those requirements will result in cancellation of registration (participant will still be responsible for the \$25 cancellation fee and possible registration cost based upon event guidelines.)
- **Transportation:** A transportation fee of \$10 per person will be added to fees for trips that require travel in a county vehicle outside of Ford County (ex. Advanced Master Gardener training, State FCE Conference, KS Youth Leadership Forum, Discovery Days, Camp at Rock Springs, judging events, etc.)
- **Tagging Livestock:** A service fee of \$25 per trip will be charged for trips made to tag livestock for state shows (county fair animals must attend county wide weigh-in) or to re-tag livestock that have lost their original tags.
- **Transportation for Other Counties:** Ford County will require a \$25 per person to transport participants from other counties to events.

## **Camps! Camps! Camps!**

### **Discovery Days - 2023**

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days will be in person on campus in 2023. The event is scheduled for June 7-9, 2023

**Ford, Clark and Hodgeman Counties Day Camp** — June ? - To be determined

### **Rock Springs Ranch Camp:**

Don't forget if you are interested in attending camp at Rock Springs this year, you can enroll at [www.rockspringsranch4Hcamp.org](http://www.rockspringsranch4Hcamp.org) at anytime. You have choices of 4 days/3 nights or 7 days/6 nights camping opportunities. You can select dates that fit your schedule as our county does not have a specific time frame for camping. There are camps for 3rd through 12th grades with different price tiers.

Call the office for more details.

**4 Clover 4-H Camp** with Clark, Gray, Ford, Hodgeman Counties and Walnut Creek District:

**June 14-16, 2023**

More details, registration forms and fees will be in future newsletters. Consider camping with us or if you are old enough, sign up to be a counselor for one of the groups.

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

YQCA certification is designed to be useful and help prepare you for your show but also prepare young producers in animal agriculture industry. The program includes information on multiple species even though you may only be raising one or two. Andrea has scheduled two dates for an in person meeting.

March 25, 3 pm and May 22 at 5:30 pm.

More information will be the March newsletter.

## 4-H Recognition and Record Books

Now is the perfect time to start thinking about your project goals, if you have not already started. There is a 4-H publication called “Setting 4-H Project Goals”, <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/4H1100.pdf> which can help you with this process. What is a Project Goal? A goal is deciding what you want to do and learn in a 4-H Project. It help you set what you want to do for the year. Goals should have three parts — Action (How are you going to do something); Result (What are you going to do and you want to be specific); and Timetable (When are you going to do it). When we judge record books we look for specific goals and goals you have control over. Saying you want to receive a purple ribbon is not a specific goal. Saying you want to learn a specific technique, making pies or cakes, or attend meetings or be a junior leader are specific goals. Do you have control over all parts of what happens? Saying you want to receive a purple ribbon is something you as a member do not have control because the judge decides ribbon placing.

**Record Books** — Youth may choose to use either record keeping option: a.) the fillable PDF Project report forms or b.) the online ZBooks software.

The **Permanent Record** is included in ZBooks. If you choose to keep records with ZBooks, do not feel like you have to transfer over all of your previous years' activities into the online Permanent Record. Start with this year and attach it to your previous document. You can also continue doing your permanent record the way you have been and filling it out as a pdf.

KSRE website—<https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ZBooks.html> has resources for you to use for both options. If you click on the videos on the page, be sure to click on the video and then click on YouTube on the bottom of the video screen to watch a larger version in YouTube. Otherwise it is a very tiny video!

Be sure you complete every section of the project record. Judges look to see if you did some type of a presentation on your project, try and do something in leadership and citizenship for your project. We realize some projects are easier to provide citizenship for. Example in foods you could provide refreshments for meetings, help with meals, donate food to the food pantry, etc. Show pictures of you doing these things. We want to see pictures of your project and not just a fair entry photo with your ribbon. Show pictures of you working on the project, feeding your animals, cooking/baking, etc. Don't forget your story on your Reflection page. Answer the questions, but also be sure to include what you did throughout the year in your project. Again not just what you took to the Fair and what ribbons you received. What did you learn??? What did you do??? Look back at your goals. Tell how you achieved your goals.

**Achievement Pins:** Check out the Achievement Pin application to see what you need to work on to receive the next pin in the Achievement pin series! These are available on our Ford County Extension Website under 4-H Awards and Recognition. If you are not sure about one of the requirements, please contact the office. Several of the pins in the series requires you to be enrolled in the leadership project. Make sure you are by May 1 if you need to enroll in this project.

Questions?? Please contact Andrea or Ethel. We would be happy to help you. Remember you don't have to wait to start on any part of these forms. Start writing your story and add to it each month. You can always cut something out. Start marking off the achievement pin application, work on your goals, etc.

Ford County Extension Office  
100 Gunsmoke St  
Dodge City, KS 67801

Dear 4-H Families,

County Club Day schedule is posted on our website.

We want everyone to have the opportunity to receive the information in each monthly 4-H newsletter. Newsletters can be emailed to each 4-H member's email if you provide Ethel with the 4-H'er email.

Remember if you have a friend or a member who has not re-enrolled by January 31st, they will not receive this newsletter or information.

Questions? Give us a call.



Ethel Schneweis  
County Extension Agent



Andrea Burns  
County Extension Agent



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Research and Extension

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Dodge City, KS 67801  
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Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating.**

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