



4-H UPDATES



Official Newsletter of Meadowlark Extension District 4-H

DECEMBER 2023—
JANUARY 2024

This Issue:

PAGE 2

- [4-H Horse Panorama](#)
- [Record Report Form Refresher](#)
- [Junior Producer Days](#)

PAGE 3

- [4-H Club Day Participation Options](#)

PAGE 4

- [Photography Challenge](#)
- [Regional Record Book Judging](#)
- [Ring in the New Year by Offering a First-Hand Experience with Diversity](#)
- [Thank you, Jefferson County!](#)
- [Why 4-H???](#)

PAGE 5

- [Jackson County News](#)

PAGE 6

- [Jefferson County News](#)

PAGE 7

- [Nemaha County News](#)

PAGE 8

- [Calendar of Events](#)

New Employee in District



Heather Roenne started working on November 20 as the Jefferson County 4-H Events Coordinator. She has been a long-time 4-H advocate and has been involved with the Meadowlark District for many years.

Roenne earned a bachelor's degree in Education from Kansas State University and has taught in the school system for twenty years. Her most recent employment was at Jefferson West High School where she taught English and advised the Student Council. Her ability to create positive relationships with students will be an asset. Roenne brings her teaching experience, organizing skills, and delight in learning with her to the Meadowlark District.

She resides outside of Meriden with her husband, Jason. Her four children have all aged out of the Meadowlark 4-H program, so she understands the concerns, challenges and successes that parents feel. Roenne has also served as a project leader, project volunteer and fair superintendent. Roenne also currently serves on the 4-H Foundation. She is excited to help make all of the good that is going on in 4-H visible to the communities because it is in collaboration that good things become great.

Heather can be reached via email: hroenne@ksu.edu

4-H Club Goals and Area Record Reports Due

Completed club goals for the 2023-2024 4-H year are due in the Extension office by **January 5** by 4:30 PM. This form can be found on the forms page of the Meadowlark District website: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html>. Also, due to the office this day are Record Reports that are heading to the NE Regional Screening. Youth eligible to submit at this level should have received correspondence at or after 4-H Achievement Events in November.

District Extension Offices Closed

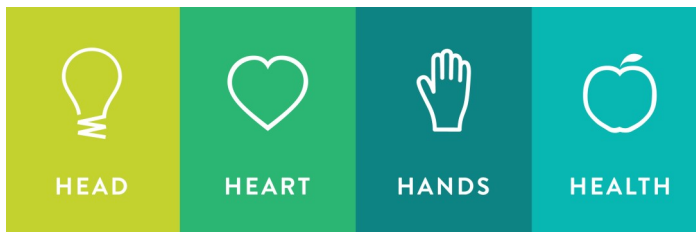
The Meadowlark Extension District Offices will be closed **December 25 & 26** for Christmas, **December 27-29** for winter break, **January 1** for New Years Day and **January 15** for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

We will reopen at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, **January 2** and on Tuesday, **January 16**.

We hope you all have a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!

4-H Horse Panorama

The 2024 4-H Horse Panorama will be held Saturday, **January 27** at the K-State Salina campus. **Registration** to be announced. For more information go to <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/horse/horse-panorama.html>. Registration is due **January 2**.



Kansas 4-H Record Report Form Refresher

It is never too soon to start on 4-H record books! You will be most successful if you work on them all year long, a little bit at a time. ZBooks within ZSuite is now an electronic record keeping option for the entire state. Project Record Reports and the Kansas Permanent Record are a part of ZBooks.

All the information you need to get started can be found at: https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/project_records.html. **PLEASE USE ONLY THESE LINKS AND ALWAYS REFERENCE THE MEADOWLARK DISTRICT WEBSITE FOR ALL FORMS!** You will want to review the “Guide to Kansas 4-H Project Recognition” and “MED 4-H Record Book Tips” which are located on the above referenced page.

Setting goals is a great place to start, the goal-setting guide located at www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/4H1100.pdf may help you set meaningful goals within your project work. Please keep these items in mind as you get started this year.

- ALL of the PDF and Word forms **MUST BE DOWNLOADED AND SAVED** to a machine, drive, etc. if you want to edit, save, print later, and use throughout the year.
- If you do not have the latest version of Adobe Reader, you **WILL** have issues, so please follow the instructions found on our website above on getting that installed on your machine.
- The Personal Information Page found linked on our website is the only one that will be accepted. If you have old versions saved on machines, please replace with this form-fill PDF.
- The Permanent Record had some minor formatting changes. We encourage you to use the one dated 2020, but the 2008 one will be accepted as well. Permanent record is in ZBooks too.
- Only the Project Report forms found on our website or within ZSuite will be accepted. **PLEASE NOTE** that there are 3 age divisions and you need to use the one corresponding to your 4-H age on January 2, 2024.
- Additionally, there are two types of reports – one for animal projects and one for all other project areas. If you are unsure of what report to use – **PLEASE ASK!**
- No matter if using ZBooks or PDF formats, the amount of submissions “spots” on the Project Report pages are fixed. If you have more of a particular section that what “fits” you will need to summarize in a format that works best for you, as these reports **DO NOT** expand or shrink. ZBooks does allow unlimited entries, but only a fixed amount can be “included in Record Book”.
- Working/scratch copies are always a good idea, especially if you work on records throughout the year! We can get paper copies of records to you, if you request this.

Junior Producer Days , Manhattan

Junior producer days are hosted to provide educational material and hands-on experiences for youth, parents, leaders, and extension agents. Various speakers share information on topics such as selection, nutrition, showmanship, fitting, reproduction, feeding, and disease control. Talks, demonstrations, hands-on activities, and door prizes are present at all events.

Junior Beef Producer Days

Date: Saturday, **March 2**

Cost: \$20/person

Registration Deadline:
February 12

Junior Sheep Producer Days

Date: Saturday, **March 16**

Cost: \$20/person

Registration Deadline:
February 26



4-H Club Day Participation Options

Complete details can be found at: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/docs/4h/resources/4H-Club-Day-Guide-Book.pdf>

| SECTION | EVENT | PARTICIPANTS | TIME ALLOWED (maximum time) |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Public Presentations | Show & Share/Tell (<i>non-competitive</i>) | 1 only, Cloverbuds/ Beginning 4-Hers | 3 minutes |
| | Project Talks | 1 only, 7-13 yrs of age | 7 minutes |
| | Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks | -Sr. Division - 1 or 2, 14-18 yrs of age -Jr. Division - 1 or 2, 7-13 yrs of age | 15 minutes 10 minutes |
| | Public Speaking | 1 only, 14-18 yrs of age | 15 minutes |
| | Impromptu Speaking | 1 only, 14-18 yrs of age | 5 minute each for Preparation/ Presentation |
| | Mock Interviews | 1 only, 14-18 yrs of age | 15 minutes |
| Parliamentary Procedure | Model Meetings | Any number of 4-H members plus 1 or 2 adult leaders | 35 minutes (<i>Excludes roll call</i>) |
| | Gavel Games -Sr. Division (14+) -Jr. Division (7-13) | 4 member/officers, plus 1 optional alternate member, for max of 5 | 30 minutes, including 5 minutes of prep |
| Talent-Music | Chorus | 16 or more 4-H members <i>Club or composite group (12 or more if Club membership is less than 16)</i> | 2 numbers |
| | Vocal Ensemble | 2-15 4-H members <i>Club or composite group</i> | 2 numbers |
| | Vocal Solo | 1 - 4-H Member any age | 1 number |
| | Band/Orchestra | 16 or more 4-H members <i>Club or composite group</i> | 2 numbers |
| | Instrumental Ensemble | 2-15 4-H members | 2 numbers |
| | Instrumental Solo | 1 - 4-H Member any age | 1 number |
| | Piano Solo | 1 - 4-H Member any age | 1 number |
| Talent-Dance | Individual Dance | 1 - 4-H Member | 5 minutes |
| | Small Group Dance | 2 - 4 Members | 5 minutes |
| | Medium Group Dance | 5 -12 Members | 5 minutes |
| | Large Group Dance | 13 or more Members | 5 minutes |
| Dramatics | Skit | Any # of members | 5 minutes |
| | Creative Dramatics | Any # of members | 15 minutes |
| | Other (Novelty, stunt, puppets, etc) | Any # of 4-H members | 5 minutes |
| | Readings | -Sr. Division - 1 only, 14-18 yrs of age -Jr. Division - 1 only, 7-13 yrs of age | 5 minutes |

- **AGE of the oldest participant in a group will determine if group entry is Junior or Senior.**
Example: If one youth is 14 or older and the rest are 13 and younger the group will compete in the Sr. group.
- **CLOVERBUDS MAY NOT PARTICIPATE AT REGIONAL 4-H DAY AS IT IS A COMPETITIVE EVENT***
(Show and Share/Tell is the proper place for Cloverbuds to participate at a local 4-H Club Day Event.)

Photography Challenge

Thinking of the 4-H pledge, submit a photo that you feel represents each of the following challenges as it applies to 4-H. During December and January, we will be offering 6 challenges for all 4-H members to participate in. Please visit <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/> for details.

- Email photos to meadowlark4h@ksu.edu
- Please include your Name, Age and 4-H Club
- Photos will be posted on Meadowlark District 4-H Facebook page and the photos with most likes during their weekly challenge will be your weekly winners.
- Gift cards given to winners

Regional Record Book Judging

Would you like to see how other 4-Hers fill out their record books? Regional Record Book Judging will be happening in Manhattan on January 9th. We have the opportunity to take volunteers to judge the Northeast Region's record books. If you are adept and want to help us judge books on the 9th, we would certainly be appreciative! Contact your local office or Clay for more information!

Ring in the New Year by Offering a First-Hand Experience with Diversity

Experience shows that learning other ways of doing things helps us be successful in a diverse world. Now is an excellent time for families to explore other cultures through hosting exchange programs. As 4-H families make plans for the new year, it's the perfect time to apply to host a 4-H exchange youth or young adult. Kansas hopes to host junior high-aged youth from Japan and 15-18 year olds from Costa Rica and/or Norway for one month this summer through States' 4-H International Exchange Program (S4-H). We will also host students for the school year from Japan and South Korea through States' 4-H's Academic Year Program (AYP). Young adults over 18 from throughout the world are hosted for 2-3 weeks between June and September.

When you want to get more information or apply, check out the hosting section of the Kansas 4-H web site <https://www.kansas4-h.org/>, (Look under news and updates.) and contact the exchange coordinator: Pam Van Horn, pvanhorn@ksu.edu, for Japan Summer Inbound; Mary Kay Munson, mkm2@ksu.edu, for other States' 4-H Summer Inbound and AYP hosting; and Chelsy Champlin, chelsycoen@gmail.com, for IFYE Hosting. Most of these exchanges will be making placements in January-February, the time when there is the greatest chance to find a good match for your family. Check it out today.

Thank You, Jefferson County!

I wanted to let you know how much I have appreciated your words of encouragement and thanks as I left my position as 4-H Program Manager in the Oskaloosa office in August. It's wonderful to hear how much 4-H means to you and the great memories we have made together over 13 years. I'm anxious to see what wonderful accomplishments will happen in the future as you all work together to "Make the Best Better". Keep working hard to make a positive difference in your club, communities, country and world through 4-H!

~Linda Gantz

Why 4-H ???

*(Noting the **IMPACT** of the 4-H Program in the lives of young people, in their own words.)*

"When I joined 4-H I was a shy 13-year-old who did not like meeting new people. Now I'm older and typically seen as a person who put's themselves out there and is typically considered a very happy, outgoing person. I have grown in my personality and outlooks on life."

Jackson County News

Do We Have Your Preferred Email?

Our staff uses the email addresses and phone numbers associated with your 4-H Online enrollment for correspondences. Make sure your contact information is current in 4-H Online! Call the office and we can help get all adult emails (and kid, if you want) entered into 4-H Online so everyone stays informed. Multiple emails and phone numbers can be added to your account.

Community Service Project

The Jackson County 4-H Council is looking for a community service project for the upcoming 4-H year. If anyone has an idea for a community service project, please contact one of your 4-H Council representatives.

Achievement Program

I would just like to congratulate everyone on their hard work they put into their record books this year. We had a great turn out at the Achievement Program this year. Special congrats to those individuals and clubs that received awards this past 4-H year. Just a reminder that record books is not just based on how you did at the fair but your whole 4-H project (including project talks, demonstrations, leadership, citizenship and overall activity within the whole 4-H program).

Special thanks to the Ambassador Group for leading the ceremony and the clubs who helped set up, take down, clean up and serve refreshments.

4-H Council Elects Officers

4-H Council met on Thursday, November 9. The election of officers was held and the 2023-24 Council Officers are the following:

- President – Jennifer Buck Soldier Boosters
- Vice-President – Alex Kester Hoyt Livewires
- Secretary – Brooke Slipke North Jackson Jets
- Treasurer – Savannah Cattrell Soldier Boosters
- Reporter – Dalton Peters Straight Arrows.

The next 4-H Council Meeting will be Thursday, **February 8** at 7:00 PM.

Ambassador Project Event

Come spend the morning with the Jackson County Ambassadors on Tuesday, **January 2** from 10:00 AM to Noon at the Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex. We will be making a community service project, 4-H pin holders, setting goals and making snacks. Open to all 4-Hers. Please RSVP to the Extension Office by **December 20**.

Project Meetings

Are you looking for ideas for Project Meetings this spring? If there is something you would like to learn about or have someone interested in teaching, please contact Cara. Be watching your emails for some possible project meetings in the near future.

County Club Day

County Club Day will be held **February 24** at Jackson Heights Elementary School. Please watch for updated e-mails and sign up forms coming out in **January**.

4-H Club Day is an event which gives participants an opportunity to tell others about their 4-H projects and demonstrate their talents and abilities. Presentations such as talks, demonstrations, speeches, skits, music and dance are judged and awarded ribbons. The public is invited to come, watch and learn more about our 4-H/ Youth Development Program.

Community Easter Egg Hunt

The 4-H Ambassadors are hosting the annual community Easter Egg Hunt again for the Holton Chamber. This is a huge task that we are all looking forward to. As we get closer to the date, we will be asking for candy donations from the local 4-H clubs. We have 1,000 eggs to fill. This event will take place **March 30** at the NE Kansas Heritage Complex. Watch for more undated information.

2023-2024 Fair Booster Program

Fair booster information will be sent in the mail in January. We are asking each family to sell at least five sponsorships. Money will be used to help pay for fair judges & ribbon premiums. The 4-Her who sells the most will receive a \$50 gift card of their choice.

4-H Scholarship Application

The Jackson County 4-H Council Scholarship Application is available on our district website and at the Extension Office. This application is for youth attending State & National events such as Discovery Days, CIA, KYLF, Campference, Congress, etc.... If you have any questions about applying for this scholarship, please contact the Extension Office.

Important Dates:

January 1 – Fair book changes due to the office

January 2 – Club Goals due to the office

January 2 - Ambassador Project Event

February 8 – 4-H Council Meeting

March 3 – Beef Weigh-In, Holton Livestock Exchange

Jefferson County News

Citizenship & Leadership

Citizenship means helping out in your community and serving others without compensation. Leadership is having major responsibility for guiding and the planning and carrying out of an activity to help a group attain its goal. Wondering what you can do for citizenship and leadership activities in your projects? Check out this guide to community service opportunities that will give you all sorts of ideas: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/docs/4h/resources/4-H-Project-Related-Community-Service-Opportunities.pdf>

Achievement Banquet

Congratulations to all of our award winners at our Achievement Banquet on November 11! We appreciate everyone who completed their project record books and hope you will use any comments you received to, "Make the Best Better" in the coming year.

Important Dates:

Fair Book Changes

All revisions to be considered must be submitted to extension office by **January 5**.

2023-2024 Club Goals

These are due in the office Friday, **January 5**.

JF Co. Booster Club

The Booster Club will meet at 7:00 PM on **January 17** at the Ozawkie Community Center.

Beef Weigh-In

Beef Weigh-In will be from 10:00 AM to Noon on Saturday, **March 9** at the fairgrounds. In case of inclement weather, you will be notified. The Snow date is reserved for **March 23**.

County Beef Project Meeting

There will be a county Beef project meeting on **December 9** at 4:30 PM in the Valley Falls Fair Building.

County Horse Project Meeting

There will be a county Horse project meeting at 6:00 PM on **December 9** in the Valley Falls Fair Building.

Spring Beef Show

Spring Beef Show is Saturday, **March 30**, at the fairgrounds.

New Family Information Night

Are you new to 4-H? Come and learn how to get involved on Thursday, **December 21** at the Valley Falls Fair Building beginning at 6:00 PM. The Ambassadors will have a variety of projects showcased and a fun activity. There will be information on resources and ways to get involved. Please call the Oskaloosa Office with questions: (785) 863-2212.

Jefferson Co. Foundation

The annual meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, **January 24**, at the Valley Falls Fair Building. Each club is required to have two representatives in attendance so that club members are eligible for event funding. Youth are strongly encouraged to attend with adult reps. A meal will be served, and each club is asked to provide one dessert to share. This is a great opportunity for a club member to make a dessert to share and count as Citizenship within your project area.

4-H Club Day

Now is the time to start preparing for our County 4-H Club Day at 10:00 AM on Saturday, **February 17** at the Perry Lecompton High School. The snow date is set for **February 24** at Jefferson West High School. We encourage everyone to be involved in at least one activity and more is better. New members should consider entering a Show and Share or Project Talk. For great info. on entry areas, check out our District Club Day guide at: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/resources.html>

Submit your entries to your club leader. Entry forms are due in the office on **February 10**. Remember to make all needed copies ahead of time.

Special Recognitions went out to the following:

- **Family of the Year:** Matt and Georgia Hollis
- **Leadership Milestones:** Pat Winsor, 25 years
- **Key Award Winner:** Noah Vaughan, Billtown Go Getters
- **4-H Alumni Winner:** Kelly Gilleece

Many members received project and achievement-level awards. Keep up the good work as you begin your projects this year.

Nemaha County News

Achievement Event

We would like to congratulate everyone on all their hard work they put into their record books this year. A special thank you to Todd Fehr's family who donated and smoked the pork for the event. A big thank you also goes to the Ambassadors for leading the event, the clubs who helped set up, clean up and take care of the refreshment tables.

4-H Scholarships

Did you know that Kansas 4-H gives out several thousands of dollars in scholarships each year? Well now is the time to work on your applications. For information on applying for scholarships go to <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>

Fair Sponsors

Do you or someone you know want to be a sponsor at the fair this year? The Fairboard will soon be sending out sponsor letters. Forms can be found on our website at <http://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html>.

Thank you for your support.!

Important Dates:

Judging Contest Clinic

You are all invited to a judging contest clinic in Effingham Saturday, **December 9** from 9 AM to Noon. You will learn how to properly fill out the judging cards, what to look for in a contest and go over the results. The areas we will be judging are Family and Consumer Science, Photography and Horticulture.

Christmas Caroling

The Ambassadors would like to invite everyone to come and sing Christmas carols at the care homes in Seneca and Sabetha **December 21**. We will be meeting at the Community Building parking lot at 3:15 PM and caroling in Seneca from 3:30 to 4:30. Then will travel to Sabetha to carol from 5:00-6:00 where we will start at the AC home. You are welcome to just come to Seneca or Sabetha or both towns. Let's go warm the elderly's hearts for the holidays.

Food Fare

January 2, from 11:15 to 11:45 AM will be our Food Fare. Hopefully you have been discussing things at your club level about this event. The theme this year will be "Holidays". All 4-Hers are invited to come sample food from each club's booth. Make sure your club gets their recipes to Deb before **December 8**.

Project Discovery Event

Come explore many different projects **January 2** from 12:30 to 2:30 PM. We will be focusing on multiple project areas. We will have 15-minute rotations, where you will learn about new projects with hands-on activities.

Beef Weigh-In

Mark your calendars for Beef Weigh-In **February 23**. Be watching for more information.

Club Days

Be thinking about what you or your club will be doing for Club Day on **February 24** at Jackson Heights High School. This will be a combined event with Jackson County like in the past. The event will begin at 9:00 AM. Registration is due to your club leader before **February 1**.

Fairbook Changes

Did you see a mistake in the fairbook this year, or maybe something did not make sense? We need all fairbook changes by **March 1**. Please let us know if there is anything that needs corrected.

2024 Fair

Mark your calendars NOW! The 2024 fair will be **July 25-29**. Consultation judging will be Wednesday, **July 17**. The fair theme will be "Summer Nights and Arena Lights".

Congratulations Key Winners

This year we had five 4-Hers receive the Key Award. This is a very prestigious award. Congratulations to:

- Dane Haverkamp – Pony Express
- John Langill – Pony Express
- Alex Rowland – Red Rustlers
- Katie Tangeman – HHHH
- Ryan Uphaus – HHHH



Meadowlark Extension District

Oskaloosa Office

P.O. Box 326
100 E. Washington
Oskaloosa, KS 66066-0326

Address Service Requested

Calendar of Events

- Dec. 1:** Regional 4-H Judging School/Test registration due
KS 4-H T-shirts available to be ordered by
- Dec. 2:** Elite Livestock Judging Clinic & Contest
- Dec. 7:** Annual Fairboard Meeting, JA
- Dec. 8:** Club Food Fare recipes due to Deb, NM
- Dec. 9:** Regional 4-H Judging School/Contest, Effingham
Beef project meeting, Valley Falls
Horse project meeting, Valley Falls
- Dec. 20:** Ambassador Project Event RSVP date, JA
- Dec. 21:** New Family Information Night, JF
Christmas Caroling, NM
- Jan 1:** Fair book changes due to office, JA
- Jan. 2:** Food Fare, NM
Project Discovery Event, NM
Club Goals due to office, JA
Ambassador Project Event, JA
Horse Panorama registration due
- Jan. 5:** 2023-24 Club Goals due in the office
Fair book revisions to be considered due, JF
- Jan. 9:** Regional Record Book Judging, Manhattan
- Jan. 17:** JF Co. Booster Club meeting, Ozawkie
- Jan. 24:** JF Co. Foundation Annual meeting, Valley Falls
- Jan. 27:** Horse Panorama, Salina
- Feb. 8:** 4-H Council meeting, JA
- Feb. 10:** 4-H Club Day entry forms due to office, JF
- Feb. 12:** Junior Beef Producer Days registration due
- Feb. 1:** 4-H Club Day registrations due, NM
- Feb. 17:** 4-H Club Day, JF
- Feb. 23:** Beef Weigh-In, NM
- Feb. 24:** Tentative 4-H Club Day, JA/NM
- Feb. 26:** Junior Sheep Producer Days registration due
- Mar. 1:** Fair book changes to office, NM
- Mar. 2:** Junior Beef Producer Days, Manhattan
- Mar. 3:** Beef Weigh-In, Holton
- Mar. 9:** Beef Weigh-In, Valley Falls
- Mar. 16:** Junior Sheep Producer Days, Manhattan
- Mar. 30:** JF Co. Spring Beef Show, Valley Falls
JA Co. Community Easter Egg Hunt, Holton

Holton Office

114 W 5th St.
Holton, KS 66436-1778
785-364-4125

Oskaloosa Office

P.O. Box 326
100 E Washington
Oskaloosa, KS 66066-0326
785-863-2212

Seneca Office

1615 Branch St.
Seneca, KS 66538-1504
785-336-2184