

centralkansas.k-state.edu/4-h

# Central Kansas District 4-H

**April, 2026**

## 4-H Council News

### May Meeting

The May 4-H Council Meeting will be held in Salina. The date is to be determined. Watch for an update on date and time.

## 4-H Newsletter Deadlines for 2026

If you have something you would like in the 4-H Newsletter, be sure to email it to [ev13104@ksu.edu](mailto:ev13104@ksu.edu).

Deadlines are:

- May - April 10
- June - May 10
- July/August - June 10
- September - August 10
- October - September 10



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[Kansas4-H.org](http://Kansas4-H.org)

## Graduating Seniors

Zoe Ade, Boldly Go  
 Aiden Anderson, Solomon Valley  
 Marik Anderson, Smoky View  
 Kendyn Biggs, Solomon Valley  
 Jaelyn Gates, Cardinal  
 Delaney Gibson, Cardinal  
 Alexis Gordon, Smoky View  
 Suzu Kimizuka, Smoky View



Charlotte Knopf, Gypsum Valley  
 Alta Noon, Solomon Valley  
 Isaac Perez, Smoky View  
 Kyle Phipps, Solomon Valley  
 Genna Stelter, Cardinal  
 Jocelyn Taylor, Cardinal  
 Laykin Walker, Cardinal  
 Matthew Whelchel, Gypsum Valley

Congratulations District 4-H High School Graduates, Class of 2026!

## Add/Drop Due May 1

Being a 4-H member and parent comes with several important responsibilities. One of them is managing project enrollment in 4-H Online, including adding and dropping projects.



- **Add or Drop Projects**
  - **Important Deadline - May 1 at 11:59 p.m.**
  - **ALL** 4-H members have the opportunity to add and drop projects any time prior to this deadline.
  - Projects cannot be added or dropped after May 1.
  - Members must be enrolled in any project they plan to exhibit in at the County Fair **no later than May 1.**
  - **Double check** the projects your child(ren) are enrolled in.
  - Members are expected to complete a record book for **all projects they remain enrolled in.**
- **Log in to <https://v2.4honline.com/>**
  - **Double check** the projects your child(ren) are enrolled in.
  - Instructions to add or drop projects can be found here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-online/docs/Family%20Editing%20of%20Projects.pdf>
- **Important Deadline**
  - It is **your responsibility** to add or drop projects by **May 1 at 11:59 p.m.**
  - After this deadline, the system will not allow any additions or deletions.
  - Changes must be made in 4-H Online. The office cannot make these changes.

If you have questions, please contact either Extension Office.



# County Fair Information



## 2026 Fair Dates and Fair Theme

Mark your calendars! Fair dates for 2026 have been announced.

**Ottawa County Fair:** July 14-18

**Pre-Fair Dates:** July 13

**Tri-Rivers Fair:** July 30 - August 2

**Pre-Fair Dates:** July 25 - 29

Watch the newsletter and emails for dates for pre-fair judging and other fair activities.

The fair theme is the same for both fairs this year. It is: **Stars, Stripes, and Summer Nights**

## Fair Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents

Both fairs need superintendents and assistants. We need many parents and youth to help ensure a smooth-sailing event. Don't forget—these leadership and citizenship opportunities can be counted in a 4-H member's record book.

- Superintendents and assistant superintendents must be present during the exhibit judging times they sign up for and at exhibit dismissal.
- Help with **exhibit check-in day or animal entry is appreciated for the areas in which they signed up.**

Interested 4-H members, parents, and volunteers should sign up online by **May 1**. You will find a link at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h> under "County Fairs". Click on the specific fair and then Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent Sign Up.

## Photography Themed Class at the County Fairs

We are pleased to announce the theme for the 2026 4-H Photography Competition is **Stars, Stripes, and Summer Nights**. 4-H members can submit a photograph that illustrates the fair theme. Be sure to choose the specific class number for Theme Photo Class when pre-entering for the county fair. This is a county only class and is not eligible for the Kansas State Fair.



## King & Queen Candidates & Contest Update

The Fair King and Queen represent 4-H during the Tri-Rivers Fair in the 4-H and Open Class Departments and at other fair events. Since 4-H is part of the Tri-Rivers Fair, clubs have a part by selecting strong candidates to represent our program.

### Candidate Requirements

- Must be 14 years old before January 1, 2026.
- Must have been a 4-H member for a minimum of three years.

### Deadline

- King and Queen candidate names **due online by May 1**.
- The link will be emailed soon to Organizational Leaders.

The contest consists of résumé/essay, interview and thank you note writing. Details will be updated soon on the 4-H Youth Development page at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h>. Click on County Fairs, Tri-Rivers Fair and scroll down to 4-H King and Queen Information.

## Minimum Livestock Weights at County Fair

The minimum weights for livestock to be eligible for grand or reserve champion and be eligible to sell in the premium auction at the 2026 Ottawa County Fair and 2026 Tri-Rivers Fair are as follows:

Beef: 1,000 lbs

Meat Goats: 50 lbs

Sheep: 90 lbs

Swine: 220 lbs

## Reminder - Livestock Premium Auction Policy

**Attention Livestock Exhibitors:** Livestock that have sold through the Ottawa County Fair and Tri-Rivers Fair Livestock Sales are eligible to show at the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show, as long as they have not changed ownership. Please feel free to give the Extension Office a call if you have any questions.



## Fair-Worthy Recipes Await! Get Baking with 4-H!

Hey 4-H Foods & Nutrition Stars! County Fair season is just around the corner, and it's time to start thinking about those winning recipes! We've got two fantastic resources to help you find the perfect baked goods to showcase your skills:

- Home Baking Association: <https://www.homebaking.org/skill-level/beginner/> This site is perfect for those just starting out or looking for solid, reliable recipes. It's packed with beginner-friendly options that are sure to impress the judges.
- King Arthur Baking Company: <https://www.kingarthurbaking.com/recipes/collections> King Arthur Baking is a trusted source for bakers of all levels. Explore their recipe collections for a wide variety of treats, from classic cookies to show-stopping breads.

Your Challenge: As you browse these sites, keep your 4-H Foods & Nutrition knowledge in mind! Look for recipes that:

- Feature whole grains.
- Incorporate fruits and vegetables.
- Offer healthy substitutions (like using applesauce instead of oil).
- Are modifiable to reduce sugar or fat.

Remember, the fair isn't just about delicious treats; it's also about showcasing your understanding of healthy and nutritious food choices. We want to see your creativity and skill shine! Happy Baking!

## Mark Your Calendars - Tractor Safety Class in Solomon

Tractor Safety certification is required for youth ages 14 and 15 who plan to be employed on a farm or ranch. Central Kansas District Extension will once again be hosting their Tractor Safety course on May 28 at 9:00 a.m. at KanEquip, Inc., 525 N. Poplar St., Solomon. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/tractorsafety2026> or click on the QR Code.



Manual cost is \$15 and can be picked up at either Extension Office. Please pick up your manual **PRIOR** to the course.

Agent contacts: Jay Wisbey [jwisbey@ksu.edu](mailto:jwisbey@ksu.edu) or 785-309-5850 and Justine Johns [jwh04@ksu.edu](mailto:jwh04@ksu.edu) or 785-392-2147.

# Leadership Opportunities

## Districtwide Leadership Workshop

Come learn some fun, hands-on activities you can use at club meetings for icebreakers, team building and group discussion!

- Thursday, April 30, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Minneapolis Extension Office, 315 W. 3<sup>rd</sup>, across the street south of the courthouse.

**Please register by Thursday, April 23.**

Registration is available at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h/> by clicking the link under “Upcoming Events & Online Registration.”

This workshop will count toward the leadership workshop requirement for the pin application. 4-H members, parents and volunteers are all encouraged to attend. Participants will learn practical activities they can take back to their clubs and other groups they are involved with. Key lessons emphasized will include teamwork, cooperation, leadership, problem-solving, communication, and decision making.

## Host A Youth from Japan This Summer

Take the chance this summer and have memories for a lifetime. Kansas 4-H needs 26 Host Families for 15 girls and 7 boys, ages 12 to 18, from Japan. Kansas families are needed to host delegates from July 23 - August 15. Yes, that might be through the county fair, but the Japanese youth would love participating and learning at the fair activities. Some past delegates have shown hogs and sheep, plus exhibited foods and visual arts. It is a dream come true for the delegates during their school break.

Family training will be provided. The host family treats the delegate as a family member, rather than a tourist/guest, and keeps a “regular” family schedule. That could mean chores, fairs, camping, ballgames, etc. - very busy or not so busy. It just depends on what your family likes to do! Most delegates will have studied English for one year in school.



Families may now apply online by visiting: <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host>

If you have questions or need help, email Suzanne Hokett at [skhokett@gmail.com](mailto:skhokett@gmail.com)

## Discovery Days

Are You Ready for Discovery Days? Put June 3-5, 2026, on your calendar to be in Manhattan on the K-State campus. Discovery Days is open to all youth who are 13 to 18 years old by January 1, 2026. 4-H membership prior to Discovery Days is not required.

The primary purpose of 4-H Discovery Days is to gain new ideas and expand your 4-H experience. You experience this through action-oriented learning activities, fun tours, and great evening social events. You will meet new people, build leadership skills, and grow as a person!

The cost of Discovery Days is \$245. Some sessions may have an additional cost. A 4-H Council Scholarship is available in the amount of \$125. Registration fee and completed scholarship form is **DUE BY** registration deadline of **May 8 at 5:00 p.m.** Scholarship forms received after this time will not be accepted.

To registration and for more information and additional details, go to <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/discovery-days/>

# K-State Admissions Partners to Empower Families on the College Journey

Kansas 4-H and K-State Admissions are partnering to help youth and their families confidently navigate the college journey. Through a series of interactive sessions, participants will gain a clear understanding of the college preparation process, explore strategies for financing education - including scholarships, loans and other resources - and learn how students are supported both academically and personally, from both the student's and parent's perspective. We will also focus on "beginning with the end in mind," equipping youth with tools to prepare for life after college, create personalized plans, and take ownership of their future. In addition, open office hours will provide families with direct access to experts for questions and guidance, ensuring every student feels prepared and empowered for success. These sessions will be targeted at 4-H parents of juniors and seniors in high school; 4-H members are also encouraged to attend.

Sessions will not be recorded, to maintain the privacy and confidentiality of participants.

Upcoming Sessions (all 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom):

- **April 14:** Open Office Hours - Expert Guidance and Q&A

Registration information will be emailed directly to families via 4-H Online. For questions, please contact [kansas4h@ksu.edu](mailto:kansas4h@ksu.edu).

## Rock Springs Ranch Open House

On April 12 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., camp families and friends are invited to attend Open House at Rock Springs Ranch! Rock Springs Ranch is over 500 acres in the Flint Hills, and we want to share the 4-H camp experience with everyone.

Come and join us for a tour of the property, meet our staff and learn all about the fun to be had at Kansas 4-H Camp at Rock Springs Ranch. Guests will get to see our cabins, activity center, pool, ropes course, horses, dining hall, and lots more. The Rock Springs Ranch team is so excited to meet you and answer all of your questions.

Would you like a more in-depth experience or are you too far away for a day trip to see us? Give Rock Springs a call, and they can help you set up overnight accommodations at minimal cost. If you are unable to attend this time, they are always happy to set up another opportunity to show you around!

To RSVP by April 4, go to <https://rockspringsranch.org/events/open-house>

## Spring Into Volunteering

The Association of Kansas 4-H Volunteers is hosting "Spring Into Volunteering" at the K-State Salina Campus in Salina on Saturday, April 25.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m., and the day will conclude at 3:00 p.m. This is for anyone serving as a 4-H Volunteer or considering it! The goal is for volunteers to go home recharged, excited, and ready to try new things in their volunteer roles.

Online registration is available at <https://bit.ly/4sgaGeW> . Registration deadline is April 15.

# Mid-Year Award Status Check & Appeal Opportunity

Now is a great time to check your progress! The Achievements & Awards Committee is offering a **mid-year appeal option** for members who realize they may not meet the requirements for the pin they originally selected. While many 4-H events are still ahead this year, some opportunities have already passed. If you have missed something important, here is what to do:

## Steps to Follow

- 1) **Update your 4-H Pin Application**
- 2) **Fill it out as completely as possible so it reflects your current progress.**
- 3) **Evaluate your progress**
  - Are you still on track?
  - What requirements still need to be completed?
  - Review the 4-H Newsletter and Master 4-H Calendar (available on the district website) to see what opportunities remain this year.
- 4) **If you have missed a requirement**
  - Complete the **CKD 4-H Appeal Process Form**.
  - Find it at: [www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h](http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h) → **Awards, Recognition, & Records** → **Appeal Process**.
  - Submit the form **with a copy of your 4-H Pin Application** to either Extension Office by **5:00 p.m., May 1**.
- 5) **Committee Review**

The Achievements & Awards Committee will review your materials and respond with guidance.

  - They will let you know whether you may continue working toward your selected pin.
  - In some cases, they may assign alternate requirements to make up for missed opportunities.
  - All instructions will be outlined in their response.



## Helpful Resource Update

The document previously titled *Helpful Hints for Parents (Revised 03/2022)* has been renamed to:

- Central Kansas District 4-H Pin Application Completion Details
- It is now included on **page 2 of the 4-H Member Achievement Plan**.

If you have any questions about the 4-H Pin Application or the appeal process, please contact Kate at the Extension Office.

## Share Your News!

Got news to share? Don't forget to let the office know about successes and learning experiences! 4-H offers so many avenues for learning, and we want to help celebrate your project-related successes. Send us a note to share your great news!

## R-E-A-D

It is imperative for families to plan ahead, and be accountable for:

- adding and/or dropping projects,
- turning in paperwork and
- entering fair pre-entries.



Be sure to read **ALL emails and 4-H newsletters**, as both are equally important sources of information. Each may include time-sensitive updates, reminders or details. These are the best resources to keep 4-H families informed and on track. Stay informed!

# Kansas 4-H Key Award

The Kansas 4-H Key Award is a prestigious State Award recognizing outstanding 4-H members.

Although the final application is due in **September** with other awards, there is an important opportunity for early feedback:

- **Optional Review Deadline: 5:00 p.m., May 1** (submit to either Extension Office)
- This is the **only opportunity** for early review.

## Basic Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

- Be **16 years old before January 1** of the current year.
- Have completed **four or more years of 4-H work**.
- Have been enrolled in **leadership for four or more years**.

There are additional requirements outlined in the full application.

## Where to Find the Application

- The application is available under:  
**4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition & Records → Key Award Application**  
(Located under **Additional Award Forms**)
- Applicants are encouraged to attach additional pages to fully explain and detail their responses.

## Why Submit by May 1?

- The Achievements & Awards Committee will review applications **submitted by May 1**.
- Members will receive feedback on what improvements are needed.
- Applications submitted only at the September deadline will not receive revision opportunities if incomplete.
- If the application is not thorough in September, the member must wait and reapply the following year (if still eligible).

We strongly encourage eligible members to take advantage of the **May 1 early review deadline** to ensure the best opportunity for success.

# CKD 4-H Quiz Bowl

Congratulations to 4-H members who competed in the Central Kansas District 4-H Quiz Bowl. Prizes were given to the top three Jr. and Sr. teams. They were:

### Junior Teams:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Smoky View Jr 1  
Eddie, Camden, Kenzie

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Smoky View Jr 2  
J.D., Haylie, Maia

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Sunny Valley Boys  
Callen, Gideon, Liam

### Senior Teams:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Smoky View Sr  
Acacia, Suzu

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Friendly Valley Seniors  
Casson, Nolan, Isaiah

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Noah's Team  
Kierah, Kyson, Maria

A \$25 prize was given to Smoky View, the club with the most points. We appreciate all the volunteers who assisted with this event.

# Project News

## Districtwide Project Leaders

Below are listed District Project Leaders which hold meetings throughout the year to help you with your projects. Check the newsletter for meeting dates and times or you may contact these leaders to find out the next meeting date, time and location. All phone numbers use the 785 area code unless otherwise indicated.

Project	Name	Phone	Email
Beef	Spencer & Laci Schrader	H: 488-2135 C: 488-7204	schrader@twinvalley.net
Dog	Madison & Tracy Repp	452-5647	k9capersckd4h@gmail.com
Dog	Morgan & Diana Thompson	452-2234	k9capersckd4h@gmail.com
Health & Wellness	Michelle Coats	820-7488	fairdalefam429@gmail.com
Horse	Stalee Diehl	829-7128	stalee@icloud.com
Horse	Camisha Stevenson	829-0965	stevensoncamisha@yahoo.com
Livestock Judging	Spencer & Laci Schrader	H: 488-2135 C: 488-7204	schrader@twinvalley.net
Rabbit	Lindi Farenthold	826-5980	lfarenthold@yahoo.com
Reading Adventures	Amber Pracht	212-5000	prachtamber@gmail.com
Sheep	Michelle & Reygan Schrock	822-4537	mschrock12@gmail.com
Shooting Sports: Air Rifle	Adam Freeman	376-9015	redlegranchks@gmail.com
Shooting Sports: Archery	Cole Malmberg	392-7712	c-dmalmberg@hotmail.com
Shooting Sports: Archery	Cade Rensink	392-0022	crensink@ksu.edu
Shooting Sports: BB Gun	Jay Wisbey	587-7987	jwisbey@ksu.edu
Shooting Sports: Hunting Skills	Eric Klein	392-0368	herbie57_57@hotmail.com
Shooting Sports: Hunting Skills	Pat Riese	650-5245	pariese@mail.fhsu.edu
Shooting Sports: Muzzle Loading	Cole Malmberg	392-7712	c-dmalmberg@hotmail.com
Shooting Sports: Shotgun	Eric Klein	392-0368	herbie57_57@hotmail.com

## Reading Project Meeting

Attention Reading Adventures members! We will be touring the Gypsum Library at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 11. Join us to learn more about the library and all it offers. New to or considering joining the reading project? Join us! The library is at 521 Maple St., Gypsum, KS. The entrance is on the east side (back) of the building. If you have questions, Amber can be reached at [prachtamber@gmail.com](mailto:prachtamber@gmail.com) or 785-787-0890.



## Rabbit Project Meeting

The next Districtwide Rabbit meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 5:15 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 843 Lewis St., Salina. We will be talking about how to prepare your rabbits for the county fair. You will also be able to see showmanship demonstrations and practice showmanship. For more information, contact Lindi Fahrenthold, [lfahrenthold@yahoo.com](mailto:lfahrenthold@yahoo.com).



## Central Kansas Beef Classic Show



This “Blow and Go” show will be held on Saturday, April 18. The show is open to any bonafide 4-H and FFA member who has not yet reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1, 2026. There will be a special class for the 4-H members enrolled in a club in the Central Kansas District. The entry fee is \$25 per head, but after April 10 the fee will increase to \$30 per head. All fees must accompany registration. For registration information, please go to the District website at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu>, click on “4-H Youth and Development” on the left-hand side, and a flyer will be located under Upcoming Events & Online Registration.


## Small Animal Weigh-In & Tagging - Market & Breeding Meat Goat, Sheep & Swine

The Districtwide small animal tagging and weigh-in will be held from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. for meat goats, sheep, and swine on:

- Wednesday, April 22, in Salina (fairgrounds)
  - Line up and enter Barn 1 through the south doors
    - Swine Only – Enter to left & exit out north door
    - Sheep and/or Meat Goats AND Swine – Enter to right & exit out north door
- Thursday, April 23, in Minneapolis (fairgrounds)
  - Use left/south driveway as you enter the fairgrounds.



Tags will cost \$3.00/tag.

 Swine are now required to be at the small animal weigh-in and tagging. **Photo submissions are no longer accepted as a way to tag swine.** You will need to bring all market and breeding swine projects to tagging. They will not be weighed and will be left on trailers for tagging. Members or an associated adult will be required to tag all swine. All market and breeding sheep, meat goats and swine need to come to weigh-in.

## Livestock Declaration Form – Due May 1

A District (for the county fairs) Declaration Form can be found under 4-H Member Forms & Documents at <https://www.centrankansas.k-state.edu/4-h/> The form will be labeled as **Central Kansas District** for the county fairs. This form will be available to complete at Small Animal Weigh-In.

- **All members enrolled in breeding and market beef, meat goats, sheep, and/or swine MUST complete a Declaration Form by May 1, to exhibit at the Ottawa County Fair and Tri-Rivers Fair.**
- Members enrolled in bucket calf, dairy cattle, dairy goats, dog, horse, pets, poultry, and rabbits **DO NOT** need to complete a Declaration Form.

# Livestock Nominations

**ALL State nominations are done online.** Kansas 4-H and FFA members who would like to exhibit livestock at the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS must nominate all market animals and commercial breeding females for those animals to be eligible. When we refer to “state shows”, these are the two shows in which Kansas State livestock nominations apply. For the KSF Grand Drive and/or KJLS:

## **Nominations DUE Online & DNA Postmarked:**

- **May 1** - Market Beef
- **June 15** -
  - Small Livestock
  - Market Swine, Commercial Breeding Gilt
  - Market Lamb, Commercial Breeding Ewe
  - ALL Meat Goat (Market & Breeding)
- Commercial Heifer

## **Deadline - Last day to order DNA envelopes:**

- **April 20** - Beef - Market and Commercial Heifer
- **June 5** - Small Livestock

For more information on nominating animals, go to <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/>

## **Attention Livestock Exhibitors – 2026 YQCA Certification**

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species youth livestock quality assurance program that focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and character development, through an age-appropriate educational curriculum for youth 8-21 years of age. This program is an annual certification that grows with a young person, so the learning modules are different every year.

- **All members enrolled in breeding and market beef, meat goats, sheep, and/or swine MUST complete the certification by May 1, to exhibit at the Ottawa County Fair and Tri-Rivers Fair.**
- Members enrolled in bucket calf, dairy cattle, dairy goats, dog, horse, pets, poultry, and rabbits **DO NOT** need to complete the certification.

### **7-Year-Old Members**

- If you **do not plan to show at Kansas Jr. Livestock Show (KJLS), YQCA is not required**, but youth are welcome to attend for the learning experience (no registration needed).
- If you **plan to show at KJLS, you must be YQCA certified** by attending an instructor-led course.

### **2026 YQCA Class Information**

There are two options for the 2026 in-person class.


- April 6 - 6:00 p.m. - Minneapolis Extension Office, 315 W. 3rd Street (across the street south from the courthouse)
- April 16 - 6:00 p.m. - Salina, College Center Conference Room on the K-State Campus

Parents do not need to attend. They may drop off and pick up children accordingly. Also, know that if you do not wish to attend in-person training, the online course is available. **If you choose this option, please email a copy of your certificate to Justine at [jwh04@ksu.edu](mailto:jwh04@ksu.edu) by May 1.**

**Follow the link <https://yqcaprogram.org> to log into your account or create an account, and sign up for a class.** You are highly encouraged to click on “Help Desk” for Frequently Asked Questions and to view Help Videos about creating an account, registering for courses and printing certificates.

Members need to complete the **PRE-TEST** before coming to the course and the **POST TEST** after attending the course. They will not be able to receive their certificate until both are completed. For more details about the YQCA program, contact Justine Johns at [jwh04@ksu.edu](mailto:jwh04@ksu.edu) or 785-392-2147.

# Important Information for Coggins Test

 In 2024-2025, there were some new changes and requirements for CKD Horse exhibitors.

- All exhibitors in the Ottawa County and Tri-Rivers Fair 4-H Horse Show must bring a printed copy of a negative Coggins test within the last 12 months at the time Horse IDs are due to the extension office - **that deadline this year will be May 29, 2026**. An image or file on your phone is NOT accepted.
- Each horse the exhibitor plans to show/use must have a negative test.
- Your negative Coggins test **MUST** be valid through October 1 of this year. This is to ensure that all tests are valid not only for district fairs but also for state fairs.
- You must also have a negative Coggins test at any future CKD horse clinics.

**What will this mean for Ottawa County?** We understand this was a new requirement last year for Ottawa County. If you need help getting connected with a Veterinarian who can perform a Coggins or have questions about the test and the requirements, please reach out to the Extension Office.

**What will this mean for Saline County?** Since it is already required at Tri-Rivers Fair, the only change for Saline County members is the deadline. We realize some of you may have Coggins that expire between June 1 - October 1, so we are recommending testing now to ensure your new expiration date matches up with the District deadline. **Remember, it has to be valid through October 1.**

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Justine Johns at 785-392-2147.

## Horse ID's - Due by May 29

The Kansas 4-H Horse ID Certificate (P1039) can be found at [https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/item/horse-identification-certificate\\_P1039](https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/item/horse-identification-certificate_P1039). The form was updated for the 2024-2025 4-H program year. Please use the new form and destroy previously used 4-H Horse ID Certificates. As a reminder, to properly identify your horse:



- Complete the 4-H Horse ID Certificate.
- **The form MUST BE front and back of one page, not 2 separate pages.** The date on the lower right corner on the back of the form must say July, 2024.
- A standard-size color picture **MUST BE** attached for identification purposes. This should include:
  - ALL four feet and legs showing.
  - Profile of the horse with the head turned a quarter turn toward the camera.
  - ALL markings need to be clearly visible in the photo.
- Have your Extension Agent sign it and make a copy.
- A **COPY** of the Horse ID Certificate is kept on file in the Extension Office.
- The 4-H Horse member maintains the **ORIGINAL** certificate.
- The **ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE** is presented by the 4-H member to show staff for check-in at the local 4-H horse shows.
- This form can be signed anytime between now and **May 29, 2026**.

Registration papers **WILL NOT** be accepted to identify horses for the 4-H Horse Project. An example of the Horse ID Certificate can be found at:

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animal-science/horse/docs/SampleHorseID.pdf>

The 4-H Horse Show Rulebook (S133) be found at [https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/item/kansas-4-h-horse-show-rulebook\\_S133](https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/item/kansas-4-h-horse-show-rulebook_S133). Supplemental educational materials will also be released throughout the year to assist 4-H members, leaders and Extension staff with the 4-H Horse program.

## Free All-Purpose Flour

For those interested in the Foods and Nutrition project, contact Lisa Newman, Family & Community Wellness Agent in the CKD Salina Office, for free flour from K-State! Each 4-H member that contacts Lisa will receive 6 cups of "Willie's Pride" All-Purpose Flour while supplies last. This is a great opportunity to practice your baking skills or try out a new recipe.

Lisa Newman, Family & Community Wellness Agent, Central Kansas District - [lnnewman@ksu.edu](mailto:lnnewman@ksu.edu) .

## NEW for 2026! State FCS Judging Contest at K-State in Manhattan

The Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Experience will be held on the K-State Campus in Manhattan in Justin Hall on Thursday, June 4, 2026. The experience will include the contest, lunch on campus, workshops, and a campus tour. There will **not be** a contest at the Kansas State Fair this year. This event is being held alongside Discovery Days, but youth do not have attend Discovery Days to participate.

The FCS Judging Contest includes:

- Consumer Decision Placing classes and reasons
- Skill-a-thon identification
- Group Think – Team presentation to a judge of the team's perspective in response to a situation presented on the day of competition.

To participate:

- Youth must be 4-H ages 9-18 and can participate as an individual or a team of 3-4 youth in the same age division.
- Age divisions are Intermediates ages 9-13 and Seniors ages 14-18.
- Youth participating in Discovery Days should select FCS Judging during their Discovery Days registration and will also need to register with CKD at the link below.
- Non-Discovery Days participants - \$15 per participant (includes lunch at Kramer Dining Center)  
Discovery Days participants - \$10 per participant
- No refunds.
- Registration is due online to CKD by April 20, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.
- Payment is due to either Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. on April 20, 2026.

To prepare:

- Contest classes will be selected from topics featured in the [4-H Family and Consumer Sciences National Competition and Conference Study Guide](#).

What to expect:

- Youth will be allocated approximately 75 minutes for individual components and 10 minutes for the group think team activity.
- Teams will be scheduled for group think activities based on their proximity to Manhattan, i.e., the closer you live, the earlier you start.
- Parking will be available at Justin Hall.
- All cell phones and other communication devices must be turned off while participating in the contest.
- Consumer Decision Placing reasons will be shared at 2:30 p.m.
- Special accommodations requests should be submitted per the [KSU process](#).

The first-place Senior division team will qualify to participate at the 4-H FCS National Championship and Conference in 2027.

Register on the CKD website under [Upcoming Events & Online Registration](#).

# News For Organizational Leaders

## April Check-Up

Are you counting down until school is out? Summer will soon arrive! Are you prepared for all the summer activities . . . baseball, vacation and fair? Let's look at our monthly check-up so we can keep on track before those summer activities start.

- \_\_\_ Ready for the unexpected.
- \_\_\_ All 4-H project additions and/or drops **DUE ONLINE by May 1** at <https://v2.4honline.com/>.  
**Please double check! After May 1, the system will not allow a member to add or drop projects.**
- \_\_\_ Changes to 4-H online enrollment completed by **May 1** to exhibit at the county fair.

### Review

- \_\_\_ *4-H Newsletter* read and important dates marked on calendar.
- \_\_\_ Review highlights from the *4-H Newsletter* at club meeting.

### To-Do

- \_\_\_ All project leaders completed the volunteer screening process and enrolled in 4-H Online.
- \_\_\_ Project Leaders conducting project meetings.
- \_\_\_ Check project leaders progress.
- \_\_\_ Fair preparations started - banner, float, etc.
- \_\_\_ **Check club mailbox at the Extension Office.**
- \_\_\_ Visitors reported to Kate at [klittich@ksu.edu](mailto:klittich@ksu.edu)
- \_\_\_ Have a parent meeting.
- \_\_\_ Plan summer activities - tour, picnic, etc.
- \_\_\_ Update 4-H Project Award Application, Pin Application and Club Summary.



### Promote/Recruit

- \_\_\_ Current Parents Committee recruiting new Organizational Leaders or Parent's Committee members for the next 4-H year.
- \_\_\_ Discovery Days promoted. **Registration will open soon.**





### Remember

- \_\_\_ Tri-Rivers Fair Queen & King names **DUE ONLINE, May 1.**
- \_\_\_ Tri-Rivers Queen and King Candidate résumés, etc., **DUE ONLINE, May 29.**
- \_\_\_ Club representatives should attend 4-H council meeting.

## Organizational Leader Update

The next Organizational Leader Update will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, April 9, via zoom. We will be discussing county fairs and more! You won't want to miss this update.

# April, 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>UPCOMING DATES:</b> <b>May</b> 1—Fair Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Sign-Up <b>DUE Online</b> 1—ALL MEMBERS - 4-H Project add/drop deadline <b>DUE online</b> 1—New Members: 4-H Online Enrollment <b>DUE online</b> to participate in fair 1—Tri-Rivers Fair King/Queen Names <b>DUE online</b> 1—Mid-Year Appeals <b>DUE</b> to either office by 5:00 p.m. 1—District Declaration Form for county fairs <b>DUE</b> to either office by 5:00 p.m. 29—Horse IDs & proof of negative Coggins <b>DUE</b> to either office by 5:00 p.m. TBD—4-H Council Meeting, Minneapolis			1 Camp Scholarship application <b>DUE</b> to either Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. District Fundraiser Begins April 1 - May 1	2 Organizational Leaders' Update, Online via Zoom - 7:00 p.m.	3 May Newsletter articles due to Ellie	4 Central Kansas Beef Classic Show, Salina
5 	6 YOCCA Training, Minneapolis Extension Office (across the street south from the courthouse), 6:00 p.m.	7 YOCCA Training, College Center Conference Room, K-State Campus, Salina, 6:00 p.m.	8 Meat Goat/Sheep/Swine Weigh-in/Tagging, Salina, fairgrounds, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	9 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, RSVP Due	10 National Volunteer Week	11 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
12 	13 Meat Goat/Sheep/Swine Weigh-in/Tagging, Minneapolis, fairgrounds, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	14 National Volunteer Week	15 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	16 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	17 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	18 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
19 	20 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	21 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	22 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	23 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	24 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	25 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
26 	27 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	28 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	29 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	30 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	31 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	32 Districtwide Leadership Workshop, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



**Central Kansas Extension District**

**Salina Office**

Kansas State University Salina  
Aerospace and Technology Campus  
2218 Scanlan Ave  
Salina, KS 67401-8196

Address Service Requested

Dear 4-H Families,

Spring is finally here! With warmer weather arriving, we're excited to kick off a season full of fun district events and activities. It's a great time to get involved, try new things, and connect with fellow 4-H members and families. We're looking forward to diving into all the spring opportunities ahead as we begin gearing up for an exciting county fair season. We hope to see many of you at our upcoming events!

Best,

Ellie

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**Minneapolis Office** • 307 N Concord • Suite 190 • Minneapolis, KS 67467-2140 • 785-392-2147 • Fax 785-392-3605

**Salina Office** • K-State Salina • 2218 Scanlan Ave • Salina, KS 67401-8196 • 785-309-5850 • Fax 785-309-5851