

4-H Focus

MAY 2026



More than a Fair Entry

As fair season is fast approaching, it is important to remember to look beyond the blue and purple ribbons or the trophies and remember why we do what we do in 4-H.

4-H project-based learning provides a place for youth to explore their interests and passions — or what we like to call their sparks! Youth learn from caring adult volunteers, or in some cases through self-guided study, in projects in areas such as science, health, agriculture, and citizenship. Screened adult volunteers provide a safe and positive environment where youth learn by doing. Young people thrive through 4-H participation and finding their way to success in life and career.

Careful consideration should be used when selecting a 4-H project to enroll in for the year. A 4-H project has five components: Learning Experiences, Leadership, Citizenship, Exhibition, and Record Keeping. These five components help foster responsibility, confidence, self awareness, and growth of knowledge and understanding.

Leavenworth County
711 Marshall St.
Suite 101
Leavenworth, KS 66048

913-364-5700
leavenworth.ksu.edu

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ksre.k-state.edu

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Leavenworth County 4-H Shooting Sports

I wanted to share some exciting news! The team of Landon Martin, Bella Martin, Kash Proctor, Jarrett Schmitt, and Rosella Warhurst (not pictured) qualified to represent Leavenworth County at Daisy Nationals! Liam Marquette and Noah Hill also qualified to return as Returning Champions at Daisy Nationals.

Additionally Liam Marquette took 3rd place in Air Pistol and will not only represent Leavenworth County but Kansas at 4H Nationals! This is a huge accomplishment for Liam! You can only shoot one discipline at 4H nationals in your shooting career so this is literally a once in a lifetime experience!



Countywide Cloverbud Meeting - June 15th

Kansas State Research and Extension and 4-H Youth Development offers an educational program specifically designed for youth ages 5 and 6 called Cloverbuds. Children of this age have distinctive learning characteristics and developmental needs that are different from older youth who participate in 4-H. That is why the 4-H Cloverbuds program is designed with specific educational objectives and policies focused to benefit 5- and 6-year-old children. 4-H Cloverbuds may not participate in any competitive 4-H events, but they may showcase their exhibits at county fair and public events. 4-H Cloverbuds are allowed to showcase a pet from the approved list in accordance with 4-H Cloverbuds pet policies. 4-H Cloverbuds may not own and/or show **4-H** livestock.

Most of our community clubs in Leavenworth County have youth this age who are enrolled members of that club. Some clubs have separate activities for Cloverbud youth while others have them engage during their regular monthly meetings. Leavenworth County 4-H also offers a countywide Cloverbud meeting every quarter.

The next Countywide Cloverbud meeting will be hosted by Glenwood 4-H Club and held on June 15th at 5:30pm at the Extension Office. Contact the Extension Office for more information or to RSVP.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Annual Training

All youth who are planning to exhibit livestock at the Leavenworth County Fair must take the annual Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification class. You can either take the class online at yqcaprogram.org or attend a in-person class. All in-person classes in Leavenworth County have been offered this year but you can still take in-person classes in surrounding areas/counties.

If you have already taken the class, please remember to log back in to your YQCA account and print your certificate. You will need to take a pre and post class survey in order to gain access to your YQCA certificate.

If you attended one of the three in-person classes that we offered, we do not need your certificate, just your number on your family identification worksheets that were due May 4th. If you took the class elsewhere or online, please submit a copy of your certificate to the office.

Deadline to complete YQCA training to exhibit livestock at the 2025 Leavenworth County Fair is June 15th.



FairEntry Opens June 1, 2026



You Must Enter Your Projects in FairEntry to be eligible to bring them to fair under 4-H.

Registration is June 1 through June 30, 2026. You will access the FairEntry program through our website, leavenworth.ksu.edu. The system works with your 4-H Online Enrollment information. You will use your family account email and password to log in to FairEntry. *It is important to remember that only the projects that you enrolled in through 4honline will be available for fair entries.*

IMPORTANT: Complete entries for ALL 4-H members in your family BEFORE selecting the submit button. Entries may be adjusted in the account before the submit button is selected until June 30, but become final when the submit button is selected. There will be no changes made after June 30.

There is a \$5.00 fee per exhibitor, which now can be paid online!

If you have any questions, please access the 4-H FairEntry Guide located on our website. Within the guide is a step by step tutorial with written instructions and screenshots of examples of pages you will see when registering.

As a reminder if you filled out and turned in a Livestock Identification worksheet, this does not count as your entry for fair. You still need to enter the animals you are bringing to fair into the FairEntry System.

If you need further assistance or access to a computer come into the Extension Office or give us a call at 913-364-5700.

This is George

George waited until the last
minute to enter his project
in FairEntry



Don't be like George!!!

Photo Boards

Before we know it, it will be time to purchase photo boards for all those beautiful photos your 4-Her has been taking. Price for photo boards will increase this year. The price for each board will move to \$1.75. Just a reminder, the Extension Office does not make money on these boards. We simply pass the cost on. Boards are available anytime at the Extension Office.



Parking Passes

Parking Passes will be available again this year for 4-H families. 4-H families are eligible to purchase one pass per family. The cost is \$12. Check or cash only. Please make checks out to Leavenworth County Fair Association. They are currently available at the Extension Office.

Kansas Junior Livestock and State Fair Nomination Reminder

Families planning to participate in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive or the Kansas Junior Livestock Show should read this information.

You must order the DNA envelopes online!

The Rookie Guide will be helpful to everyone who is going through the process. It can be found on the Youth Livestock webpage at <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/>

There is also a video located on the Youth Livestock page that can be very helpful.

Finally, it is a requirement for 4-H members to be enrolled and the enrollment fee must be paid in order to participate.

Nominations are due for small livestock and Commercial Heifers on June 15th.

First Time at County Fair as a 4-Her?

New to 4-H? Is this your first fair? Are you feeling stressed about it? Please plan to attend the “What to Expect at the County Fair” meeting on Thursday, June 25th at 6pm at the Extension Office. Please register for the meeting by contacting the Extension Office so we can insure we have enough materials printed and ready to go.



Leavenworth County 4-H Council Food Stand and Building Watch

Leavenworth County 4-H Council runs the 4-H Food Stand at County Fair each year. It is councils one and only fundraiser that helps pay for ribbons, events and scholarships. Each 4-Her is expected to help out.

4-H clubs will be expected to take two shifts, one day shift and one night shift. Club shifts will be determined by lottery system. What does this mean? You need to have a club representative at the June 22nd County Council Meeting to draw for your club spots. It is important that your club decide what shifts your club would prefer. I would recommend ranking all club shifts from number one choice all the way to last choice. Because the order of clubs picking is completely random, this will help your representative select the best shifts for your club. County Council meets at 7pm at the Extension Office. The drawing for club shifts will take place first thing. If you do not have a club representative present, then your club will receive the remaining shifts available.

Building watch shifts will also be drawn at the June County Council Meeting. 4-Hers and their families will keep an eye on the 4-H exhibits in the Administration Building and the 4-H buildings during fair week. Building watch shifts are 3 hour shifts and each club is responsible for one shift in each building and an additional shift in either building. Please rank your shifts like your food stand shifts so your club representative is prepared at the June County Council Meeting.



Horse Paperwork

Your Horse ID Certificate must be filled out and must be turned into the Extension Office no later than June 1st to qualify the horse for 4-H Horse Shows. This form will be signed by an agent and returned to the family. Bring this form to check in at any horse shows you attend, including your county fair. Please note that this form has changed as of July 2024. It can be found on our website at this link: <https://www.leavenworth.k-state.edu/fair-book/> It is suggested to list all siblings or stepsiblings that may share the horse on the form. Attach a standard size color photo of each side of the horse including all four feet and legs showing and a profile of the horse with the head turned a quarter turn towards the camera. All markings need to be clearly visible in the photos. No saddle or rider on the horse. Sharing the same horse with siblings and stepsiblings are allowed but they cannot participate in the same class in the same age division. Youth can be in the same age division, but will have to participate in different classes.

Rabbit Paperwork

Rabbit worksheets have been mailed out. You must turn in a rabbit family identification worksheet by June 1st to exhibit at the fair. If you need assistance filling this worksheet out, please reach out to the rabbit superintendents or to the extension office. If you did not receive a worksheet in the mail, please reach out to the extension office. Worksheets can either be mailed, dropped off, or a picture can be emailed or texted.

Kansas 4-H Insect Spectacular

The State Entomology Workshop will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 19th and 20th. Activities will be based at the North Community building at 505 N. Buckeye Street in Iola, Kansas.

Workshop events include collection and photo trips, pinning class, identification class, and a pollinator garden community service activity. Click on the link for more details: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/insect-spectacular/>

Deadline to register is May 25th

Past County Fair Photos Wanted

The 100th Leavenworth County Fair is quickly approaching, and I am working on a video that celebrates the 100 years of the fair. To make this video possible, I am searching for fair photos through the decades. I am looking for photos from the 20's, 30's, 40's, 50's - all the way up to the present fair. Please ask former 4-Hers, parents, grandparents and even great-grandparents for photos from the Leavenworth County Fair. Any photos taken during the fair are welcome.

Photos can be submitted digitally to lvcofairphotos@gmail.com

Please know that if you send a photo you are giving permission for it to be used in the video. Also, please include the approximate year that the photo was taken.

Clover Connection Articles Needed

Love to write? Love 4-H? Then this new opportunity might be just what you are looking for. I am starting a new opportunity called Clover Connection. Clover Connection articles will be submitted to the Leavenworth Times on a monthly basis.

What is a Clover Connection article you ask? A Clover Connection article is a 200-250 word write-up sharing one of your 4-H projects and some interesting things about that project such as what you have learned, how it has helped you in life, your future plans and the difficulties that you have overcome.

Why would you do this? It is a great opportunity to practice your writing skills, tell the public about something that has had an impact on you or that you really enjoy, complete a checkmark in your record book that might not be easy to do otherwise and get published in the newspaper. It is also a great opportunity for club reporters as well.

Interested? Here's how. Please email your articles to sonyam@ksu.edu. Articles received will be reviewed. You will receive an email when your article has been submitted to the paper so you can keep an eye out for it.

2026 Senior Shout-Out

Congratulations to our 2026 4-H Seniors! Best wishes for your next adventure. May 4-H always hold a special place in your hearts. Please join me in congratulating our Seniors!

<p>BASEHOR RUSTLERS Milam Strick</p>	<p>HAPPY HELPERS Tyler Breuer Charlesey Coffin Finley Reike Ethan Riley</p>
<p>BELL Wyatt Mustard</p>	<p>HAPPY HOLLOW Alexis Blackard Colie Clouse Tayler Heim Cohen Navinsky</p>
<p>BOLING Jadyn Bollin Paisley Mathys Allison Megee</p>	<p>LIVEWIRES Sarai Parsons</p>
<p>GLENWOOD Peyton Blizzard</p>	<p>RENO BOBWHITES Machenzie Calovich Isaiah Manus</p>



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711 Marshall St.
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4-H Club Motto

In 1927, the 4-H club motto was adopted.

Originally proposed by Miss Carrie Harrison, botanist in the Bureau of Plant Industry.



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.