

4-H Clover News

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Ford County Monthly Newsletter

JANUARY 2024

How to Reach Us:

Ford Co. Extension

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Dodge City, KS 67801
620.227.4542

Hours:

8:30am—12 noon
1:00pm—5:00pm

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Check us out on the web!

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



EXTENSION OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Our office will be closed from December 25 to January 1. We will reopen January 2 with our regular hours.

4-H ENROLLMENTS

This is your last call to get your 4-H on-line updated for 2024 and **volunteers need to update their profiles, too!** *This will be the last month that we will send out the newsletter if you have not re-enrolled by January 31.* You are now able to add projects or delete them from your list of enrollments until May 1 for all areas, **except Livestock projects**, which need to be enrolled in prior to the weigh-in/tagging and identification date set for each project.

CLUB LEADERS— It is very important that you set up a Volunteer Profile in 4-H Online and verify that you have completed the volunteer training in 4-H Online! This helps us manage volunteer resources, training, and certification. Please remember that in order for a 4-H Club to be in good standing, you must have TWO leaders who have current 4-H volunteer certification. **Be checking your email for links. These need to be completed by February 1st.**

LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN/TAGGING DATES

If you are planning on showing livestock this year at the County Fair, you **MUST** weigh and tag your livestock at the respective species weigh-in/tagging dates. **Beef weigh-in/tagging has been set for February 15 at Winter Livestock between 5:00 -6:30 pm. Bad Weather date is February 25.**

Ford County Fair 2024 DATES

The Ford County Fair will be held Thursday, July 18 through Monday, July 22 with fashion review judging July 15, set up on July 16, and clean up on Wednesday, July 24. Please put these dates on your calendars.

Fair Checks and Thank You Notes

A reminder we still have a few exhibitors who have not turned in thank you notes for County Fair premiums, livestock sale etc. Please do so as soon as possible. If checks are not picked up and cashed by February 1, premiums will be forfeited and returned to the Fair Association.

A big thank you to all who have completed this task. Our sponsors are very important to our Fair and for continued support.

4-H COUNCIL & LEADERS MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 22 at the Ford County Fair Building. Community Club Leaders will meet at 6:30 pm followed by 4-H Council at 7:00 pm.

AREA RECORD BOOK JUDGING

A reminder if your Record Book was selected for area judging, the record book is due into the Extension Office no later than Wednesday, January 10, 2024. Those eligible from Ford County are:

Stanton Custer – Civic Engagement; Erika Fry – Foods; Rachel Harrold – Meat Goats; Miles Haskell – STEM – Ag Mechanics (Welding); Adeline Robinson -- Rabbits; Josie Robinson – Horse; Kyle Ruehle – Beef, Clothing and Textiles, Leadership and Visual Arts; Levi Stephenson – Shooting Sports and Woodworking

If any adult would like to attend the judging and help with the screening of these books, please let us know.

FORD COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Ford County 4-H Foundation is Wednesday, January 17 at 6:00 pm in the Ford County Fair Building. Members will vote on two board members for a three year term and elect officers. This is a public meeting and every Ford County resident is invited to attend. A minimum donation of \$5 entitles you to one vote at the annual meeting and election of board of directors. If anyone is interested in serving on this board, please Ethel know.

The Ford County 4-H Foundation is conducting their annual membership drive. You should have already received a letter asking you to become a member. Support of this organization is through a minimum donation contribution of \$5.00. To make a contribution, send a check to:

Ford County 4-H Foundation, 100 Gunsmoke St., Dodge City, KS 67801

The 4-H Foundation provides financial support to our program by: providing college and camp scholarships; sponsoring trips such as the Denver Consumer Science award trip, officer's training, record book incentives and school enrichment programs. If you have questions about the Foundation, contact any current board member or call the Extension Office and visit with Ethel.

JUNIOR PRODUCER DAYS REGISTRATION OPEN

The 2024 Kansas Junior Producer Day dates have been set! The K-State Junior Beef Producer Day will be Saturday, March 2, with K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day scheduled for Saturday, March 16. Both events will be hosted in Weber Arena 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. Beef and sheep events are hosted in even years, with swine and meat goat days in odd years. Youth, adults, extension agents, project leaders, and volunteers of all ages and skill levels are invited to attend! Presentations will be provided by K-State faculty, staff, students, extension agents, former exhibitors, and guest speakers. Topics will range from selection, to nutrition, to meat science, reproduction, health, clipping and grooming, and showmanship. Everyone who plans to attend must register, including both youth and adults. The cost is \$20/person by the deadline, or \$25 after the deadline, for both events. Only those who register by the appropriate deadline will receive a t-shirt. Junior Beef Producer Day registrations are due February 12, with Junior Sheep being due February 26. Registration is open now and can be completed online using this link: <http://bit.ly/ksuasiregister>. Junior Producer Day event registrations are non-refundable.

An optional YQCA instructor-led training and state livestock nomination session will be offered at the end of each program. Specific details about the YQCA certification will be shared directly with those who indicate through their registration that they plan to stay for the additional class. More information about the junior day events, including each of the flyers, are available on the @ksuylp Facebook page and the KSU YLP website, under Events, Junior Producer Days.

CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION

Would you like to have more influence in laws and rules that affect your life? Then you'll want to go to Kansas 4-H Citizenship in Action! This two day event is sponsored by the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. The purpose of the event is for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities. The legislative visit will not only familiarize youth with the capitol building, but will also show them how they can affect the legislative process.

This will take place February 18-19, 2024 in Topeka KS - Hotel Topeka at City Center (formerly Capitol Plaza). Youth 13-18 years old by January 1 of the current year are able to participate. Registration will be coming soon and the deadline will be February 1, 2024. Let Andrea or Ethel know if you are interested.

STATE 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS DUE IN EARLY 2024

The Kansas 4-H Scholarship process has been modified. These changes will take effect for the 2024-25 scholarship application process. The new scholarship process has combined the State 4-H Scholarships and the Vanier Family Scholarship Program (VFSP) applications together. We hope that this encourages more applicants to pursue both of these scholarship opportunities. All applications and corresponding requested materials must be submitted by **March 1st, 2024**. If you have any questions about the scholarship application process, please contact Andrea or Ethel.

FORD COUNTY 4-H DEADLINE UPDATE

Please do your part to take responsibility for your own actions and project work. This means calling in to register for events, turning forms in on time, and calling ahead with questions. Responsibility is one of the many life skills to learn! If you need papers signed, please do not wait until the last minute, as both of the agents may be out of the office. Call ahead to **be sure someone will be in the office. Also check to see if you will need to provide your own transportation or if the Extension Office staff will be providing it.**

FACEBOOK PAGE

Be sure to 'LIKE' Ford County 4-H on Facebook. We post a lot of important information and updates on this page! It's a great way for us to keep in contact with all of our great Ford County 4-H families!

WINTER WEATHER AND 4-H ACTIVITIES

Our policy is that if school cancels for weather related events, 4-H events are canceled, too. Please check our 4-H Facebook page for cancellations if you are in doubt about the status of an event.



CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

Don't forget if you are interested in attending summer camp at Rock Springs this year, you can enroll at 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. Visit with your friends near and far and sign up for the camp you are all interested in. There are camps for 3rd through 12th grades, with different price tiers. They are also offering a Shooting Sports Camp this year. Questions? Give us a call.

Discovery Days

Put June 5-7, 2024 on your calendar to be in Manhattan on the K-State campus. Discovery Days is open to all youth who are 13 to 18 years old by January 1, 2024.

FAIR BOARD MEETINGS DATES

The Fair Board's regular monthly meeting dates are the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings will take place at the Fair Building starting at 7 p.m.

LEADERS and CLUB CORNER.....

A reminder all leaders (Community Leaders, parent drivers to events, exchange hosting parents, etc) need to complete leader process through 4-H Online. You will need to complete the KS 4-H Volunteer Orientation after the offices approval. Then if you are needing to update your criminal background check (only good for 3 years) an email from Andrea with a link will be sent to you to complete the request. This is for your protection as well as for our youth.

If your club has not submitted the required Financial review which was due November 1, it must be turned in to the office by February 1 or you run the risk of your club's charter being revoked.

A reminder your club officers should be responsible for their duties and these duties should not be completed by Community Club leaders or parents. For example, treasurer should be writing checks, making deposits, etc; secretaries should be writing and reading the minutes (may have parents assistance, but completed primarily by the club youth officer); club members making decisions and motions. Our program is an educational organization helping youth learn responsibilities for life. Being an officer has responsibilities with the position and provides many leadership educational opportunities.

New 4-H Project Guide is now available and our Ford County 4-H Family Guide has been updated and posted on our website.

Several Leaders and members need to re-enroll soon through 4-HOnline or else this is the last newsletter you will receive.

Parliamentary Corner...

President should always re-state a motion before it is voted on. This makes sure all members and parents understand what is being voted on. This is especially important if you have youth who do not speak loudly and a noisy background at your meeting location. Members should address the president and stand when called on by the president.

Ford County will be one of the counties included with this summer intern program if we have some summer intern applicants! If you or if you know off someone who might be interested in these two positions here in Ford County, please contact Andrea or Ethel for more information. Applications are being accepted until January 21. This is a paid position and would be a great opportunity for a current college student, school teacher, school para, etc. You must be 18 years of age to be eligible. Click on the QR code to learn more.



**KANSAS 4-H
SUMMER
INTERNSHIP
OPPORTUNITY**

- MAY 28 - AUG 9, 2024
- PAID INTERNSHIP
- UP TO 40 HOURS/WEEK
- 12 WEEK INTERNSHIP
- MULTIPLE LOCATIONS
ACROSS THE STATE

For best consideration apply by
January 21, 2024. Apply here:



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K-State Research and Extension is an
equal opportunity provider and employer.

4-H Day with Women Wildcats!

Join us for our 4-H Day with the Women Wildcats!

KAE4-HA is excited to announce the details of the 2024 Kansas 4-H Day with the Wildcat Women's Basketball! This year's event is scheduled for January 13th at 1:00 PM.

They will offer two packages like last year and registration can be found at: <https://bit.ly/3N85oPY>. Registration Deadline: January 1st . Check out the flier in last month's newsletter.

Entomology Workshops

We are working on scheduling a couple of Entomology project workshops for this spring. The first one will be March 23 and a second date to be determined. If you want to learn more about the Entomology project, reserve the date and plan to attend. You do not need to be enrolled in the Entomology Project to attend the meetings! More information to be included in upcoming newsletters.

Archery Shooting Sports

We are working on having Archery Shooting Sports practices to start in the spring. Brandi Stein went to the Instructors Training and will be offering the trainings. Contact the office if you have questions.

Dog Judges Training and Re-Certification

This year's 4-H Dog Judge training and re-certification will be January 26-28, 2024, at the Leavenworth County fairgrounds near Tonganoxie. Learn what to expect as a judge in the four 4-H dog events: Showmanship, Obedience, Rally Obedience and Agility. There have been some changes in the last 2 years especially in the Agility event. Please register by January 12 under 4-H Events on the [Kansas4H.org](https://www.kansas4h.org) website. You must have knowledge of the 4-H dog program or a current leader or parent who wants to learn more about the judging process. Participants must be 16 years old and open to non-4-H adults. You may certify as a judge or just observe to learn more. The certification is good for 5 years.

4-H Horse Panorama

The 2024 4-H Horse Panorama is scheduled for January 27, 2024, at K-State Salina, a schedule of events is located on the 4-H Horse Panorama website. 4-H Horse members are encouraged to register to participate in Horse Bowl, Hippology, presentations, and more.

Horse Bowl encourages young people to develop knowledge of equine-related subject matter. This contest develops alertness, self-confidence, and knowledge in a competitive setting, surrounded by an attitude of friendliness and fairness.

Virtual contests for 2024 will be Photography, Logo Design, Ad Layout, Poster and PowerPoint. Exhibits must be submitted via email to klnoydyke@ksu.edu by January 20, 2024. Participants in virtual contests need not be present at Horse Panorama to participate in the virtual contests. Members participating only in virtual contests will not be charged a registration fee. More information about the virtual contest can be found on the Panorama event webpage.

****New for 2024**** A first-timers opportunity will be provided for youth to explore hippology. Adults who volunteer to assist with the day's events can register at a reduced rate.

The [2024 4-H Horse Panorama registration](#) will be completed through Qualtrics at the link provided on the 4-H Horse Panorama website. Adults and additional youth attending must also register. Registration is due January 2, 2024. Payment must be made by check.

4-H CLUB DAYS

WHAT IS 4-H CLUB DAYS?

Club Days is a great way for 4-H'ers to showcase their talents in music, drama, dance and public speaking with others!

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN 4-H CLUB DAYS?

4-H'ers can participate in Club Days as a CLUB and/or an INDIVIDUAL. You must be enrolled through KS 4-H Online. Remember Cloverbuds cannot participate in this competitive event.

WHAT EVENTS CAN I DO?

There are a variety of events to please everyone. Please see the next page for a brief description of 4-H Club Day events. FULL descriptions and rules can be found on our website.

HOW DO I REGISTER?

EACH 4-H'er participating in an INDIVIDUAL event needs to fill out an event registration online through Sign Up Genius. If a 4-H'er is competing in a CLUB event, the club leader needs to register for a club time through Sign Up Genius. Please list ALL participants names in the comment area.

Registration link will be available on our Extension website after January 4. Registration needs to be completed by January 26.

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please call the Extension Office if you need help or have questions.



New for 2024

Our Regional Club Day group has talked about adding a Public Presentation category called – Cover Letter, Resume & Interview (CRI). Once it is definite and approved by all our counties we will notify families by an email and post on our website more information.

Ford County Club Day—Feb. 3

Dodge City Senior Center,
2408 Central, Dodge City.

Registration will be through Sign Up Genius. Sign up early to get the presentation time you want. Registration is due by January 26, 2024!!

REGIONAL 4-H CLUB DAYS

Saturday, March 2

At the Nazarene Church

BOTH DATES WILL BEGIN AT 8:00AM.
Schedules will be available online the week prior for County 4-H Club Days.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF I COMPETE AT REGIONAL CLUB DAYS?

4-H'ers will be notified after County Club Days if they qualified for REGIONAL CLUB DAYS. 4-H'ers will need to notify the office ASAP if they are able to compete at regionals.

AGE is determined by Age of 4-H members on DECEMBER 31, of the current 4-H year.

Sr. Division – 14 and older

Jr. Division – 13 and younger

(unless otherwise stated in individual sections) Remember Cloverbuds can not participate in this competitive event.

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

Dear 4-H Families,

Happy New Year to all. We are looking forward to a great 2024!

Check out the information in this newsletter for more information concerning County Club Day. Consider signing up for public presentation or one of the other events for Club Day. We would love to have more participation.

If you have questions about what you can do for Club Day, contact one of us and we would be happy to help answer them.

We know you just got done with Record Books, but now is the perfect time to start on your record book for next year by setting your goals for the year. These can be recorded in the ZBooks records online or by starting your pdf record book files.

We hope you will have a great new year!!



Ethel Schneweis
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Andrea Burns
County Extension Agent



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