

4-H Clover News

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Ford County Monthly Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2024

How to Reach Us:

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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



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**

camp, 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 or tag any livestock, the exhibitor must be enrolled before the weigh-in and tagging event.** Approval of enrollment can be streamlined if you indicate payment is by coupon and pay enrollment fee at our Extension Office.

If you are a current screened volunteer in your 4-H club and plan to continue to do so, please complete your online 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 and click on the Volunteer link for a form-fillable version. Andrea will be sending out links to those that still need background checks.

If you have any questions on what you still need to complete on your 2024 volunteer paperwork, please contact the office!

County Club Day—February 3

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

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

Regional Club Day — March 2

Saturday, March 2, 8:00 am, Dodge City Nazarene Church
1700 W. Ross Blvd, Dodge City

Schedules will be available online the Thursday before.

If a County Club Day presentation receives a Top Blue, you will be notified.

COUNTY FAIR & OTHER SHOWS 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 weigh-in and tagging event dates. **Beef weigh-in/tagging has been set for Thursday, February 15 from 4:00-6:00 pm.** at Winter Livestock. In case of bad weather, it will be moved to Thursday, Feb. 22. You will be notified if it changes. Small livestock weigh-in and tagging will be Tuesday, April 16, 4:00-6:00 pm 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 and tagging dates.**

What if the 4-H'er is unable to be at the weigh-in and tagging? No worries, the ANIMAL can be brought to the event 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 is Monday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m. We have just finalized an out-of-state exchange with a county in Minnesota. We will be hosting this summer and traveling in 2025.

4-H Exchange members/families are still selling Halladay'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 April 13. If you would like a vendor space, give the office a call.

If you are interested in joining this dynamic group, please contact Ethel at the office.

ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP

Entomology Project Workshop will be March 23, 9:00 am at the Fair Building. If you want to learn more about the Entomology project, reserve the date and plan to attend. Call the office if you have questions.

SEWING AND TEXTILES PROJECT MEETINGS

Lois Swonger has volunteered to hold county wide Sewing Project meetings this spring. If you would like to learn the basics of sewing this is your chance. Please contact Lois at 620-255-4452 if you are interested.

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 Rachel Harrold and Kyle Ruehle for having record Books that competed at area judging.
- ◆ Congratulations to Kyle Ruehle for having his Beef, Clothing/Textiles, Leadership and Visual Arts Record Books selected for state judging.
- ◆ Congratulations to the Ambassador/Exchange officers: Braeden Simon, President; Kendall Burns, Vice President and Madison Mink, Secretary/Treasurer.

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 **\$15 per person** (changed 1/1/2024) 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 - June 5-7, 2024

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days will take place on the campus of Kansas State University.

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

June 12-14, 2024—Theme of “It’s In the Bag”

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.

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 at anytime. You have choices of 4 days/3 nights or 6 days/5 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. Transportation is scheduled to pick up from Dodge City or this area for 3 night Camp 2 (June 5-8 (Wed.-Sat.) and 5 night Camp 3 (June 9-14 (Sun.-Fri.)). Call the office for more details.

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. This is available online and Andrea has scheduled an in person meeting for March 2, 4:00 pm at the Fair Building.

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 **NEW Achievement Pin applications** 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 enroll by May 1 if you need 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.

Do You Know....

...the Ford County Fair Board members maintain the Fairgrounds themselves? Board members mow the grass when needed, remove snow, fix and maintain the pens, gates, etc. They are the ones who clean the building (mop and sweep floors, clean the bathrooms, take out trash that has not been removed, etc). They open and close when it is rented out. There is no hired janitor/maintenance person since the county returned the ownership back to the Fair Association as of January 1, 2022. The county still supports the Fair Association with a small annual appropriation amount.

The Fair Association is trying to raise funds to support their future plans to improve the Fairgrounds. This includes air conditioning the Fair Building. They have had several fund raisers and will continue to have more in the future.

Help raise funds by eating at Applebee's or arrange for take out on February 27. Order any item from their special menu and the Fair Board will get a percentage of the meal.

They are also having a Golf Tournament on April 13, with funds raised going to the general premium fund.

There has been some discussion concerning possible Fair schedule changes. We will be sending out a Qualtrics survey soon to 4-H members and their families for input before any changes will be included and finalized. Be watching for a link to the survey to be emailed to all families in the next couple of weeks.

★ **APPLEBEE'S** ★
"TOGETHER WE CARE"
FUNDRAISER FOR
THE FORD COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27
ALL DAY
DINE-IN OR CARSIDE TO GO
50% of food sales will go to support the Ford County Fair Association when you order off the TWC menu. Choose from 5 great items on the Together We Care menu.



Three-Cheese Chicken Penne
Fiesta Lime Chicken
Classic Bacon Cheeseburger
Chicken Tender Platter
Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad

406 W. Wyatt Earp | Dodge City



FORD COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION
GENERAL PREMIUM FUND

GOLF TOURNAMENT

APRIL 13, 2024
LOCATION MARIAH HILLS
TEE OFF: 9AM
LUNCH: NOON
FEE: \$100/PERSON

REGISTER YOUR TEAM BY CALLING
BROOKLYN DROSTE: 620-682-5008
JAKE RING: 620-654-6206

Informational Meetings for Ford County 4-H Livestock Participants

4-H Livestock Exhibitors and Families Welcome

February 17, 2024
2 pm & 6 pm
Ford County Fair Building

This is an opportunity for 4-H Livestock Exhibitors and Families to learn and ask questions about the recently approved changes to the format of the Fair Auction



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

Dear 4-H Families,

This newsletter contains lots of important information and deadlines. Please read it carefully.

County Club Day schedule is posted on our website.

We want everyone to have the opportunity to receive the 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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