

4-H Clover News

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Ford County Monthly Newsletter

August 2025

How to Reach Us:

Ford Co. Extension

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Dodge City, KS 67801
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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



Congratulations, to all parade float riders on the King and Queen float, Family of the Year – John and Marcella Holman Family who rode their horses and all who walked or rode for other community organizations!



State Fair Deadlines..

If you are 4-H age 9 and older and received a BLUE ribbon or higher on a project (except livestock and only if there is a State Fair class/division), you may enter it into the State Fair. Some projects such as Visual Arts and Style Review have already been selected by judges at the county level. Other project areas have certain entry limit numbers such as only being able to take one exhibit (please see page 2 for more info). **All State Fair 4-H Exhibit Pre-Entry Forms are due to the Extension Office by Friday, August 8 at 4:00 pm** or earlier. Some projects require additional forms to be signed, so please stop by or call to see which forms are required for your project area. No late entries accepted. If you email entries, please check to be sure we received them. Actual exhibit needs to be brought into the Extension Office by Friday, August 29 unless it is Foods or Horticulture. Foods/Horticulture can be brought between 7:15 am – 7:45 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 4 to the Extension Office Parking lot and we will leave for the State Fair immediately at 8 a.m. Judging will take place that day at State Fair.

GENERAL PROJECT ENTRIES

If you received a blue or purple ribbon at the county fair, your exhibit may be eligible for the State Fair. Check with the Extension Office to review State Fair rules. You must be 9 years of age as of January 1, 2025, to show at the State Fair.

For entry guidelines and class numbers, contact our office.

Every exhibit must be pre-entered electronically through the Extension Office. Your item does not need to come to the Extension Office until later, but your **pre-entries are due on or before August 8 by 4:00 pm.** Double check with us to make sure we have you signed up for the correct project areas and classes!

Please remember to check the Kansas State Fair book for the rules and regulations for the project areas you will be participating in at the 2024 Kansas State Fair. You can find a link at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/fairs/kansas-state-fair/index.html>

If you have any questions, please contact the office for clarification.

What Can I take to the State Fair?

Clothing & Textiles: maximum of two exhibits in two different classes. Shopping in Style is only the Senior and Intermediate Grand Champions from Fair. They have been contacted.

Communications -Demos, Project Talks, Poetry or Prose & Illustrated Talks: must have received a blue or higher rating at county or district event.

Fiber Arts: one exhibit in each class, maximum of 3 exhibits.

Foods & Nutrition: only one non-perishable entry.

Food Preservation: maximum of two entries, one per class.

Engineering and Technology: Only ONE exhibit per class.

Horticulture: enter up to a total of 4 vegetables, fruit and or herb exhibits. If qualified with an out of season item, you may substitute it with an in-season exhibit.

Floriculture: enter up to a total of 4 floral exhibits. If qualified with an out of season item, you may substitute it with an in-season exhibit.

Photography: 1st-7th year in project can enter only ONE class. A 4-H'er with 8 years+ can enter TWO photos in different classes.

Shooting Sports: educational display or poster.

Visual Arts: ONLY the 4-H'ers selected at county contest. These exhibits received a 'State Fair' selection at fair & have been contacted by the office.

Woodworking: ONE exhibit.

Posters & Displays? These items are NOT eligible for the State Fair unless they fit under an educational exhibit in a division. (example—shooting sports).

Poultry and Rabbits:

Office will not take down, you must check in your own exhibits and care for them at the Fair. Office does pre-entry.

Livestock Animals had to be pre-entered earlier in the year.

TRANSPORTATION OF ENTRIES

The Extension Office will transport most exhibits to the State Fair. Please bring your exhibits to the Extension Office before 12:00 noon on Friday, August 29. Exhibits must be wrapped and/or boxed to protect them. Transportation of large exhibits and animals will be the responsibility of 4-H families. Food and horticulture exhibits may be brought to the parking lot across from the Extension Office on Thursday, September 4, between 7:15—7:45 a.m. We will attach the exhibit entry card/score sheet but any additional forms must be attached by exhibitor before you bring it. (Example— Food stickers, rocketry forms, woodworking plans, etc.)

GATE ADMISSION TICKETS

The State Fair is not providing premiums but an exhibitor will receive two gate tickets to fair.

STATE FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The assistance provided by Extension staff, teen and adult volunteers is absolutely vital to the 4-H Division at the State Fair! A list of exhibit areas and the number of individuals needed is available from our office. An admission ticket will be provided for each day a teen, adult or Extension staff volunteer works. The Kansas State Fair will provide a meal ticket for volunteers who work at least four hours. Parking in the public lots will be free again this year and hang-tags are not needed to park there. Let our office know if you are interested and we can sign you up.



September 5-14, 2025

Future Dates to Remember

August

8	State Fair Pre-Entries due
15	KJLS Entries due
25	4-H Ambassador/Exchange Mtg.
29	State Fair Exhibits due in office

September

1	Closed for Labor Day
5-14	Kansas State Fair
16	Can pick up State Fair exhibits from office
22	4-H Com. Leader/4-H Council Mtgs.

October

1	New 4-H Year Begins
1	Record Books due
5-11	National 4-H Week
11-12	48 Hours of 4-H
27	4-H Ambassador/Exchange mtg

November

1	Achievement Night
11	Veterans Day (office closed)

A BIG THANK YOU TO Our FAIRBOARD

Some of you may not be aware, but it is the Fair Board members who are maintaining the Fairgrounds and Building. They are the ones, mowing, cleaning, restocking restrooms, opening and closing of the building for rentals as well as maintaining the water coolers, heaters, replacing light bulbs, etc. They are devoting a lot of their time and energy to the Fairgrounds during the year, but especially during the County Fair. Some of them come early and stay really late to set up for shows, events and activities. Remember they are all volunteers, just as your community leaders, parents and project leaders are volunteers. They do these things because they believe in the 4-H program and want to have a nice facility for the fair and 4-H clubs to meet. Please help them during the year and not just at the fair if they ask you to pick up trash, move a table, vehicle, help take something inside or outside, etc. Take pride in the facility, say "thank you" to them for the time, energy, and personal funds they contribute.

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 (probably end of August/first of September). Your fair ribbon 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, grand and reserve grand champion medallions, miscellaneous awards, general premium, ribbons, and belt buckles awards 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 with the sponsor's name and your return address and a stamp on the envelope.**) You do not need to know the mailing address of the business or person, just put their name on the envelope, your name in the return area, stamp and we can fill out the rest.
- If you are not able to attend the Pillars of the Community event on August 10, you are asked to write 10 Thank you notes for livestock Grand Drive event sponsors.
- Please write your thank you's and pick up your checks in a timely manner. If checks are not cashed by February 1, the funds will be forfeited back to the Fair Association.**
- We encourage Clubs and families to consider writing a general Thank You and have members or siblings sign just one vs several thank you cards. Let us know if your club or family does this so we can mark it off. Your club can do a general thank you for Victory Electric (t-shirts); Ford County Commissioners and other general sponsors for the Fair and for your premiums, instead of doing an individual thank you to them. Check with us if you have questions.**

County Fair Ribbon meaning.

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.

All completed exhibits meeting the requirements should receive a rating.

The following ribbons apply:

WHITE: Fair, denotes much improvement needed. Fails to meet minimum standards.

RED: Good, some improvements needed. Meets minimum standards.

BLUE: Excellent, minor improvements needed. Exceeds minimum standards.

PURPLE: Superior, outstanding on all standards.

Don't forget, if your exhibit had a sticker instead of a ribbon on it and you want a ribbon but didn't get it exchanged for a ribbon on Monday evening, you can still pick up ribbons here in the Extension office!

::Ford County Shout Outs::

- ALL of the **Fair Board Members** for organizing and managing this year's fair! We appreciate all your hard work!
- **Everyone** who helped with setting and cleaning up; all of the Superintendents; and all of the 4-H members who exhibited projects at the fair!
- **Braeden Simon and Riley Cundiff** for being selected 2025 Ford County King and Queen!
- **All of the volunteers and sponsors** who helped with events and/or sponsorship at the Fair.
- **All the local celebrities and senior showman** who participated in the Celebrity Showmanship contest.
- To all **Round Robin participants and winners**.
- To **Lindsay Durler** for her leadership in conducting a Fair Skill-a-thon and to all the participants.
- **Wright Wonder Workers and DIY Jrs clubs** for organizing the Barnyard Olympics.
- All **4-H'ers** for their help with Turtle Races.
- To **all who qualified** to take projects to the State Fair.
- To **all the winners** who found the Fair "4-H Medallion" and everyone who searched and enjoyed looking for it!!
- **Cierra Blackwell and Michelle Mettling** for your dedication, help, and learning what all goes on at the County Fair! You did a fabulous job and made it through your first fair.
- **Brandi and Melvin Stein** for the trailer and pickup and for driving the Exchange float in the parade.
- **John and Marcella Holman Family** for being our Family of the Year honorees in the Parade.
- **Ford County 4-H Foundation, City of Dodge City and Fair Board** for a wonderful way to end the Fair with a trip to the Dodge City Lagoon Water Park for everyone who helped with clean up!
- **ANYONE & EVERYONE** we have missed who have made this summer a success!

Our 4-H King and Queen Candidates . We did not get this info mentioned during the Fair. THANK YOU! Funds raised was around \$2500.00.

DIY Jrs.—Lyndon Custer, son of Lance and Livia Custer of Minneola. Lyndon will be a HS freshman and has a variety of 4-H projects. Ali Carcamo daughter of Kaisha and Yasir Carcamo. She will be a 10th grader in Minneola this coming year and her projects include visual arts, foods, photography and Sewing/fiber arts.

HH — Brigham Burke, son of Dan and Cindi Burke of Spearville. He will be a 4th grader at Spearville Elementary. Some of his projects include beef, Market goat, foods, horticulture and visual arts. Landree Hubbell is the daughter of Drew and Ashley Hubbell of Spearville. She will be a 4th grader at Spearville Elementary. Her projects include Foods, Photography, sewing and visual arts.

LC — Dallas Burnett is the son of Jeremy and Jenny Burnett of Dodge City. He is home schooled and will be in the 3rd grade. He enjoys the Photography, Poultry and Rabbit projects. Riley Cundiff is the daughter of Derek and Ashley Cundiff. Riley graduated from DC High School this past May. Her projects include Horse, Meat Goat, Sheep, Photography, Visual Arts -Leather and Woodworking.

RB — Easton Goertzen is the son of Brandon and Leslie Goertzen of Dodge City. He will be a 5th grader in Dodge City this year. His projects include welding and pets. Emery Rumbaugh is the daughter of Tanner and Samantha Rumbaugh. Emery's projects include fiber arts, foods, pets, photography, sewing, visual arts and shopping in style.

VB — Shaun Scott, son of Spencer and Kylene Scott of Wright. He will be a freshman this coming year. His projects include beef, foods, meat goats, pets, photography and shopping in style. He also did livestock judging. Harlee Tilley is the daughter of Scott and Shana Tilley. Her projects include welding, fiber arts, photography, sheep and Visual Arts.

WWW— Braeden Simon is the son of Melvin and Brandi Stein of Spearville. He graduated from Spearville High School this past May. His projects are welding, beef, foods, leadership, poultry, sheep and shooting sports, and swine. Hannah Durler is the daughter of Matt and Lindsay Durler of Wright. Hannah graduated from DC High School this past May. Her projects include beef, foods., photography and shopping in style.

Round Robin Results

Intermediate Round Robin:

Senior Round Robin

Grand Champion: Adeline Robinson
Res. Grand Champion: Rebecca Durler
Ethan Holman -1st blue
Finn Martinez -2nd blue
Emma Ackerman -3rd blue
Other participants:
Hannah Durler
Klayton Hessman
Julian Miramontes
Josie Robinson

Grand Champion: Matilyn Durler
Res. Grand Champion: Eli Holman
Addyson Keeler -1st blue
Bodi Martinez - 2nd blue
Shaun Scott -3rd blue
Other participants:
Klayson Cundiff
Lena Gleason
Jace Langlois
Chase Martinez
Kimber McCormick

Jr. Round Robin:

Grand Champion: Wyatt Henry
Res. Grand Champion: Joe Durler
McKenzie Langlois -1st blue
Quaid Gleason -2nd blue
Klayton Goetz -3rd tie blue
Hannah Horacek -3rd tie blue
Other participants:
Talia Simon

OVERALL HERDSMANSHIP WINNERS:

1st- Lucky Clovers (blue)
2nd— Richland Boosters (red)
3rd— DIY Jrs (white)

Rate of Gain Winners:

Market Beef —

Grand Champion - Chance Scott — tag 22033

Reserve Grand Champion—Emma Ackerman— tag 22030

Market Sheep —

Grand Champion— Quinlan Simon—tag 18443

Reserve Grand Champion — Klayson Cundiff—tag 18454

Market Meat Goat —

Grand Champion — Kaycee Swan—tag 76678

Reserve Grand Champion — Adrienne Wasson—tag 97960

Market Swine —

Grand Champion — Rachael Swonger—tag 36186

Reserve Grand Champion — Rebecca Durler — tag 14217

Rate of Gain information for all of the areas are posted on our website

4-H Ambassador/Exchange Meeting

The regularly scheduled Ambassador/Exchange Meeting will be held the last Monday, August 26 at 7 pm.

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).**

Project Records and Award applications are due into our office by October 1. The Record Book General and the Livestock forms plus the Record Book Check in Sheet are available on our website under 4-H, then forms, and then under Record Books. Records can be completed using the new Z-Books format also.

Z-Books a record book method!

ZBooks is a user-friendly platform that allows members to complete record books from any device, including mobile! You can log in using your phone or by your computer!

Can you imagine putting in your weigh in data immediately after weighing your animal? Or putting your Club Day placing in right after you receive your rating?

The system allows members to track items throughout the project year — including photos, animal weights, expenses, meetings, presentation, etc.

Get started on those records now, by creating an account at <https://4h.zsuites.org/>

Other information, along with video tutorials can be found on the Kansas 4-H website at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ZBooks.html>

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.

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
- ◆ Project Record Form (includes a story or reflection section)—one for each projected
- ◆ 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!
- ◆ No additional stories beside the individual record story. Each project record has a section for a story or project reflection. A general story covering your 4-H year is not required but can be included if you want.

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. If you need help on filling out the forms, the agents can sometimes come up with how to complete.

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!

RECORD BOOKS

Why turn in a Record Book?

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 Project Record form 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 record for.

What kind of awards can I apply for?

Each of the 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.

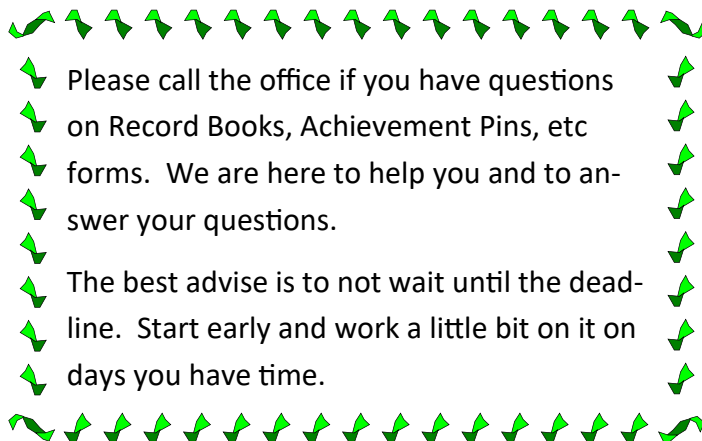
Visit: <https://www.ford.k-state.edu/4-h/4hrecordbooks/index.html>

To find all of the forms needed to fill out your record books. Most forms are available in a form fillable format, or we can provide you with a copy! Additional resources include at the website:

4-H Record Books - Purpose ; Project Goals; Knowledge & Skills Learned in Project; Citizenship vs Leadership; Planning for Leadership Roles; etc.

VERY IMPORTANT:

Before you begin to keep project record reports for the year, please make sure you have a current version of Adobe Reader DC. If you do not, you may download a free version, here:<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>. When you click on that link, the following screen will appear. "Uncheck" the 3 boxes in the middle column and click on the link circled in green to begin your download. Follow the prompts to download and install Adobe Acrobat Reader DC.



Ford County Extension Office
100 Gunsmoke
Dodge City, KS 67801

Dear 4-H Families,

Thank you to all the superintendents and 4-H families for their help and patience during the 2025 Ford County Fair. It was greatly appreciated. Thanks again.

This newsletter has information concerning County Fair and for the 2025 State Fair. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY. The State Fair will be held September 5—14, in Hutchinson, KS

All State Fair 4-H static exhibit Judging will be done on September 4. Please read about when to have projects into the office within the newsletter.

The start of the new 4-H year will begin October 1. Start promoting to your friends, neighbors, and even relatives about joining 4-H for 2025-2026. We would like to increase our 4-H membership this coming year and YOU are important in this mission. By talking about why you are a member, you can encourage others to join and have fun, but also learn life long skills and specific project information. YOU are the best advertising for why other youth would benefit by joining our 4-H program.



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

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