

4-H Focus

JANUARY 2026



County 4-H Club Day - February 8th

County Club Day is an opportunity for youth to show off their talent and get a little feedback from a judge in the process. If you like to sing, dance, play an instrument, demonstrate or talk about a favorite item or subject, county club days is the perfect place to do just that!! County Club Day will be Sunday, February 8th at Lansing Middle School from 12pm - 3pm (Approx.)

There are many events you can participate in at County Club Day. I have included a Club Day Guidelines at a Glance at the end of this newsletter to help you. I encourage you to try something new.

Along with competing in your selected events, we will have three judging opportunities at County Club Day. You can participate in photography judging, Horticulture Judging, as well as FCS judging. This is a great way to get that check mark for your record book.

This year we will again be using FairEntry to register for Club Day. The process is similar to how you register for county fair. You will access the FairEntry program through our website or through the link below. The system works with your 4-H Online Enrollment information. You will use your 4-Honline email and password to log into FairEntry, just like you do at fair time. The included Club Day Guidelines at a Glance directly mimics the hierarchy in FairEntry. The bluish/purple bar from the guidelines corresponds to "Department" on the hierarchy, the "Type" on the guidelines corresponds to "Section" on the hierarchy, and "Participants" on the guidelines corresponds to "Class" on the hierarchy.

Deadline to register this Friday, January 23rd. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office - 913-364-5700.

Club Day Registration Link: <https://faireentry.com/Fair/SignIn/23198>

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Youth Leaders Canned Food Drive

**I PLEDGE
MY HANDS TO
LARGER SERVICE**



Thank you to all the 4-H families who contributed to the Youth Leader Food Drive in December. Your efforts provided 2907 items to the Good Shepherd Food Bank, BLAS and the Mission Food Bank in Leavenworth. This is a 47% increase from last year. Those donations will help a lot of people in our local community. Seven of our county community clubs were represented. For the fourth year in a row, the Grown Right 4-H club led the donation efforts by a large margin - Congratulations!! Thank you again to all our 4-Hers and families for your efforts.

4-H Enrollment - Add/Drop Deadline February 1, 2026

Thank you to those 4-H families who have already enrolled for the 2025-2026 4-H year. If you have not yet enrolled, please do so as soon as possible. 4-Hers should not be participating in 4-H events without being enrolled. The add/drop deadline is fast approaching. What does this mean? After February 1st, if you are not enrolled in 4-H, you will not be able to participate in the 2026 Leavenworth County Fair under 4-H. You are also not able to add any additional projects after February 1st. If you are already enrolled, I strongly encourage you to log in to your 4-H profile in 4-Honline and check your projects. You can do this by clicking on projects on the left hand side of the screen. If you would like to add or drop a project, you must contact the Extension Office to do so. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call at the office. We are here to help!!

Have you enrolled in 4-H yet?

**ENROLL
TODAY!**





LIVESTOCK TAGGING

Market Beef

Market Beef Weigh-in will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 8am to 9:30am at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds. Market Beef letters will be mailed out soon. Your letters will include instructions as well as the paperwork you will need for March 7th. All Market Beef worksheets are due at weigh-in. Please also bring \$5 for each animal tag. Please Note: Market Beef Animals that are not tagged and weighed in on March 7th will not be eligible to exhibit at the Leavenworth County Fair this year. If you are unable to attend, please arrange for someone else to bring your animals and paperwork.

Goat, Sheep and Swine

Small Animal Tagging is scheduled for Sunday, May 3rd. All Swine, goats and sheep are required to attend this event. More information along with letters for each species will be coming in Late March/Early April. Please save the date!!

Project Meetings Starting Soon

As we start 2026, project meetings will be starting soon. Remember that 4-H is more than the fair. It is learning new skills, developing leadership and giving back to our community. This is accomplished through club involvement and project learning. Please take time to attend your monthly club meetings and participate in project meetings when they are available. Please look for upcoming meetings and project opportunities. As always, call the Extension Office if you have questions.

YEAR AT A GLANCE



4 - H YEAR



OCT

1st – Start of 4-H Year, 4-H Online Enrollment Opens (Goal is to have everyone enrolled NLT 31 Dec)

First Friday – All Project Report Forms, Pin Applications, Officer Books, Club Summary, Leadership Scholarship Award Applications, and Key Award Applications Due to the Extension Office

First full week – National 4-H Week

Fourth Monday - County Council Meeting

NOV

First Saturday – County Achievement Night Celebration

15th – Club Financials and Organizational Report Forms due to the Extension Office

3rd Weekend - KYLF at Rock Springs

Fourth Monday - County Council Meeting

DEC

Mid-Month – Breakfast with the Grinch

JAN

Fourth Monday - County Council Meeting

FEB

1st – Deadline to Add/Drop Projects

First Sat or Sun – County Club Days

Presidents Day Weekend - Citizenship in Action in Topeka

MAR

First Saturday – Market Beef Weigh In; Market Beef Worksheets Due

Saturday (Mid of Month) – Regional Club Day

Fourth Monday - County Council Meeting

YQCA Offered Sometime during the month

APR

YQCA Offered Sometime during the month

MAY

1st - State Fair/KJLS Beef Nominations Due

First Sunday – Small Animal Tagging; Worksheets Due for Sheep, All Goats, Dairy Cow, Breeding Beef, and Swine

Fourth Monday - County Council Meeting

JUN

1st – Horse ID Sheet, Immunization Record, and Coggins Papers Due to Extension Office ; Rabbit Worksheets due to the Extension Office

Early Jun – LVCO 4-H Camp at Fairgrounds

15th - Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep, & Meat Goat Nominations Due for State Fair and KJLS

1st - 30th – Fair Entry Open

30th – All YQCA certificates submitted to the office – fair entries cannot be approved without YQCA submitted for kids showing livestock)

Fourth Monday - County Council Meeting

JUL

PRE-FAIR & FAIR WEEK ACTIVITIES – SEE SEPARATE CALENDAR

AUG

3rd Week - Livestock Sweepstakes

SEP

Starts Friday of first full week in Sept. (Runs 10 days) - Kansas State Fair

End of Sept / First of Oct. - Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS)

Record Books

What are Record Books?

They document the knowledge and skills that have been learned; they also record your experiences in leadership, citizenship and community service. Even though they may seem like a waste of time now, record keeping will become important when you become an adult as records are essential for any adult to be successful. Also, as you become older it is nice to look at what you have accomplished and how you grew to be a proficient citizen.

Start early. If you plan to complete a project report form, choose what project now. It is much easier to plan out what you are going to do then come September, try and make things fit. Write goals at the beginning of the year not the end. Keep a separate notebook or a calendar to note your progress or do some journaling. Keep records on what you do and learn as you work on your project(s), list sources, ideas, materials, costs and take pictures. Include what worked well, what did not and what you enjoyed the most.



4-H Scholarships

Local: The David D. Klammm Memorial Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship available to 4-Hers who have been a Leavenworth County 4-Her for the past 5 years or more, have completed one year of post-secondary education, enrolled in 2 or 4 year college at 12 or more semester hours OR enrolled full-time in a technical institution. Scholarship applications can be found on our website under 4-H Youth Development/Awards and Scholarships. Application is due to the Extension Office by June 30th.

Leavenworth County 4-H Foundation gives senior scholarships. Check with the foundation for more details. Also, Leavenworth County Council awards leadership scholarships to 4-Hers who have shown exceptional leadership in 4-H. The application for this scholarship is on the Extension website.

Citizenship in Action

Have you attended Citizenship in Action, also known as CIA? This is a great opportunity for youth aged 13-18 to travel to the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka to get a first-hand look at how our state legislation functions. This event takes place on a Sunday and Monday over the President's Day holiday weekend. This year, Citizenship in Action will be held on February 15-16, 2026. One main goal of this conference is to educate our youth about the government system. CIA is designed to help 4-H members understand that they have a voice when it comes to current issues, and to teach them how to participate in making important decisions. Youth who attend this event will have the opportunity to meet with State Representatives and Senators from the communities that they live in. They will get to tour the Capitol building and watch parliamentary procedure in action. Transportation and chaperoning for Citizenship in Action will be provided by the Extension Office. Registration is now open for this event. Deadline to register is January 26, 2026. Follow this link for more information and to register for this great event. <https://web.cvent.com/event/f5df015d-47b8-42bd-b26f-557ad066263c/register>

Junior Producer Days

Save the Dates!! Plans are underway for the K-State Junior Producer Days in the spring. These are one-day educational events, hosted on the K-State campus in Weber Hall, through which families can learn about the selection and management of youth livestock projects. Youth, parents, extension agents, ag teachers, project leaders, and other interested parties will be invited to register and attend. These events are designed as family learning opportunities. We host two a year – beef and sheep in even years and swine and meat goat in odd years. Therefore, this spring is the year for junior beef producer day and junior sheep producer day. The dates are below to get on your busy spring calendars. Registration is now open.

Beef: https://apps.ideal-logic.com/ksuyouthprograms?key=GN53-4WSMZ_K9KH-5PTF_75cf3eacc433

Sheep: https://apps.ideal-logic.com/ksuyouthprograms?key=GN53-4WSMZ_K9KH-5PTF_956a68a344f4

K-State Junior Beef Producer Day – March 7 (Reg. Deadline: Feb. 13th)

K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day – April 11 (Reg. Deadline: March 20th)

Rock Spring Ranch 4-H Camp

Rock Springs Ranch has been a tradition for kids across Kansas since 1946. And while they are hiking, swimming, horseback riding, or simply sitting by a fire under a starry night sky, they are also learning the kinds of lessons that last a lifetime. They “unplug” and explore what it means to stretch socially, emotionally, physically and cognitively. To register or learn more about Rock Springs Ranch Camp go to <http://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org> Registration is NOW OPEN for summer 2026!

Club Day Guidelines at a Glance

Type	Participants	Time (minutes)	Number that advance to Regional Day
Public Presentations			
Project Talk	Junior 7-13	Up to 7 min.	2
Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks	Junior 7-13	Up to 10 min.	2
	Senior 14 and older	Up to 15 min.	2
Public Speaking	Senior 14 and older	Up to 15 min.	2
Model Meeting	Up to 32 participants; any ages; Parliamentary problem to be provided 10-minutes early	Up to 35 min. (Roll call excluded; Recreation included)	1
Mock Interview	Senior 14 and older	Up to 15 min.	Not a Regional Day Event
Talent - Music (Must supply judge with original copy of music & number the measures on the music)			
Chorus	Composed of 16 or more from 1 club or a composite group from 2 clubs	2 numbers	1
Vocal Ensemble	Club or composite group from 2 or more clubs, of 2 - 15 participants	2 numbers	1
Vocal Solo	All ages	1 number	1
Orchestra or Band	Club or composite group from 2 or more clubs, consisting of 16 or more youth	2 numbers	1
Instrumental Ensemble	Club or composite group from 2 or more clubs; 2-15 participants	2 numbers	1
Instrumental Solo	Junior 7-13	1 number	1
	Senior 14 and older	1 number	1
Piano Solo	Junior 7-13	1 number	1
	Senior 14 and older	1 number	1
Talent - Dance			
Individual	All ages	Up to 5 min.	1
Small Group	2-4 participants	Up to 5 min.	1
Medium Group	5-12 participants	Up to 5 min.	1
Large Group	13 or more participants	Up to 5 min.	1
Talent - Drama and Other			
Creative Drama	All ages - any number of participants	Up to 15 min.	1
Skit	All ages - any number of participants	Up to 5 min.	1
Reading	Junior 7-13	Up to 5 min.	1
	Senior 14 and older	Up to 5 min.	1
Other Talent (novelty, stunt, puppets, marionettes, ventriloquist, etc.)	All ages - Individual or Group	Up to 5 min.	1
Cloverbuds	Ages 5 - 6	Up to 5 min.	Not a Regional Day Event
Show and Tell	Ages 7 - 8	Up to 5 min.	Not a Regional Day Event
Perishable Food			
Perishable Food	Junior 7-13	2 food items max	Not a Regional Day Event
	Senior 14 and older	2 food items max	Not a Regional Day Event

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K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact (Sonya Murphy) two weeks prior to the start of the even at (913-364-5700). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.