



4-H UPDATES



Official Newsletter of Meadowlark Extension District 4-H

4-H Club Day

4-H Club Day activities are an important phase of local 4-H programming and should be something that every 4-H member tries. 4-H Day provides additional opportunities for 4-H members to further develop their skills, self-confidence, and personal developments as they learn and have fun with others in their club and county/district. 4-H Club Day objectives include the following:

1. To demonstrate the value of the 4-H Youth Development program through public presentation and evaluation of 4-H'ers showcasing:
 - a. Public Presentations
 - b. Parliamentary Procedures
 - c. Performing Arts
2. Give 4-H'ers an opportunity to learn skills and gain confidence in their abilities to exercise parliamentary procedure, speak effectively and give creative performances.
3. To provide opportunity for fellowship and wider acquaintance among 4-H'ers.
4. To exchange information regarding 4-H project work to others
5. To present a favorable image to the public and to promote 4-H.

Participation in 4-H Club Day is generally assumed to be open to current actively enrolled 4-H members (State Program fee paid) of the Meadowlark Extension District. Participation in individual events is open ONLY to actively enrolled 4-H members. Group activities must be comprised of at least 75% of active 4-H members. Group projects may have a mixture of youth in 4-H clubs.

Details and sign-up process are found in the local office pages and/or have been communicated in other ways, so please review and let us know what questions or concerns you have. General Club Day resources can be found at:

<https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/docs/4h/resources/4H-Club-Day-Guide-Book.pdf>.

- Jefferson County: **February 17** at Perry-Lecompton High School
- Jackson and Nemaha Counties: **February 24** at Jackson Heights High School, Holton

FEBRUARY 2024

This Issue:

PAGE 2

- [Volunteers](#)
- [Premium Sale Requirements](#)
- [K-State Junior Beef Day](#)
- [K-State Junior Sheep Day](#)
- [Regional Club Day](#)
- [Achievement Pin Application Change](#)
- [State Fair Animal Exhibition](#)

PAGE 3

- [Youth for the Quality Care of Animals \(YQCA\)](#)
- [Beef Weigh-Ins](#)
- [New Project Titles](#)
- [State 4-H Scholarships](#)

PAGE 4

- [Interviews](#)
- [Why 4-H???](#)

PAGE 5

- [Jackson County News](#)

PAGE 6

- [Jefferson County News](#)

PAGE 7

- [Nemaha County News](#)

PAGE 8

- [Calendar of Events](#)

Extension District Offices Closed



The Meadowlark Extension District Offices will be closed February 19 in observance of President's Day.

We will reopen at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, February 20.

Volunteers

Any Club Leaders, Project Leaders and other adult volunteers in direct contact with youth will need to fill out a profile in 4HOnline and complete training. Information about creating or updating a profile in 4HOnline and the required training offered through 4HOnline is available at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/volunteers.html>. Thank you for helping to make sure Meadowlark District 4-H members have a safe 4-H experience.

Premium Sale Requirements

Any 4-H member wishing to participate in premium auctions at county fair, need to annually complete the premium sale requirement form. The process encourages year-round 4-H engagement and involvement. FFA member (in counties where eligible for fairs) have a corresponding set of requirements. To review the form go to: https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/docs/4h/fair-forms-for-all-offices/PREMIUM_SALE_REQUIREMENTS_4-H.pdf. Many of these requirements can be met by engaging with your local club all year, participation in local/area/state events.

K-State Junior Beef Day

K-State Junior Beef Producer Day will be hosted on Saturday, **March 2**, 2024 in Weber Hall on the Kansas State University Campus. This event will be informative, fun and will be sure to expand the knowledge base of youth, parents and beef project leaders.

Presentations and demonstrations by K-State faculty, staff, K-State livestock judging team members and guest speakers will cover topics such as selection, nutrition, meat science, reproduction, health, grooming and showmanship. An optional YQCA certification session will be offered at the end of the day. A complimentary lunch and t-shirt (early registrations) will be provided.

K-State Junior Sheep Day

K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day will be hosted on Saturday, **March 16** in Weber Hall on the Kansas State University Campus. Presentations and demonstrations will be provided by featured guests, as well as K-State faculty, staff, and students. This event will be a fun-filled, educational day of activities in which youth, parents, extension agents, and sheep project leaders can increase their knowledge of youth sheep project selection and management.

Topics include project selection, nutrition and feeding, facilities, health, reproduction, meat science, wool, clipping and grooming, showmanship, and an optional YQCA certification at the end of the day. This event is designed for all ages and skill levels.

The registration fee is \$20/person for those who sign up by **February 26**, or \$25/person for those who register after that date. Only those who register by February 26 will receive a t-shirt. This is a family event! Anyone attending, including both youth and adults, must register!

For more information, and to find a registration link go to: https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/ks-jr-producer/2024_Flyer_K-State_Junior_Sheep_Producer_Day_11.20.23.pdf.

Regional Club Day

If you receive a Top Purple at County Club Day, you will then have the opportunity to attend Regional 4-H Day at Atchison Elementary School on **March 23**. Please let your local extension office know by Monday, **March 4** if you plan to attend Regionals.

Achievement Pin Application Change

It is never too early to begin planning your path to successfully complete your next Achievement Pin level! There has been a slight change in the requirements in Achievement Pin applications. Our website has been updated with the latest applications and requirements. If you would like to see these, please visit: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html>

State Fair Animal Exhibition

Exhibiting an animal beyond the 4-H division at a local county fair means that ownership and identification must meet the requirements outlined by the K-State Youth Livestock Program, Kansas State Fair, Kansas Junior Livestock Show, and all other show governing bodies. The 4-H member is responsible for understanding the deadlines and expectations involved. It is strongly recommended to contact the extension office well in advance of **May 1** if you are considering showing an animal at the Kansas State Fair, so expectations and processes can be reviewed and met.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

It is once again required that YQCA certification must be completed for the Premium Sale Requirements. You are more than welcome to attend ANY in-person class whether it is hosted by our District or a neighboring one! We just need assurance by way of a pdf or screenshot of your certificate. Online class certifications are also accepted.

To sign up for in-person or virtual courses, please visit: <https://yqcaprogram.org>. If you have any questions regarding the process feel free to visit their help desk on their website or email them at <https://yqcaprogram.org/local/help-desk.php>. You can also email Clay at croland@ksu.edu.

The following dates and locations will be the in-person classes hosted by Clay and Ross:

- Valley Falls at the Fair Grounds on **February 29** at 6:00 PM.
- Holton at the NEK Heritage Building on **March 3** at 4:30 PM.
- Seneca at Meadowlark Extension Office (1615 Branch St.) on **March 26** at 6:00 PM.

Beef Weigh-Ins

Beef weigh-ins will be happening as normal! The cost for tags will be \$3.50 per tag with payment due at weigh-in. Cattle must be halter broke. If the day or time does not work to attend your county's weigh-in, we allow you to weigh in to one of the other counties that are in the Meadowlark District. More information can be found in the local office pages of this newsletter.

This year's beef weigh-ins will be at the following dates, times and locations:

- Seneca—**February 23**: Seneca Veterinary Clinic, 3:30-5:30 PM
- Holton—**March 3**: Holton Livestock Exchange, 2:00-4:00 PM
- Valley Falls—**March 9**: Valley Falls Fair Grounds, 9:00 AM to Noon

New Project Titles

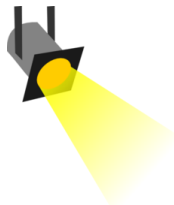
There has been a change to some of the names of projects being offered for Project Pin Awards. The awards that are eligible for a project pin can be seen at the following link: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/docs/projectrecordsandawards/23-24%20Project%20Award%20Categories.pdf>

The following are the projects that have been changed.

Old Project	New Project(s)
Clothing and Textiles (Construction and Buymanship)	Sewing and Textile Design Shopping in Style
Home Environment	Interior Design & Architecture
Plant Science	Horticulture & Landscape Design
Reading	Reading Adventures
STEM	Aerospace/Rocketry Astronomy Building Block Engineering Robotics Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
STEM: Energy Management	Ag Mechanics Welding Electric & Renewable Energy Small Engines
Wood Science	Woodworking

State 4-H Scholarships

REMINDER all high school seniors and college-age 4-Hers & 4-H alumni! The 2024 Kansas 4-H Scholarship process is a completely online process, with multiple scholarships offered through one application: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>. We ask for you to get this process completed well in advance of the **March 1** deadline, to allow staff time to review, verify and approve applications as needed.



Interviews



This summer I had the privilege of talking to several people from each county in the Meadowlark District. My intent was not only to include parts of them here in the newsletter but I have taken them back to the state council to gather more information about youth involvement in the state.

There is so much that the state council can learn from youth talking about their experiences and interests. Throughout the next few months I will be sharing more of these interviews for you all to read.

The next interviews I want to share with you are from The three County Council Vice Presidents, Brodie Hollis from Jefferson County, Ryan Uphous from Nemaha County, and Tristan Simpson Worley from Jackson County.

Brodie Hollis

- What is your favorite project? - "The Swine Project"
- What is your favorite opportunity in all of 4-H? - "The livestock shows, seeing people do what they like to do"
- What is a fair tradition that you enjoy? - "The Parade"
- What is something you would change about your fair or county 4-H? - "More more enthusiasm throughout the youth"
- What is something you would tell your younger self relating to 4-H? - "To do more projects while you can, you never know how busy you will become"

Ryan Uphaus

- What is your favorite project? - "Rocketry"
- What is your favorite opportunity in all of 4-H? - "Meeting new people"
- What is a fair tradition that you enjoy? - "Selling (and sneakily eating) the root beer floats"
- What is something you would change about your fair or county 4-H? - "Nothing much, I think everyone is well involved in some aspect"
- What would you tell a kid who may be interested in 4-H?? - "Start small and build your way up"

Tristan Simpson-Worley

- What is your favorite project? - "Dairy Goats"
- What is your favorite opportunity in all of 4-H? - "Showmanship"
- What is a fair tradition that you enjoy? - "Packing and fair clean up"
- What is something you would change about your fair or county 4-H? - "How Poultry and Rabbit projects are ran"
- What would you tell a kid who may be interested in 4-H?? - "Go for it, it isn't just defined to one thing and you can do a lot. Make sure to put the work in and you will get something out of it"

I am still so grateful for the time I got to spend serving Kansas 4-H and am excited to do it again this year.

Brooke Slipke
Kansas State Youth Leadership Council
Jackson County—Meadowlark

Why 4-H ???

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

"From the age of 7, 4-H has been leading me to exactly where I am today. It has equipped me with many life skills that I will use for long after my time of being a 4-Her is over. I am grateful for the opportunities the 4-H organization has given me and I hope to pay it forward someday."

Jackson County News

2023-2024 Fair Booster Program

We are asking each family to sell at least 5 sponsorships. Money will be used to pay for fair judges & ribbon premium. The 4-Her who sells the most will receive a \$50 gift card of their choice.

4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council meeting will be **February 8** at 7:00 PM. Please be sure that your club is represented.

County 4-H Day

County 4-H Day will be held **February 24** starting at 9:00 AM at Jackson Heights High School. Be sure to sign up with your club leader. Be sure to check with your club leader to see what your room assignment is and time frame. Times will be assigned through the office and a final schedule will be mailed or emailed to you.

For more information on County 4-H Day, please see the publication on our website at: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/docs/4h/resources/4H-Club-Day-Guide-Book.pdf>.

Beef Weigh-In

Beef Weigh-In will be **March 3** from 2:00-4:00 PM at the Holton Livestock Exchange. Ear tags must be paid for that day and your animals breed will be determined.

Fair Auction Requirements

4-H members will be required to attend in-person at least 5 regular monthly meetings of the 4-H club in which they are enrolled between October 1 and June 30 to participate in the project/livestock auction held at the end of the fair in 2024. This requirement does not limit fair participation, only participation in the auction. Youth must be YQCA certified and must take part in 4 of the approved activities. Plan ahead now to make sure youth meet the requirements if they want to participate in the auction.

Fair Trophy Sponsors Needed

The following trophies are in need of sponsors for the 2024 Fair: **Arts & Crafts** Creativity Award; **Dog**—Graduate Novice, 10-13; Champion Beginner Showman, 7-8; Obedience, 1st Year Dog, 7-9; Pre-Agility, 7-12; Pre-Rally Obedience, Level 1, 13 & older; **Horse**—Hunter Hack, 14-18; **Meat Goat**—Grand Champion Belt Buckle; **Poultry**—Champion Bantam; **Rabbit**—Best in Show; Champion Fur; **Sheep**—Champion Crossbred Ewe; Grand Champion Belt Buckle.

Holton Community Easter Egg Hunt

Jackson County 4-H Ambassadors will again host the Holton Community Easter Egg Hunt on **March 30**. Be watching for more information regarding filling plastic eggs.

Record Books & Membership Pins

Now is the time to print all requirements. Look at what needs to be done and plan out your year. Find all record book applications and membership pin applications here. Membership Pins have been updated for this year. Please look at them to see what you will need to complete.

4-H Project Curriculum

There are a lot of resources to help 4-H members with their projects. Of course, the library is always a great place to start, but there is a lot of 4-H curriculum out there. Go to <https://shop4-h.org/> to view all the 4-H curriculum that is available. If you are curious about what the content might look like, call the Extension Office. More than likely we have a copy of the curriculum in our office that you can check out to review to determine if you want to purchase it or not. If you have other questions, ask your club leader or call the Extension Office.

Fair Superintendents Needed

If you are interested in being a Fair Superintendent please let Cara know. Help is needed in the following areas: Club Exhibits (Banners, Hay Bales & Display), Self-Determine, Building Block Engineering, Rabbits, Wildlife, and Woodworking. Fair Superintendents arrive early day of judging, assist with fair judging and answer any questions judges and 4-Hers may have, place ribbons on exhibits, help with fair set-up and clean-up, etc. If you or know of someone interested please contact the Extension office.

911 Address Signs

Reflective rural 911 address signs are still available at the Extension Office. Proceeds benefit the 4-H program. Contact us to get your sign today.



Jefferson County News

Jefferson County Booster Club

If you have an interest in joining up to help with the fair award system and supporting our 4-H youth, consider joining the Jefferson County Booster Club. For information regarding the next meeting, please contact Deanna Gier, Club President, at deannagier@yahoo.com or 4hboosterjfcoks@gmail.com.

Ambassador Game Day

On **February 4** from 4:00-6:00 PM, the Ambassadors will host a game session at the Valley Falls 4-H building. There will be fun, fellowship, games, laughter and BINGO. This event is open to all 4-Hers and is a great opportunity for fun and involvement. You may RSVP to the office or just show up!

County Horse Project Meeting

There will be a county horse project meeting held at R Bar B in Topeka on Sunday, **February 18** at 2:00 PM. Russ Brown has gladly offered to host the meeting. He will go over different types of bits focusing on why and when to use them correctly. He will then be able to answer questions. This meeting will be without horses.

Rocketry Project Meeting

The meeting will be **February 25** at 3:00 PM at the Valley Falls 4-H building. This meeting will focus on first-year members and deciding on what level of rocket and necessary materials to purchase. Please test or email an RSVP to Shauna Allen at 785-845-7100 or sra3193@gmail.com.

Beef Weigh-In

The Jefferson County beef weigh-in is **March 9** from 9:00 AM-Noon at the Valley Falls Fair Grounds. Cattle must be halter broken. In case of inclement weather, you will be notified. The snow date is reserved for **March 23**.

Jefferson County 4-H Scholarships

Applications for Jefferson Co. Scholarships are due in the office on **March 15**. Scholarships are for current high school seniors or high school graduates enrolled in higher education. This also includes the Career & Technical College Program (example: Washburn Institute of Technology) during junior or senior year(s) in high school. Applicants must be a current Jefferson County 4-H member. The application form is accessible on the Oskaloosa 4-H webpage.

Spring Beef Show

On **March 30**, beginning at 10:00 AM, the Spring Beef Show will be at the Valley Falls Fair Grounds. Check-in will be from 7:00–8:30 AM. For more information, contact Toni Reeves at 785-640-8457 or see the registration form on the Oskaloosa 4-H webpage.

4-H County Club Day

County 4-H Club Day at 9:00 AM on **February 17** at the Perry Lecompton High School. (Notice this time has been changed.) The snow date is set for February 24 at Jefferson West High School. If you plan to participate, please contact your club leader ASAP. All entries must be turned in to the office by **February 10**. Once entries are received, we will distribute information pertaining to order and room location. If you signed up and need to cancel, please let the office or room monitors know. You are encouraged to watch other 4-Hers present.

Presentation skills are one of the life skills that 4-Hers are known for. We hope many of you will choose to participate. If you are looking for helpful hints, score sheets, guidelines and entry areas offered, please check out our District Club Day guide at: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/resources.html>.

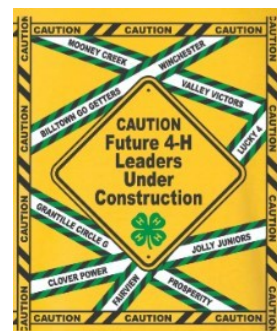
NOTE: Besides the normal entry events, we plan to have judging competitions and practice for state fair events in Crops Identification, Photography, Meats and FCS. PLUS, our ambassadors are offering a fun citizenship project that will benefit our senior citizens. We hope you will participate in all of these opportunities.

Spring Poultry Show

This show is **April 6** at the Valley Falls 4-H building. Doors open at 7:00 AM and the show begins at 8:00 AM. Setup for this event will be **April 5** at 6:00 PM. For more details, contact Katie Rhodelander at 785-231-0413 or HoneyCreekFarms@hotmail.com. The entry form can be found on the Oskaloosa 4-H webpage.

County T-Shirt Design Winner

Congratulations to Addie Burns of the Billtown 4-H Club for submitting the winning design. Our fair theme is "Caution: Future 4-H Leaders Under Construction."



Nemaha County News

4-H Club Day

Club Day is right around the corner. It will be held Saturday, **February 24**, at Jackson Heights High School. This is a great time for all 4-H youth to show off their individual and club talents. All divisions will begin at approximately 9:00 AM and we will plan to be done by noon. Please see the Club Guide at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/resources.html>.

Please sign up with your club leader for events that you plan to participate in. While we appreciate your enthusiasm and typically encourage participation in several areas, we hope you will only sign up for presentations you will be able to present. This is very helpful when finding judges and completing schedules.

In case of inclement weather, listen to KMZA or KNZA for information or call Deb at 785-336-1272.

2024 Fair Books

The Fair Board will be printed for all new families and any family that signs up with their club leader prior to **March 15**. Please watch for a signup sheet at your next meeting. Fair books will not be available until late May.

Regional Club Day

Regional Club Day will be **March 23** in Atchison. You are eligible to present your presentation if you have received a Top Purple at our Club Day. We will need to know before **March 8** if members plan to advance on.

Dog Practice

If you would like to participate in dog practice, please contact Karen VanWinkle at 785-799-5745. Practices will be on Mondays, **March 25 through July 8** at 7:00 PM in the Community Building in Seneca.

Photo Opportunity

How would you like for a picture you took to be on the cover of the 2024 fair book? Pictures need to be based on this year's theme "Summer Nights, Arena Lights". You do not have to be in the Photography project to do this. Please submit your photo before **April 1** to dahenry@ksu.edu.

Achievement Pin Applications

The state has revised the Achievement Pin applications. Now is the time to look over what you need to achieve for this year in order to receive your pin in October. All applications can be found on our website at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html>

Livestock Tagging and Weigh-In

Livestock tagging and weigh-in dates have been set. If you are enrolled in market beef, sheep, meat goats or swine this involves you. To participate in the market animal classes at the Nemaha County Fair you must take part in these events. If you are unable to attend the weigh-in in Seneca, you are welcome to attend weigh-ins at Jackson or Jefferson County. Sheep, Goats and Swine ear tags cost **\$3.00** and Beef are **\$3.50**. Ear tags must be paid for that day.

- Beef Weigh-In - **February 23** at 3:30–5:30 PM at Seneca Veterinary Clinic
- Sheep/Goat Weigh-In – **May 4** at 7:30–8:30 AM at Fairgrounds North Barn
- Swine ID due - **May 1** paperwork and pictures due in office

Beef Weigh-In

Beef Weigh-In will be held at the Seneca Veterinary Clinic on **February 23**. We have assigned the 4-H Clubs into 3 different time slots. Please find the time slot assigned to your club:

- **3:30-4:15** - Woodlawn Meadowlarks, HHHH, Achievers
- **4:15-4:45** - Centralia Aces, Pony Express, Stateliners
- **4:45-5:30** – Busy Jayhawkers, Kelly Twilights, Red Rustlers

YQCA

Anyone who is showing livestock or going through the Premium Sale must complete YQCA. This will be held in Seneca on March 26 at 6:00 PM in the meeting room at the new extension office. You must pre-enter prior to attending. To register, go to <https://yqcaprogram.org>.

Clover Classroom

Are you looking for something fun to do for a project meeting or just a fun activity. Visit <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/leader-resources/cloverclassroom/index.html> for great resources. These challenges will enhance the learning, leadership, and community service within each project area. You can also visit <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/> which has many other activities to try.



Meadowlark Extension District

Oskaloosa Office

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

Address Service Requested

Calendar of Events

Feb. 1: 4-H Club Day registrations due, NM
Feb. 4: Ambassador Game Day, JF
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. 17: 4-H Club Day, JF
Feb. 18: County Horse Project Meeting, JF
Feb. 19: Extension District Offices Closed for President's Day
Feb. 23: Beef Weigh-In, NM
Feb. 24: 4-H Club Day, JA/NM
Feb. 25: Rocketry Project Meeting, JF
Feb. 26: Junior Sheep Producer Days registration due
Mar. 1: Fair book changes to office, NM
State 4-H Scholarship applications due
Mar. 2: Junior Beef Producer Days, Manhattan
Mar. 3: Beef Weigh-In, Holton
Mar. 9: Beef Weigh-In, Valley Falls
Mar. 15: Jefferson County Scholarships due
Sign up to receive Fair book, NM

Mar. 16: Junior Sheep Producer Days, Manhattan
Mar. 23: Regional Cub Day, Atchison
Mar. 25: Dog practice, NM
Mar. 30: JF Co. Spring Beef Show, Valley Falls
Holton Community Easter Egg Hunt, Holton
Apr. 1: 2024 Fairbook Cover Photo Submissions due, NM
Apr. 5: Spring Poultry Show Setup, JF
Apr. 6: Spring Poultry Show, JF
May 1: Swine ID paperwork & pictures due in offices
May 4: Sheep/Goat Weigh-In, NM
June 5-7: Discovery Days

**In observance of the holiday,
the District Offices will be
closed Monday, February 19.**

**We will reopen at 8:00 AM
on Tuesday, February 20.**



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