

Elk County 4-H News

April 2024

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4-H Calendar of Events

March 29	Good Friday -- Offices Closed
April 3	4-H Council Meeting
April 21 - 27	National Volunteer Week
April 24	YQCA Training -- Sedan - 7:00 p.m.
April 26 & 27	Sheep/Swine/Meat Goat Weigh in and Tag Day -- Longton
April 27	Chautauqua County Spring Beef Show -- Sedan
May 1	Project Drop/Add Deadline
May 1	KSF/KJLS Market Beef Nominations Due
May 27	Memorial Day -- Offices Closed
June 1	Chautauqua County Spring Small Animal Show -- Sedan
June 5 - 7	Discovery Days -- Kansas State University
June 15	KSF/KJLS Commercial Heifer, Market/Commercial Sheep, Swine, Goat Nominations Due
June 25	Southeast Area Crops, Horticulture, Photography, and FCS Contests -- Emporia
June 27	Southeast Area Livestock Judging, Skillathon, and Meats Judging Contests
July 1	YQCA Completion Deadline for Elk County Members
July 1	4-H/FFA Fair Entries Due
July 4	Holiday -- Offices Closed
July 8	Fashion Revue Forms and Scripts Due
July 10	Clothing Construction, Fiber Arts, Fashion Revue Judging
July 10	Public Fashion Revue -- 7:30 p.m.
July 13	Fairgrounds Cleanup
July 15	4-H Foods Judging
July 15	Horse Show
July 15	Kansas State Fair 4-H/FFA Livestock Entries Due

Regional 4-H Club Day Results

Model Meeting - Flint Hill Boosters - Blue

Sr Interviews - Peyton Fechter - Blue

Int Reading - Allison Stewart - Blue

Jr Reading - Vedah Gilliland - Blue

Novelty - Flint Hill Boosters - Champion

Skit - Grenola Jayhawkers - Blue

Sr Demonstration/Illustrated Talks - Rachel Humphrey - Blue; Maggie Humphrey - Red

Public Speaking - Peyton Fechter - Blue

Jr Instrumental Solo - Jaycee Griesel - Reserve Champion

Sr Vocal Solo - Isabelle Apsley - Champion

Jr Demonstration/Illustrated Talk - Mackenna Mast - Blue; Leah Griesel - Blue

Int Demonstration/Illustrated Talk - Regan Herold - Reserve Champion; Ryatt Griesel - Blue

Int Project Talk - Corbin Arbuckle - Red; Kristina Kraft - Red

Score sheets and ribbons are available at the Extension Office for you to pick up at your earliest convenience.

Office Professional at Howard Office

It is with much regret to let everyone know that Annie will be leaving us for a new job. Annie has been the Office Professional in the Howard Office since April 19, 2022.

Annie's last day will be Thursday, March 28. You may still see her in the office some in April as loose ends are tied up. We wish Annie well in her new endeavor and thank her for her service to Rolling Prairie Extension District - Howard Office.

4-H Council Meeting

4-H Council will meet **Wednesday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Extension Meeting Room. 4-H Council representatives bring input from your clubs.

Discovery Days

When: June 5 - 7

Who: Youth ages 13-18 before January 1, 2024 are invited to register

Cost: \$225 - Some class sessions may have additional fees associated

Registration: Open [HERE](#)

Discovery Days participants will be included in a special recognition event honoring the State Project Award Winners. This event will be held in the K-State Student Union on the evening of Thursday, June 6 and will include an evening social and entertainment. More details to follow!

Discovery Days objectives:

- Help youth learn new ideas, techniques, and skills they can use personally and in their 4-H clubs or groups and communities.
- Give youth in-depth training through hands-on educational sessions from content and youth development experts.
- Prepare youth to make informed decisions about their careers and college path.
- Enhance personal growth by giving opportunities to develop responsibility, confidence, independence, accountability, problem-solving, decision-making, and time management skills.

- Help youth meet new people and make new friends from different places and with different backgrounds from across the state.
- Provide an opportunity for youth to experience the K-State campus and its wealth of resources.
- Develop college and career readiness skills which prepare participants academically and socially for a successful transition to college and life as an adult.



YQCA Certification

One of the requirements for those who plan to participate in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS is that ALL exhibitors are required to complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification to be eligible for either show in 2024.

FOR ELK COUNTY 4-H/FFA MEMBERS:

Each 4-H/FFA member that wishes to sell animal(s) in the livestock premium sale at the county fair must complete YQCA certification training before **July 1**. Members may complete an online course or attend a face-to-face training. Once you complete a training, members will receive a certification number. That information will need to be forwarded to Stephanie Bogdahn.

There will be a face-to-face YQCA training opportunity in Sedan. The registration fee of \$3.00 is due online when you register. ***To attend this training, you will need to register online BEFORE THE TRAINING.***

Wednesday, April 24 -- Sedan; 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Bucket Calves

Many calves are being born now. Sometimes a producer has an orphan calf or bucket calf available. If you are wanting a bucket calf for a 4-H project, let me know as producers often let me know they have calves available.

Dairy cattle/goats and bucket calves need to be tagged and recorded with the Extension Office by May 1 of the current year. Tags are available at the Extension Office and cost is \$2.00. Pickup a tag at the Extension Office or call to schedule a time for Richard to tag your calf.



Hog/Sheep/Goat Weigh In and Tag Day

The Longton Fairgrounds will be the site of this year's Hog, Lamb and Goat tag and weigh-in. All hogs, lambs and goats must be weighed and tagged in order to be shown and sold at the county fair.

This year you will have two opportunities to weigh and tag your animals. **Animals can be weighed & tagged Friday, April 26 from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. or Saturday, April 27 from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**

Members may weigh and tag a maximum of 6 market animals per species. However, you may only show two of each species at the fair. Tags cost \$4/head.

As has been for several years now, animals will be tagged and nominated under a family name if more than one 4-H'er is in the immediate family. Family members must reside in the same household.

This year, families need to designate which animals that are tagged are breeding animals and which are market.

Registered breeding animals must be tagged on April 26 or 27 or have registration papers by this date.

When selecting your hog, lamb or goat, keep in mind there will be no rate of gain requirements for all species to be eligible for the premium sale. Also, the only weight requirement is a minimum weight for each species. Those are as follows:

Species	Weight
Market Hog	minimum of 220 lbs.
Market Lamb	minimum of 100 lbs.
Market Goat	minimum of 60 lbs.

Even though there is not a rate of gain requirement for each species, an award for the highest rate of gain will be presented at the fair for each species.

Weight projection charts are available for each species on the Rolling Prairie website at <http://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/livestock/index.html>

State Livestock Nominations

The 2024 information for state livestock nominations has been released. The process transitioned to an online system in 2022, so there are no longer physical forms for families to complete and mail. Families will purchase DNA envelopes in advance, submit their animal and exhibitor information online, then mail their completed and signed DNA samples by the deadline. Extension Agents and FFA Advisors will approve nominations online. Exhibitors who nominated animals last year (in 2023) need to use their existing ShoWorks account. Those who need help accessing their account may request a password reset through ShoWorks or contact the Youth Livestock Program for assistance. Returning exhibitors should not create a new account.

All market animals and commercial females that youth would like to be eligible for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS must be nominated.

Market Beef nominations are due May 1, and Small Animals due by June 15. The deadline to order DNA envelopes is April 20 and June 5, respectively.

Information may be found under the “Nomination Information” tab on the youth livestock website: <http://bit.ly/ksunominations>. Families are highly encouraged to use the resources available, especially the Rookie Guide.

4-H Record Books and Achievement Pin Applications

Information about record books, project forms, excellence in project achievement awards and achievement pin applications is on the Rolling Prairie website at <https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/recordbooks/index.html>

Now is the time to download the forms and take a look at them to see what activities and events you need to participate in to earn those awards at the end of the 4-H year. All pin applications have been



updated for this 4-H year. If you have questions or need to know which pin your member is up for this year, ask me before you start that application. In addition, the Excellence in Project Achievement

Award form has been slightly modified and a few word changes have occurred. Read the entire description and instructions on the forms. Please use the most updated forms.

A new item added this year is a checklist of items to consider or look at when completing your records and applications. It is events or activities of things that you may have done that sometimes are omitted from forms that you may want to include.

Spring Shows, Sales, Judging and Other Contests

Many events are occurring and the Extension Office is receiving information about these. Included on the Rolling Prairie website a list of these as I receive them. Here is the link to them:

<http://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/springshows/index.html>

These events are listed FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY! No endorsement of any event is intended. For more information about any of these, contact the Extension Office. Some of these have a pre-registration deadline, so do not wait until the last minute to inquire about a contest or event. Check back often as list will be updated when notices are received at the office.



Drop/Add Project Deadline

Even though you needed to be enrolled by December 1 to be eligible to exhibit at the county fair; you have until May 1 to make changes in your projects. You can do this through 4HOnline or call the Extension Office and we can do it for you. If you are trying to do this in 4HOnline, after May 1 it will not allow you to make any changes.

Check over your enrolled projects NOW!! If changes are needed, please make those ASAP.



Horse ID's

Horse project members need to turn in Horse ID's by June 1 on horses they want to show at the county fair and/or Kansas State Fair. Here is a link to the Horse ID form that is to be used.



<https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/livestock/livestockdocuments/Horse%20ID%202023.pdf>



4-H Communications Opportunity

With County and Regional Club Days recently completed, I want to remind members that are age 9 and older (before January 1) and were Champion or Reserve Champion at County 4-H Club Day, they can take their project talks, demonstrations and illustrated talks to the Kansas State Fair.

Entries are due August 15. For more information, contact the Extension Office.



Jim Williams Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was setup several years ago for Elk County 4-H members to receive up to \$50 to attend an out of county 4-H event. The *Scholarship is for attending events like 4-H Camp, Citizenship in Action, KYLF, Livestock Judging Camp, Junior National Beef Shows, Discovery Days, Geology Field Trip, etc. Not one day judging contests or events such as SE Area Contests, Livestock Judging Contests or spring shows.*

Mandatory requirements to receive up to a \$50 scholarship for an out of county 4-H event:

- Write a paragraph about why you want to attend this event and attach to this form.
- 4-H members must meet at least 5 of the requirements listed below. All requirements must have been completed within the past 12 months unless stated otherwise.
- Turned in a completed record book to the Extension Office the previous 4-H year. This is not a requirement for first year members.

Here is a link to the application:

<https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/scholarships/index.html>

The application must accompany the registration form and payment for 4-H event when submitted to the Extension Office.



Chautauqua County 4-H Spring Livestock Shows



Small Animal Show

June 1, 2024

Beef Show

9:00 am

April 27, 2024

11:00 am



Chautauqua County Fairgrounds – Sedan, KS

Weigh-in & registration 30 minutes prior to each show

**Open only to youth in
Chautauqua & Elk Counties.**

For more information contact the Extension Office

9:00 a.m. Goat

10:30 a.m. Sheep

12:00 p.m. Swine

2:00 p.m. Bucket Calf

Concessions will be available.

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K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact (Jenny McDaniel) two weeks prior to the start of the event. You may make a request by calling 620-725-5890 or by e-mail at jjm353@ksu.edu. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. All dates and activities are subject to change.

Perfect Thank You Notes: Heartfelt and Handwritten

This information was given out to delegates at National 4-H Congress, which I have attended as a chaperone. Delegates were encouraged to write thank you notes to donors and sponsors of the event. The information is very good and relevant to any work done in 4-H when you are thanking donors/sponsors.

4-H receives donations from many donors who believe in our cause and our impact. They have heard about us, and have decided we are worth their support. Part of a good public relations campaign is letting our current supporters know we appreciate what they do for us.

Saying “thank you” is simply the right thing to do. It fits nicely with the 4-H Essential Element of Generosity. We may want them to help us again next year, so it’s in our best interest to take the time now.

The basics:

- ✓ Think of the donor first - the gift is not just money, it also represents time, goodwill, faith in your potential, a desire to invest in the future, etc. A good thank you note begins by acknowledging the donor, rather than bragging about our accomplishments, or begging about our needs.
- ✓ Mention something that you accomplished, or that you learned, that could only happen with the donor’s support. People like to measure the impact of their gifts.
- ✓ Avoid jokes. You don’t need to entertain your reader, and a joke may backfire. We want to have fun, but our donors may not share our sense of humor. There’s no need to be dreary, but do be professional.
- ✓ Write within the border of the paper. Do not write up against the left hand side, leave a little space between the border and your first word.
- ✓ Use neat handwriting. Practice in pencil, or write a draft and then copy it over again as neatly as possible. Take your time and don’t rush.
- ✓ The message should be brief and to the point. “Thank you very much” should be only once in the note.

Things to include in your note:

1. Include your name.
2. Thank them by using the name of the sponsor in the letter.
3. Talk about something memorable about the activity/event that you will never forget.
4. Talk about how this person/donor helped you out.
5. Sign your letter with your name.

Remember your letter is a reflection of you!

If your letter is good then it reflects positively upon you!

If your letter is poor with lots of misspelled words and grammar mistakes then that will be a poor reflection on you.

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