



## Crawford County 4-H News

February 2025

Dear 4-H members, parents, leaders, and friends,

We are starting to get back into the busy season, so read the calendar carefully! If you are interested in attending skill-a-thon, quiz bowl, livestock judging, or junior producer days, please reach out to me! I can help you get signed up to attend.

Sincerely,

Will Morris  
4-H Youth Development  
620-724-8233  
willmorris@ksu.edu

**Wildcat Extension District – Crawford County 4-H Website:**  
[www.wildcatdistrict.k-state.edu/4-h/crawford/](http://www.wildcatdistrict.k-state.edu/4-h/crawford/)



**Find us on Facebook @ Wildcat Extension District &  
@ Wildcat Extension District 4-H**

**Please make sure you are getting all of your fair checks cashed ASAP! Also, if you have not gotten your buyers checks picked up, please do so.**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Feb 1           | Crawford County 4-H Club Day<br>Junior Leaders Make Sausage 11:00AM                           |
| Feb 2           | Crawford County Junior Leaders Pancake Feed   |
| Feb 16-17       | Citizenship in Action, Topeka   |
| Feb 22-23       | Horse Panorama, Rock Springs  |
| Feb 22          | Regional 4-H Club Day, Neosho County Community College,<br>Chanute                            |
| Feb 24          | Junior Leaders Meeting 6:30PM<br>4-H Council Meeting 7:30PM                                   |
| March 1         | Junior Swine Producer Day, Manhattan<br><b>State 4-H Scholarships Due</b>                     |
| March 22        | Junior Goat Producer Day, Manhattan   |
| <b>March 29</b> | <b>Beef Weigh-In 12:30-2:00PM @ Mesa Animal Clinic</b>  |
| April 1         | Fair Book goes live online  |
| April 14        | Junior Leaders Meeting 6:30PM<br>4-H Council Meeting 7:30PM                                   |
| <b>April 20</b> | <b>Last Day to order Beef DNA Envelopes (State Fair/KFLS Only)</b>                            |
| <b>April 26</b> | <b>Small Animal Weigh-In 8:00-10:00AM @ Fairgrounds</b>                                       |
| <b>May 1</b>    | <b>Camp Sign Up Deadline, Market Beef Nominations Due, New<br/>Family Enrollment Deadline</b> |
| May 15          | FairEntry Opens   |
| <b>June 1</b>   | <b>Horse ID Papers Due</b>  |

# Enrollment

## Youth/Volunteer Enrollment

The new 4-H year is **October 1<sup>st</sup>**! Don't forget that all returning families have until **January 31<sup>st</sup>**, 2025, to re-enroll in 4-HOnline. All new families have until **May 1<sup>st</sup>** to enroll in 4-HOnline. All volunteers must renew their 4-HOnline.

<http://v2.4honline.com/>

## New Volunteers

If you would like to become a volunteer, please contact Will to learn more on how to become a certified 4-H volunteer.

## 4-H at your Fingertips

Coming to a phone near you: Wildcat 4-H Connection phone app! With our app, you will be able to quickly access 4-H Online, each county page, registration links, and our district calendar. This is a FREE app that scans the QR code.

Check out the new Wildcat 4-H App!

### Wildcat 4-H Connection



District Wide and County Specific Calendars  
Event Registration Links  
Camp Information



## Junior Leaders

Junior Leader's next meeting will be on Monday, February 24, at 6:30 p.m.

## 4-H Council

The Next 4-H Council meeting will be Monday, February 24, at 7:30 p.m. Remember, each club should have 2 council reps, 1 club president, and 2 adult leaders attend. If one is unable to attend, then they need to find an alternate to fill in for that meeting.

## Regional 4-H Club Day

Regional 4-H Day is February 22nd at the Neosho County Community College, 800 West 14th Street, Chanute, Kansas 66720

If you qualify, you will need to let me know if you plan to attend so I can enter you. Remember that only our top ones are eligible to attend. I will notify those who qualify.

## Livestock Tag/Weigh-In-

Below is some information for the Livestock Tag/Weigh In for the 2025 Fair. Remember, it is not required that you weigh in, but it is required that all market animals and bucket calves be tagged either on or **BEFORE** the designated days listed below. If you are unable to make the designated tag in days, then you need to make prior arrangements with me to set a time to tag your animals. No animals will be tagged after the designated tag in days. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND OR YOU RISK NOT GETTING YOUR ANIMALS TAGGED IN ON TIME. LACK OF PLANNING ON YOUR PART DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN EMERGENCY FOR ME!**

**Market Steer/Feeder Steers-** The tag/weigh-in will be on Saturday, March 29, at Mesa Animal Clinic 518 E 47 Hwy, Girard, KS 66743, **from 12:30-2:00 PM**. If you are unable to attend, you must make prior arrangements with me to tag your animal, or it will not be eligible to show at the fair. The tags are \$4 each. Please bring cash or a check made out to the 4-H Council to pay for your tags. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND OR YOU RISK NOT GETTING YOUR ANIMALS TAGGED IN ON TIME.**

**Small Animals-** Small Animals include Bucket Calves, Market Goats, Market Sheep, and Market Swine. This will be at the Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 26th, 8:00-10:00 am. The tags are \$3 each for goats, sheep, and swine. The tags are \$4 each for bucket calves. Please bring cash or a check made out to 4-H Council to pay for your tags. If you are unable to attend, you must make prior arrangements with me to tag your animal, or it will not be eligible to show at the fair. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND OR YOU RISK NOT GETTING**

## **YOUR ANIMALS TAGGED IN ON TIME.**

Breeding class animals do not have to be tagged; however, I encourage you to tag them in the event something happens to your market class animal.

## **Fair Proposals**

A complete document of this year's Fair proposal results for the 2025 Fair was emailed to you. All sale and schedule-related items have been sent back to the fair board for further discussion. Updates will be sent out by the end of the calendar year. Please remember that all State Fair updates to indoor projects and proposal changes will be in **RED** when the Fair Book is released. If you have any questions about anything, please know that my door is always open, and I would be happy to talk with you.

## **Western Heritage**

Hello 4-H Families, the Western Heritage shooting sports project continues to meet about every 4-6 weeks, depending on people's schedules. In our last meeting, Mr. Shoemaker (and Derrick and Abby) demonstrated Dutch oven cooking over the campfire. They made a delicious blackberry cobbler. Mr. Sandford showed everyone how to cut wood using both one and two-person crosscut saws. Cutting firewood in the frontier days was a lot of work! Our shooting range continues to grow with a dedicated safety zone, many plate gong targets, a cowbell target that rings when you hit it, a prairie dog and several squirrel targets, and new shotgun targets--we even have the challenge of shooting and breaking shotgun sporting clays resting on top of a fence rail. We have friendly competitions for both the number of hits and elapsed time. We would love to have more participants in this shooting sport, and parents are always welcome to take part in any of the activities. In our next meeting on November 30th, we will have a guest teach us about pistols and rifles that use black powder, including going to the range to give them a try. If you are interested, please contact the 4-H office for more information. Call, text, or email Brian Sandford at 620-249-1088 or [bacon4six@gmail.com](mailto:bacon4six@gmail.com).

## **Rabbit Project meetings**

Saturdays starting at 9 am (most meetings last one hour)

February 15<sup>th</sup> at the Girard Ext. office-"Breeds (what breed is right for me?), Basics (care, supplies needed) and Books (setting goals, getting familiar with record books)"

The remaining meetings will be at the small animal barn at the CC Fairgrounds

-April 12<sup>th</sup>-Handling rabbits, basics of showmanship/herdsmanship

-May 17<sup>th</sup>-Meat breeds and meat pens

-June 21<sup>st</sup>-Questions for the fair and getting ready to do fair entries (I will be available to tattoo rabbits that need them, or you can contact me to schedule at a different date)

-July 19<sup>th</sup> - Last minute questions or things you need to do for the fair (can tattoo this date too)

-TBD-possible meat processing clinic in the fall I'm going to try to line up some guest speakers for various topics. Let me know what you would like to hear about rabbits or the rabbit project

I have created a FB page for members of the rabbit project as an easier way to send information to families. **CC Rabbit Project Members** is the page name. It will be a private page, so you will need to ask to join. I will also send invitations to project members via email.

I will be teaming up with the Labette County rabbit project leader and members for information exchanges, and we may have a joint meeting sometime during the project year. Meeting times/dates/locations/topics are subject to change, but plenty of notice will be given

## **Entomology Project Meeting**

The SE Kansas Entomology group will meet at the Allen County Extension Office on Saturday, February 8th, at 1:00 p.m. We will be working on pinning insects, so please bring 3 or 4 insects to pin. Make sure they have been in a relaxing chamber for at least 12 hours before the meeting. We will also make an insect Valentine craft - one for you to take home and one for the Senior Citizens Center. This will count as a Regional-level community service project in your record books. Our lesson will be on insect legs. Questions? Call Vicky at (620)804-9170.

## Superintendent Vacancies

If you or someone you know is interested, please let me know.

-Miscellaneous (Reading, Wildlife, Self-Determined...)

## State 4-H Scholarships and the Vanier Family Scholarship Changes

The Kansas 4-H Scholarship and Vanier Family Scholarship application process is now open. Applications are due by March 1, 2024, at 11:59 PM. To learn more about the scholarship process use the following link. (<https://kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>). Scholarships are available to current high school seniors and undergraduate students. There are several scholarships that graduate and professional students are eligible for. Please encourage all of these individuals to apply for one of the Kansas 4-H Scholarships. Questions can be directed to Sarah Keatley, 620.366.0035 or [keatley@ksu.edu](mailto:keatley@ksu.edu).

## Wildcat District Livestock Judging Team Facebook Group

Parents, please use this QR code to join this private group. It will help you stay up to date on all of the latest happenings.



## State Events

### Junior Producer Days 2025

-Junior Swine Producer Day – Saturday, March 1  
Registration Due February 5

-Junior Meat Goat Producer Day – Saturday, March 22. Registration Due February 26

These events are one-day educational events for families to learn more about the selection and

management of a specific species. 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 range from selection to nutrition, reproduction, health, clipping and grooming, and showmanship. This is a family learning event! 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. Both events will also be capped at 400 participants

## 4-H Camp Scholarships

Camp Scholarships are available through the 4-H Council. These are limited to one per youth per year. To be eligible for this, you must complete a Talk/Demonstration at County 4-H Club Days or participate in Favorite Foods Contest. The Scholarship will be refunded up to \$100 upon the youth's return from camp. This is a great way for youth to experience more youth development opportunities! There are also scholarships from Carolyn Zagonel and donations from America's Farmers Grow Communities. By filling out this application, youth can receive a \$100 scholarship to go toward a 4-H camp/activity. Please call Will if you have any questions.

## Camp Dates 2025

**Summer Camps and Events-** Save the Date! Below is a list of all the camps being offered locally this summer. I will send out registration links when they are live typically around the first of March.

Remember that some camps space is limited and are on a first come, first serve basis. If you have any questions, please let me know. Don't forget that you can earn up to a \$100 scholarship toward camp by doing an individual talk/demo or favorite foods at 4-H Club Day.

**Beginner Livestock Judging Camp-** **May 29** – This is open to anyone and is held in Fredonia.

**Area Livestock Contest-** **June 3-** This is a 1 day event that includes Meats Judging, Skill a Thon, and Livestock Judging in Iola.

**Discovery Days- June 4-6** - College readiness camp on Kansas State University for youth 13-18 years.

**Greenbush Overnight 4-H Camp- June 9-10** - This is an overnight camp for youth 7-9 years.

**Sewing Camp- June 10-12**- Youth 10 and up. May not attend more than 2 years in a row. Takes place at the Extension Office.

**Area Challenge Day- June 12**- This event is located in Emporia and includes Horticulture, Crops, Family and Consumer Science, Favorite Foods, and Photography Judging.

**Geology Field Trips- June 13-15** - These are state events that travel to different parts of the state each year.

**Floating on Leadership- June 17** – This is a one-day event for youth 13-18 years old. Youth must know how to swim in order to attend.

**Greenbush Day Camp- June 18** – This camp is for youth 10-13 years old.

**Livestock Judging Camp- June 30- July 2**- This camp is open to all youth who are interested in learning more about judging livestock.

**Rock Springs Camp**- This is open to all youth who would like to attend. Registration and more information can be found on their website

## Yearly Calendar

There is a complete list of dates and events on the website for this year. Please note that not all date.

## YQCA Launches New Scholarship Program

YQCA is excited to announce the 2025 Scholarship Program available to high school seniors and students enrolled in a 2–4-year university or certification program. In order to be considered for this scholarship, youth must be a high school senior up to 21 years of age.

In order to be considered for this scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a high school senior or a high school graduate up to 21 years of age.
- Have an active YQCA certification at the time of application (2025).
- Have had active YQCA certification the previous two years (2023, 2024).

As a high school senior, the essay question regarding future plans to enter the agriculture

industry or commitment to a university will be considered for eligibility. Scholarship recipients must provide proof of enrollment to receive the award.

High school graduates must be currently enrolled in a 2-4 year university agriculture program or enrolled in a certification program to meet the scholarship requirements. If selected, scholarship funds will be sent directly to the school.

Applications open January 1, 2025, and close February 17, 2025.

Visit the [YQCA website](#) for additional details and the scholarship application.

## Host Families Needed for International Delegates

Looking for fun and excitement this summer? States 4-H and Kansas 4-H has a great opportunity for families this summer to host a new international friend in your home this summer. Kansas 4-H International Exchange Programs are offering hosting opportunities for families to host youth from Costa Rica: June 25 – July 19; Japan: July 21 – August 16; Norway: June 25 – July 19; and Taiwan: July 3 – August 2. Host families are needed to host an international boy or girl. The international youth will be between the ages of 12 - 18. Kansas 4-H's responsibility is to make host family assignments matching each delegate with an American same-gender host sibling as soon as possible so that families and exchange delegates can communicate and get to know each other.

Any Kansas family with children aged 10-19 who are interested in a cultural exchange may host. A separate bed is required, but not necessarily a separate room from the host sibling. Delegates are 100 percent medically covered with 4-H insurance and bring their own spending money. They can go on host family vacations and camping trips or join their host siblings for summer camps and the county fair. The focus is everyday family life.

Interested families can complete the application at <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/> to start the process. The Japanese Delegates' personal information forms arrive in February.

If you have further questions, please call Pam Van Horn, Kansas 4-H Japanese Exchange Coordinator, (785) 826-8917, or e-mail [pvanhorn@ksu.edu](mailto:pvanhorn@ksu.edu) or Mary Kay Munson, State Coordinator Costa Rica, Norway, and Taiwan, [mkm2@ksu.edu](mailto:mkm2@ksu.edu).

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Research and Extension



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**February 2025**

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