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Central Kansas District 4-H

September, 2025

4-H Council News

September Meeting

The September 4-H Council Meeting will be held on Monday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m., in Minneapolis. We will meet in the Courthouse Meeting Room in Minneapolis.

November Meeting

The November 4-H Council Meeting will be held on Monday, November 24 at 7:00 p.m., in Salina. Location TBD.

4-H Newsletter Deadlines

If you have something you would like in the 4-H Newsletter, be sure to email it to klittich@ksu.edu.

Deadlines are:

- October - September 10
- November - October 10
- December/January - November 10



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Kansas4-H.org



Offices Closed

Both the Minneapolis and Salina Extension Offices will be closed on October 1. Offices will re-open on October 2.

Local Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to local scholarship winners.

Hensli Lofdahl
Arianna Baltazor
Caroline Stone

Claude Lecklider Memorial Scholarship
Tri-Rivers Fair Scholarship
Tri-Rivers Fair Scholarship



Thank you Superintendents & Assistants!!!!

The county fairs are over for another year! **The county fairs are not possible without our volunteers, parents, and teen leaders.** THANK YOU for making the fairs a success!!! A special thank you goes out to all the superintendents and assistants for their work in the various 4-H divisions. The fairs would not have been successful without everyone's help!

Kansas State Fair Results & Information

Results for the Kansas State Fair can be found at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/fairs/kansas-state-fair/>

All exhibits will return from the fair on Monday, September 15, and Salina area exhibits may be picked up beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 16. Minneapolis area exhibits may be picked up beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 17. For more information, please contact your respective local Extension Office.

NOTE: If you took your own exhibits down to the State Fair, you will need to pick them up after 6:00 p.m. on the last Sunday of the fair.

Stay Informed

The end of the current 4-H year and beginning of the new 4-H year are here! To help navigate a successful 4-H year, there are several things that will help.

- Read the Central Kansas District 4-H Newsletter - Located on our website and also mailed to each 4-H family.
- Read emails - This is the best way for our office to share information between newsletters. It is also the main source of communication from the Kansas State 4-H Office.
- Attend club meetings.
- Write event dates and deadlines on a central calendar - It is much easier to remember a date when it is written down and seen.
- Ask questions.
- Check out our website - Record keeping, forms and documents, project lists, fair information, 4-H master calendar, etc. can all be found on our website.

County Fair Judging Contest Results

Consumer Decision Making Judging Results

Senior

1. Brogan Isaacson, Gypsum Valley
2. Jaelyn Gates, Cardinal
3. Colbey Hyde, Woodsdale
4. Kiley Isaacson, Gypsum Valley
4. Eian Pracht, Smoky View
6. Rachel Doris, Woodsdale
7. Acacia Pracht, Smoky View
8. Jacob Tillberg, Cardinal
9. Ty Tillberg, Cardinal
10. Kyson Griffin, Willing Workers

Intermediate

1. JD Mettlen, Smoky View
2. Paxton DeWitt, Cardinal
2. Eddie Littich, Smoky View
4. Maryn Gates, Cardinal
4. Maia, Smoky View
6. Maria Escobedo-Baltazor, Willing Workers
6. Oscar Page, Cardinal
6. Ella Riese, Cardinal
9. Parker Page, Cardinal
10. Porter Riese, Cardinal

Photography Judging Results

Senior

1. Acacia Pracht, Smoky View
2. Kyson Griffin, Willing Workers
3. Genna Stelter, Cardinal
4. Rachel Doris, Woodsdale
5. Jacob Tillberg, Cardinal
6. Eian Pracht, Smoky View
7. Colbey Hyde, Woodsdale
8. Kiley Isaacson, Gypsum Valley
9. Jaelyn Gates, Cardinal
10. Brogan Isaacson, Gypsum Valley

Intermediate

1. Lydia Taylor, Cardinal
2. Ella Riese, Cardinal
3. Eddie Littich, Smoky View
4. Kenzie Isaacson, Smoky View
5. JayLynn Stout, Livewires
6. Reid Lundquist, Cardinal
7. Maryn Gates, Cardinal
8. Maia, Smoky View
9. Haylie Isaacson, Smoky View
10. Porter Riese, Cardinal

Fair Thank You Notes

Attention exhibitors!!! Don't forget the important thank you notes! You may think "Thank You" notes are little inconveniences that take up your time, but think again! Donors greatly appreciate knowing who won their trophies and awards. Donors look forward to hearing from the 4-H members. If you cannot find the donor's address...check the bottom of the trophy for the sponsor. Please remember to send thank you notes...it helps for future giving! Don't know what to write? Thank them for sponsoring the award. Tell them about yourself and the project you won the award for. You can also tell them about the other 4-H projects you are enrolled in and the activities you enjoy doing in 4-H. Don't forget to sign your name!

7 Steps to a Great Thank You Note

- 1 A greeting to the thank you note recipient
- 2 Specific reason you are thanking them
- 3 The reason why you appreciate them
- 4 How you plan to use the gift or why the gift was important to you
- 5 A comment or detail about yourself
- 6 A repeat of your thank you
- 7 A closing and signature of your name

4-H GROWS HERE

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Lost & Found at Tri-Rivers Fair

If you lost any of the following items at the Tri-Rivers Fair, please contact the Salina Extension Office at 785-309-5850 or stop by to pick up the item. If items are not claimed by September 30, they will be donated.

- Two gray hand towels
- Gray & white hand towel
- Red & white hand towel
- Silver 24/7 Travel Store cup with lid
- Key chain
- Watch
- Small clear plastic container/no lid

Thank Our Fair Supporters

We are very fortunate that we have had some great support for our county fairs. Consider writing a thank you note as a family to the following groups for the respective fairs. If we wouldn't have had the support of our local fairboards we would not have been able to hold the county fairs we had.

<u>Premiums, Facility, etc.</u> Ottawa County Fairboard 307 N Concord, Ste 190 Minneapolis, KS 67467	<u>Premiums, Facility, etc.</u> Tri-Rivers Fairboard P.O. Box 124 Salina, KS 67401	<u>4-H Council Concession Stand</u> Accessible Home Care, LLC Attn: Debra Bengston 100 N 7 th St #206 Salina, KS 67401 Clark, Mize & Linville 129 S 8 th St Salina, KS 67401
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2025 Kansas 4-H/Japanese Exchange

It was interesting and fun having the Japanese delegates in Kansas participating in a family summer cultural experience. The youth and adult chaperones are members of LABO and LEX organizations that focus on learning foreign languages and experiencing first-hand different cultures.

The Central Kansas District and area families that welcomed Japanese Exchange delegates were:

- Phil, Rita, Monica, and Ariana Baltazor, Host Family to Chieri
- Henry, Kate and Eddie Littich, Host Family to Gen
- Adam, Amber and Acacia Pracht, Host Family to Wakana
- John, Kellie and Karley Thelander, Host Family to Chise
- Joe and Suzanne Hokett, Host Family to Junko
- Allison Lecklider, Host Family to Hanko

Hat's off to a great group of 4-H and three non 4-H families that opened their home for a culture experience! If you would be interested in hosting in future years, contact Kate.

Help Needed: Lion's BBQ, October 18

Mark your calendars for the Annual Salina Downtown Lion's BBQ, to be held Saturday, October 18, at the 4-H Building in Salina. All 4-H Clubs in the District are asked to help support the Lion's Club by selling tickets to support this BBQ, as the Downtown Lions are big supporters of CKD 4-H. They support 4-H with scholarships for 4-H Camp, Citizenship Washington Focus, and Discovery Days. *It is imperative that we help them with this fundraiser more than ever.* Tickets will be available soon, and an email will be sent to club leaders when they are ready to pick up. 4-H members are encouraged to sell a minimum of 2 tickets.



October 18, 4:30—6 p.m.

October 18, 5:30—7 p.m.

We'd like to have at least three adults and five to six youth per shift. Younger members should be accompanied by an older teen leader or a parent. If members of your club will be able to help, please call the Salina Extension Office or email Michele at mhennes@ksu.edu and let us know how many workers you will have and what shift you will be able to work. This is a big 4-H fundraiser put on by the Downtown Lions, so provide your support since the Lions provide theirs!

4-H Member Records and 4-H Recognition



This section highlights the Central Kansas District 4-H Awards System and what awards and recognition are available to 4-H members and volunteers. 4-H members and parents are strongly encouraged to stay up-to-date on these processes by going to the District website, <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/> → 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition & Records

Events occurring after the due date for District awards will count towards the next 4-H year.

Pin Applications/Member Achievement Plan (Revised 10/24)

The Achievement Pin Application is available on the District website (<http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h>). The 4-H Member Achievement Plan/Pin Application is found under 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition, & Records → Member Achievement Pin Application. Regardless of what pin the 4-H member is applying for, they will all fill out the same form, but the items required will vary (see the details on the first page of the application).

The Achievement Pins or **Standard of Excellence Award Categories**: Where a “standard” is set and completion of categories is determined by a minimum requirement.

- | | | |
|----------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Membership | 5. Silver Pin | 8. Gold Pin |
| 2. Bronze | 6. Silver Guard | 9. Gold Guard |
| 3. Clover Pin | 7. Leadership Pin (must be enrolled in: Civic | 10. Citizenship Pin |
| 4. Emerald Pin | Engagement & Leadership) | |

Only one Achievement Pin can be received by each 4-H member per year.

A pin may be skipped, but once a pin is skipped, a 4-H member may not go back and apply for it. For example: If a 4-H member received the Emerald Pin in 2013 and received the Silver Guard in 2014, he/she could not apply for the Silver Pin in 2015.

Only Central Kansas District 4-H Member Achievement Plan / Pin Application will be accepted.

Members are encouraged to **check all boxes** for the events / activities / accomplishments. This will assist the review committee if there is a problem with one of the items selected on the application. **Any item left blank, will result in an automatic deferral, and the 4-H member will not receive the pin.**

Project Award Applications

Any 4-H member can complete a Project Award Application. All 4-H members will submit their Project Award Application to their club leaders, and the leaders will turn all of the Project Award Applications in to either Extension Office. If the member’s goal is to receive a District Award in a 4-H Project Area, then they will want to complete the Project Award Application for their age category. Project Awards can be received more than once during a 4-H member’s career.

There are three age levels for the Central Kansas District 4-H Project Awards. They are 7-8 year olds, 9-12 year olds and 13 years old and older. All Project Award Applications are available on the District website under 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition & Records → Project Award Applications. The awards will be divided by age groups: 7-8 years old; 9-12 years old; and 13 years old and older.

4-H Age Definitions (October, 2024)

- Juniors are considered youth with a 4-H age 7-9, before January 1 of the current 4-H year.
- Intermediates are considered youth with a 4-H age 10-13, before January 1 of the current 4-H year.
- Seniors are considered youth with a 4-H age 14 and older, before January 1 of the current 4-H year.

These age definitions are the same as the state forms. Please note, in the Central Kansas District, 9-year olds may opt to fill out the Intermediate forms, and 13-year olds may opt to fill out the Senior forms if desired.

Binders

Each Project Award Application should be in its own binder. Binders should be a ½ inch or 1 inch 3-ring binders. No clipart or pictures are allowed on the cover page. Juniors may opt for a folder if a binder is not available. All Project Award Applications should have a label (or sheet of paper for the presentation/view binder notebooks) with the following:

4-H Member’s name (First and Last name)
Central Kansas District
4-H Club Name
4-H Project Area

Order of the Project Award Application

The Project Award Application for each project submitted for an award should be in its own binder (i.e., one project per binder). The order of the book should be as follows:

- Personal Information Page
- Project Award Application (includes the project story and photos)

Guidelines by Age Group

7-9 years old (October, 2024)

This age group will fill out the project award application for the 7-9 year olds. There is a specific project award application for animal projects (this includes ALL animal projects). This age group will need to turn in their award application in a **red or blue** binder or folder. Everyone in the 7-9 year old group who has turned in a project award application will receive a participation certificate and a “token” of recognition (i.e., 4-H item, such as a pencil, key chain, magnet, etc.). Be sure to complete the 4-H Personal Page and include in the front of the Project Award Application.

10-13 years old (October, 2024)

This group will need to use the project award application for the 10-13 year olds. There is a specific project award application for animal projects (this includes ALL animal projects). This age group will need to turn in their award application in a **white** binder. Be sure to complete the 4-H Personal Page and include in the front of the Project Award Application.

14 years old and older (October, 2024)

This group will need to use the project award application for the 14 years and older. There is a specific project award application for animal projects (this includes ALL animal projects). This age group will need to turn in their award application in a **black** binder. Be sure to complete the 4-H Personal Page and include in the front of the Project Award Application.

The 10-13 year old group and 14 years old and older group will be recognized using the following guidelines: Youth will be recognized based on the enrollment in the age group. 10% or up to 4 books/individuals may be recognized. If 15 or more books are turned in within a project area, more youth may be recognized. For every 5 books over 10, one more 4-H Member may receive recognition. For example, if the photography project had 23 award recognition books turned in and had an enrollment of 43, 6 books/individuals may be recognized (10% up to 4 and for every additional 5 books after 10, 1 more youth can be recognized... $4 + 1 + 1 = 6$). Only books in the 10-13 year old and 14-year old and older groups that warrant recognition will be recognized for an award.

4-H Project Award Areas (updated in the 2023-2024 4-H year)

Aerospace/Rocketry	Fiber Arts	Reading Adventures
Ag Mechanics Welding	Foods & Nutrition	Robotics
Agronomy	Forestry	Self-Determined
Astronomy	Geology	Sewing & Textile Design
Beef	Health & Wellness	Sheep
Building Block Engineering	Horse	Shooting Sports
Civic Engagement	Horticulture & Landscape Design	Shopping in Style
Communications	Interior Design & Architecture	Small Engines
Computer Science	Leadership	Swine
Dairy (includes Dairy Cattle & Goats)	Meat Goats	Veterinary Science
Dog	Performing Arts	Visual Arts
Electric & Renewable Energy	Pets	Wildlife
Entomology	Photography	Woodworking
Environmental Science	Poultry	Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
Family Studies	Rabbits	

Kansas 4-H Key Award (November, 2019)

The Kansas 4-H Key Award is a State Award and may be applied for in addition to an Achievement Pin (District Award) in the same year. The basic requirements are: 1) a 4-H member must have passed their 16th birthday before January 1 of the current year; 2) completed four or more years of 4-H work; and 3) enrolled in leadership for four or more years. There are several other requirements for this award. The Kansas 4-H Key Award is found under 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition & Records → Key Award Application (found under Additional Award Forms). Applicants are encouraged to attach additional pages to be able to describe in detail the answers to the questions. **While this award application is due in September with the other awards, there is an optional “review deadline” of May 1.** Watch the 4-H newsletter and email for details. If a 4-H member submits their Key Award Application for review in May, the Achievements & Awards Committee will review it and provide them feedback on what they will need to change in order for the 4-H member to receive the Kansas 4-H Key Award. If a 4-H member does not turn an application in until the September deadline and the application is not thorough, the 4-H member will not receive an opportunity to revise the application. They will have to apply for the award the following year, if eligible. **This application should be submitted to the club organizational leader to be submitted to the Extension Office.**

Ten-Year Award (2021)

In order for a 4-H member to receive a plaque for being in 4-H for 10 years, they will need to complete the Ten-Year Award Application. The Ten-Year Award Application is found under 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition, & Records → Ten-Year Award Application (found under Additional Award Forms). This application will be due on the September awards deadline.

Outstanding 4-H Member Award

4-H members 15 years old and older before January 1 of the current year who complete and turn in a Project Award Application **in any 4-H project award area** by the September awards deadline, will be eligible for this award. There is no separate application to complete. **After all the books are judged, the members with the top scoring books will be interviewed by a panel.** Interviewees will be notified by email with their scheduled time and location of the interview.

The Outstanding 4-H Member(s) will be named at the *Central Kansas District 4-H Celebration of Achievements*.

This award may only be received once during a member's 4-H career.

Additional Club Forms

4-H members who want to keep records and not compete for a 4-H Project Award will need to complete a Project Award Application, but it will not need to be submitted to the Extension Office.

The 4-H Permanent Record (Word – 2020) is also a great record keeping tool for 4-H members. The Permanent Record is found under 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition & Records → Record Keeping Materials → Permanent Record.

Most clubs use the CKD Record Book Check Sheet (Revised 09/2020) to help review the 4-H Record Books and 4-H Project Award Applications before they come to the Extension Office. The CKD Record Book Check Sheet is found under 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition & Records → CKD Record Book Check Sheet (found under Record Keeping Materials).

A complete 4-H Record Book includes: Personal Information Page, 4-H Project Award Application for each project enrolled in, and Permanent Record. Note: The Story and Pictures are included in the 4-H Project Award Application document.

Club Record Keeping and Awards

Also, organizational leaders, the Club Summary (or annual summary) (Revised 09/2020) for the club seal is available under 4-H Youth Development → Organizational Leaders → Club Summary → (found under Award Forms). This form is due on the September awards deadline to either Extension Office.

Don't forget the Club Secretary's Book and Treasurer's Book are also due on the September awards deadline to either Extension Office.

Awards Specific to the Minneapolis Area Club Members - \$50 award

Below is a list of project areas that are included in this series of awards. The recipients of these awards are the senior winners in the respective project based on the 4-H Member's Project Award Application.

- Beef Award – Everett Harris Award
- Citizenship Award, Leadership Award – Sponsored by: Ottawa County 4-H Foundation
- Lucky Seven 4-H Club Horse Award – Sponsored by: Ottawa County 4-H Foundation
- Sheep Award, Swine Award – Sponsored by: Ottawa County Pork Producers Association

Additional District Awards

Submissions may be made at anytime during the 4-H year for the awards below, but will be due on the September awards deadline to either Extension Office or through online submission.

4-H Alumni

Each 4-H Community Club or Individual can nominate an individual(s) for this award. The nomination should be typed and the requirements are as follows:

- ✿ Submit a name of someone whom you feel has contributed a great deal to Central Kansas District 4-H.
- ✿ The nominee does not have to serve in a volunteer leader role.
- ✿ The nominee should be a past 4-H member, but does not have to have been a 4-H member in the Central Kansas District (Ottawa or Saline County).
- ✿ While a nomination form can be found under 4-H Youth Development → Organizational Leaders → Award Forms, nominations can be made in a letter form to the review committee and contain the criteria mentioned above.

Family of the Year

Each 4-H Community Club or Individual can nominate several families for this award (one nomination form per family). The nomination should be typed, and the requirements are as follows:

- ✿ To be eligible, at least one member of the family must be a current Central Kansas District 4-H Member or 4-H volunteer leader.
- ✿ The selection criteria for this award includes:
 - Balance of total family involvement in 4-H
 - Contributions family has made to the 4-H program (most weight given to club and local levels)
 - Years of service to 4-H
 - Involvement and contributions given to community
 - Evidence family has benefited from 4-H
- ✿ While a nomination form can be found under 4-H Youth Development → Organizational Leaders → Award Forms, nominations can be made in a letter form to the review committee and contain the criteria mentioned above.

Friend of 4-H

Each 4-H Community Club can nominate a maximum of one individual for this award. The nomination should be typed, and the requirements are as follows:

- ✿ Submit a name of someone whom you feel has contributed a great deal to Central Kansas District 4-H.
- ✿ The nominee does not have to serve in a volunteer leader role.
- ✿ The nominee does not have to be a past 4-H member.
- ✿ While a nomination form can be found under 4-H Youth Development → Organizational Leaders → Award Forms, nominations can be made in a letter form to the review committee and contain the criteria mentioned above.

Volunteer of the Year Award

This award is for individuals who have served as 4-H volunteers for **less than 10 years** at the district or state level as determined before January 1 of the current year. Nominations can come from the club or individuals. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged. One award will be given each year. Nominations may be made in a letter form indicating why the nominee is deserving of this award.

Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Award

This award is for individuals who have served **10 or more years** at the district or state level as determined before January 1 of the current year. Nominations can come from the club or individuals. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged. One award will be given each year. Nominations may be made in a letter form indicating why the nominee is deserving of this award.

Deferred Pin Applications and Appeal Process for Deferred Pin Applications/Member Achievement Plans & 4-H Club

Summary Applications (Revised 09/2017, Reviewed 09/2020)

If a 4-H member has their pin application deferred on the club level, the organizational leader is to notify the 4-H member. If the 4-H member wishes to appeal the deferral, they may do so by completing the Appeal Process Form. The Deferral Appeal Process Form is found under 4-H Youth Development → Awards, Recognition & Records → Member Achievement Pin Application.

The appeal must be made in writing, up to two pages typed. The Deferral Appeal Process Form and the written appeal must be attached to the deferred pin application or completed 4-H club summary application and turned in to either Extension Office by **May 1 or the September award deadline by 5 p.m.**

The appeal should include the reason why the:

- Requirements were not met
- Achievements & Awards Committee should consider granting the award

The parent(s)/guardian(s), organizational leader(s), or other adult leader(s) working directly with the 4-H member or 4-H club making the appeal, will not be allowed input at the Achievements & Awards Committee Meeting. Only written information attached to this form will be considered by the committee.

Annual 4-H Achievement Pin Application Appeal

This should be used when a 4-H member does not meet all the requirements for their pin AND the 4-H member, parent/guardian, organizational leader or other adult leader, etc., feel they should still receive it and the Achievements & Awards Committee should take into consideration. The appeal can **only** come from the 4-H member.

4-H Club Summary Appeal

This should be used when a 4-H Club does not meet all of the requirements for the desired club seal AND there are circumstances which the organizational leaders feel the Achievements & Awards Committee should take into consideration. The appeal can **only** come from the organizational leaders or designated representative.

Leadership Opportunities

4-H Council Officer Applications

Have you considered taking a leadership role with the Central Kansas District 4-H Council? Well, now is your chance! 4-H Council Officer Applications will soon be available on the website at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h> under 4-H Member Forms & Documents. Applications are due to either Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17. One year of 4-H Council experience is required. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any of the current officers or Kate.



The Central Kansas District 4-H Ambassador Program Wants You!!!

Do you enjoy the 4-H program and all the opportunities it provides? Are you looking to take your leadership skills to the next level? Then the Central Kansas District 4-H Ambassador Program just might be for YOU!

We are looking for 4-H members who are interested in becoming 4-H Ambassadors. The Ambassadors represent and promote the 4-H program and help it grow! Some of the programs that the Ambassadors have assisted with are various things at the Fair, 4-H Celebration of Achievements, etc.

The Ambassador Program is a large commitment for 4-H Members and their families. Please take time to carefully consider the time commitment to the program and other requirements before applying. Interested 4-H Members need to be in at least the 8th grade, interested in promoting the 4-H program and willing to make a two-year commitment to the program.

Applications will soon be available at either Extension Office or online at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h> under 4-H Member Forms & Documents. Applications are due to either Extension Office **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2025. Interview date is TBD.** For more information about the ambassador program, contact Collyn Fouard, Ambassador Coordinator at ckfouard@gmail.com or 785-201-2813.

4-H PDC Youth Representation

Each 4-H Club has the opportunity to encourage 4-H members in 8th grade or high school to serve as a youth representative on the 4-H Program Development Committee. Youth will serve on the 4-H PDC from October until September. Two youth from each geographic area in the District will be chosen to serve this one-year term. Applications will soon be available at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h>, under 4-H Member Forms & Documents, and are due to either Extension Office **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2025.**

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)

Come and build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2026 Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected and up to six National 4-H Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF.

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum will be held at Rock Springs Ranch on November 22 - 23. The Forum is for youth ages 14-18, before January 1, 2026. Please check <http://www.kansas4-h.org> often for details. Registration will be online and open in September, due October 15.

To be eligible for a scholarship through District 4-H Council, do not forget to complete the 4-H Council Scholarship Application (<http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h>, under 4-H Member Forms and Documents) and turn in to the Extension Office before 5:00 p.m. on the registration deadline.

Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council

The Youth Council and National 4-H Conference application will be combined, with applicants indicating if they are applying for one or both opportunities. Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2026 may apply as a Council Rep and those 15-18 before January 1, 2026 may apply for National Conference.

This year's KYLF delegation will elect representatives from the four extension program regions (NE, NW, SE, SW) for one year terms on council. Up to six National Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF and they serve a two year term on council.

Youth Council members work to involve youth with K-State and Extension in promoting, developing, implementing, and evaluating Kansas Extension 4-H Youth Development programs in order to reflect the needs and interests of the youth in the state. Council members will also plan and conduct the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, Citizenship in Action, Campference, 48 Hours of 4-H, and other events.

Please encourage those outstanding young leaders in your club to apply. **Applications and one reference are due online October 1 before 11:59 p.m. CST, and one letter of reference must be uploaded on the registration site. The signature page needs to be scanned and emailed by October 1.**

After the applications are evaluated, up to 12 candidates from each region will be selected to interview by Zoom prior KYLF. Following the interviews, up to 6 candidates from each region will get the opportunity to run for a position on Youth Council. Those candidates will give a speech and be elected through a ballot vote by the delegates from their region during KYLF. Membership on Youth Council will involve travel to meetings and various functions. Members should expect to encounter out-of-pocket expenses. This will require commitment from you as well as your parent(s) or guardian(s). If you have any questions about State Youth Council, please contact Kate.



National 4-H Conference

The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development programs nationally and in their communities. This event brings together youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension Staff

members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Provinces.

Any 4-H youth member program age 15-18 may apply for the opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C. area. The event is typically scheduled for April in Arlington, Virginia. Any 4-H youth member program age 15-18 may apply for the opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C. area. The event is typically scheduled for April in Arlington, Virginia.

Applications are due October 1, 2025.

Local Extension Units may require an earlier deadline for their families. Applicants are screened and top applicants will be invited for interview. Up to six Kansas youth may be selected to attend this event.

National 4-H Conference dates have not been set for 2026 but are typically in April in Arlington, Virginia.

Applications are due ONLINE by October 1, 11:59 p.m. and one letter of reference must be uploaded on the registration site. For more information, please visit <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/national-4-h-conference/>

After Applications are evaluated, those selected will be invited to interview prior to the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF). There is a cost of approximately \$2000 (after scholarships from the Kansas 4-H Foundation have been applied) to attend the National 4-H Conference. That can be paid by the delegate, local scholarships, raised locally or a combination. If selected a \$1000 payment will be due January 15, 2026, and the remaining \$1000 payment will be due March 30, 2026. There are scholarship possibilities to help offset the cost of the delegate's portion through the District 4-H Council and the local 4-H club.

48 Hours of 4-H



Kansas 4-H members are proud of the communities they call home. Whether they live in cities, towns or rural areas, 4-H members make their communities better year round. 48 Hours of 4-H was created as a way to challenge 4-H members to explore their service capabilities — “To Make the Best Better” in their communities, extension units and across the state. Join us this fall in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend after National 4-H Week, October 11-12, 2025, is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers and 4-H Alums too! Find all the information at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/> and start planning your projects.

Please register your projects and then follow up with a report so we know about all the great things that happened across the state. 48 Hours of 4-H is the perfect compliment to #InspireKidstoDo. Registration information will be updated soon.

Club Projects - 4-H Clubs may decide to do their own service project for 48 Hours of 4-H and can register their project in September.

District Projects - Watch your email and 4-H Newsletter for information about a Districtwide 48 Hours of 4-H opportunity.

The Presidential AI Challenge

The current presidential administration is launching a year-long challenge for K-12 students across the country to spark interest in Artificial Intelligence, promote creative thinking using AI tools and demonstrate how AI technology can be used in beneficial ways. Early training and experience in responsible AI use can demystify the technology and support America’s youth in cultivating skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in an AI-driven workforce.

Students who join the Presidential Challenge can access training and resources to help them complete a project that can either be a study or the development of an AI method or tool to solve a local community problem. Participants can choose to enter their projects into a competition for the chance to showcase their work at a White House event next summer.

Registration for the Presidential AI Challenge will open to students and educators in late August 2025.

You can find the fact sheet and flyers here:

- [AI Challenge Fact Sheet](https://orise.orau.gov/ai-challenge/documents/flyers/presidential_ai_challenge_fact_sheet.pdf) - https://orise.orau.gov/ai-challenge/documents/flyers/presidential_ai_challenge_fact_sheet.pdf
- [Flyer for Students](https://orise.orau.gov/ai-challenge/documents/flyers/presidential_ai_challenge_flyer_student-version.pdf) - https://orise.orau.gov/ai-challenge/documents/flyers/presidential_ai_challenge_flyer_student-version.pdf

Kansas 4-H Project Partner Teams Applications Open

Throughout its history, Kansas 4-H has had various groups and committees, most recently Kansas 4-H Action Teams, working across the 4-H project areas to deliver programmatic opportunities, make recommendations for project advancement and more. These groups play an integral role in the success of Kansas 4-H. Recently, the Kansas State 4-H Team rebranded this volunteer opportunity as Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams. These teams, listed below, offer expanded opportunities across a broader range of 4-H project areas.

Animal Science	Discovery Days**	Natural Resources
Communication & Expressive Arts	Engineering & Technology	Plant Sciences*
Consumer & Family Science	Leadership & Personal Development	

* This will be a 4-H Project Partnership Team that will be coming in the future.

** Discovery Days also needs a team to help deliver this educational experience, and it will follow the same application process as the Project Partnership Teams and be considered as such.

Everyone interested in serving will need to apply for a 4-H Project Partnership Team. We will be looking for a variety of expertise around the projects that fall under each 4-H Project Partnership Team. The applications can be found at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/volunteers/projectpartnershipteams/>.

States' 4-H International Exchange Announces Outbound Programs for 2026

Five International partners have agreed to host U.S. 4-H'ers for outbound exchanges in the summer of 2026. Kansas 12 to 18-year-olds, at the time of the exchanges, are eligible to participate in one-month exchanges beginning in June and July, 2026, with accepted applicants from other states. Destinations include Costa Rica, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, and Argentina. All exchanges include a homestay with a host family. Japan's Labo offers a month-long study program in Tokyo with another family (prior to the 4-week program) for older participants, making it an 8-week offering. Argentina 4-H is offering a program of Spanish study and group activities, along with a homestay with a Cordoban local family next year. Adults, 25 and over, may apply as chaperones for each of the groups.

A link to the Outbound Exchange Application should be posted by September 1, 2025. For more information, contact Mary Kay Munson, Kansas 4-H Exchange Coordinator, at 785-375-3189 or mkm2@ksu.edu.

Kansas applications are due online by November 1, 2025, through the States' 4-H web-based application. The online application includes reference forms and photo requirements. Applicants will be expected to participate in interviews and a first orientation on November 21, 2025, in Junction City. Details will be communicated to applicants after November 1.

CKD 4-H Welcomed Delegations from Taiwan and Japan

Thank you to those who assisted with the many aspects of hosting teenagers and their chaperones representing Taiwan 4-H this summer. Your assistance in locating host families, assisting with In-Home Interviews, and including them in 4-H events such as county fairs made these exchanges possible. They appreciated the opportunities and new experiences they had.

- Michelle Coats and Kyson Griffin, were Host Family to Jin "Mars", Taiwan.

We appreciate all the families and others who helped with transportation and short-term hosting. The inbound exchanges are a valuable and easy way to give cross-cultural experiences to numerous young people in Kansas communities who interact with these delegates. They also make outbound exchanges possible. Thank you to all who contributed. Additional families can apply soon for next year. Please continue to spread the word or this life-changing opportunity, and reach out to our CKD families who hosted this year to learn more about their experiences.

CKD 4-H Members Return from Internal Exchanges

Kansas 4-H members returned from one- or two-month exchanges in July and August, where they experienced local culture in Costa Rica or Japan. Each of them experienced the culture of the individual host family through a homestay. Back at home, they are preparing to share their experiences with local 4-H clubs and groups this fall and winter. The 2025 delegates from CKD were:

- Costa Rica: Ariana Baltazor, Willing Workers
- Japan: Landon Wisbey, Pleasant Valley

Those in neighboring counties may contact the returning travelers through their local Extension offices or Mary Kay Munson, State International Exchange Coordinator at mkm2@ksu.edu.

Family of the Year, 4-H Alumni, Friend of 4-H, Volunteer of the Year, and Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Nominations

Begin thinking about who your club will nominate for the CKD Family of the Year, 4-H Alumni, Friend of 4-H, Volunteer of the Year, and Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Nomination Awards. The 2024-2025 Applications and information are now available online under Organizational Leaders. Let's challenge ourselves and members to nominate an alumni or family for these honors. Think about the adults in your club serving as organizational leaders and project leaders. What about 4-H sponsors who have contributed to the 4-H movement? How about those long-term families who give 100% to make 4-H happen? The list grows when you think about it. Plus, what a special way to thank those who have given so much to you! Nominations are due online by **Monday, September 22 by 11:59 p.m.**

End of Year Financial Review

In September, all organizational leaders will receive an email with a link to a letter from Kate with information about the 2024-2025 Financial Review. Remember, the report is due to either Extension Office by November 1 at 5:00 p.m. The Financial Review Form is posted online for your convenience under *Organizational Leaders*. If you have any questions, please contact Kate.



Helpful Hints for Member Achievement Plan (PIN Application Form) & The Kansas 4-H Key Award

As 4-H members work on their 4-H Member Achievement Plan (Pin Application Form) and/or Kansas 4-H Key Award Application, we have some helpful hints for families AND leaders at <https://www.centrankansas.k-state.edu/4-h/awards-recognition/>.

The Helpful Hints for the Member Achievement Plan are now included in the 4-H Member Achievement Plan on page 2 and can be found under Member Achievement Pin Application.

The *Helpful Hints for the Key Award* can be found under Additional Award Forms.

If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office.

2025 District 4-H Awards & Recognition Information

It's hard to imagine that the end of another 4-H year is upon us. With the end of the 4-H year comes time to finish filling out the pin applications, record books, Project Award Applications, etc. A document highlighting the Central Kansas District 4-H Awards System and what awards and recognition is on the District website at <http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu/4-h> under 4-H Member Forms and Documents and Awards, Recognition, & Records (left hand side of the page). 4-H members and parents are strongly encouraged to read this document thoroughly. If you have any questions, please call or email Kate. *Note: Events occurring after the due date for District awards will count towards the next 4-H year.*

Project Award Applications, Member Achievement Plans (Pin Applications Forms), Secretary & Treasurer Book and Annual Summaries

End of the 4-H year is quickly approaching...Project Award Applications, Member Achievement Plans (Pin Application Forms), Secretary's Book, Treasurer's Book, and Annual Summaries are due **Monday, September 22 by 5:00 p.m.**, to either Extension Office.

- Member Achievement Plans (Pin Application Forms) are available on the website (<http://www.centrankansas.ksu.edu>).
- Only the CKD Member Achievement Plans (Pin Applications Forms) will be accepted.

Organizational Leaders, don't forget to use the:

- Pin Application Summary to list all members of your club and what pin they are applying for AND
- Project Award Application Summary to list all the Project Award Applications that are submitted by your club.

These documents are available on the website under Organizational Leaders. If they are not applying for a pin or submitting a Project Award Applications, please note that as well.

Club Elections

The following are suggested guidelines for conducting the 2025-26 club election of officers:

- ✿ Nominate and vote for the member who would carry out the responsibilities of the office well.
Election of officers should not be a popularity contest.
- ✿ A nominating committee, made up of 4-H members and parents, should develop a slate of candidates, preferably two or more candidates per office.
- ✿ Vote on each office individually. It takes extra time, but allows important learning time for members.
- ✿ Club members should be allowed the opportunity to nominate members from the floor for offices.
- ✿ A club needs to have a motion, a second and approval to close the nominations for each office.
- ✿ A nomination does not need to be a motion. It can simply be, 'I nominate Sally.'
- ✿ Voting should be done by ballot. Ballots should be counted by two to three members who are not running for office and preferably not by members who made the nominations or by parents.
- ✿ Each member should have one vote per office.
- ✿ In cases where the club may have more than one person in office, each member should vote for corresponding candidates.

Organizational Leaders Update - New 4-H Year Enrollment

At the September Organizational Leader's Meetings, we will be discussing the enrollment process for the new 4-H year, in addition to lots of other new 4-H year items. **It is important that each club is represented at one of the meetings.** Be sure to attend one of the two meetings offered!

- Wednesday, September 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the College Center Conference Room on the K-State Salina Campus
- Thursday, September 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Minneapolis Courthouse Meeting Room.



It is important to have at least one representative from each club present. We will request organizational leaders register for the updates so we know where to expect each club to be represented. Watch for an email from Kate regarding this information and registration deadline. We ask even if you do not plan to attend, that you respond to let us know.

Getting Started with the New 4-H Year

Here are a few tips to get your new 4-H year and your club moving in the right direction:

- Who are the Organizational Leaders? You or someone new? Please let Kate know.
- How is the Parent's Committee functioning? How is it recruiting Project Leaders and supporting Organizational Leaders? Need some motivation to get things rolling?
- How is the club structure? Does the club have a New Family Coordinator? Project Leader Trainer? Demonstration Trainer? Awards Trainer? Not sure what these jobs are or what they involve?

If you need help with any of the above, please call Kate. She can help you and find answers for you.

Volunteers Needed for Districtwide Project Award Screening

We need your help! On Tuesday, September 23, adult volunteers are needed to help evaluate and rank the Central Kansas District 4-H Project Award Applications. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m., and the location will be determined. Parents are welcome to participate as reviewers, but they may not screen in an area in which their children have submitted a project award application. Serving as a reviewer is one of the best ways to learn about the 4-H project award application and process. If you've never been a reviewer, please note that you'll be paired with another volunteer who has been a reviewer for the screening process. It is also a great chance to help your club, as we are hopeful that each club will have at least two volunteers for the screening.

Please complete the information at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ProjectAwardScreening2025>.



EXTRA

NEWS FOR CENTRAL KANSAS DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

September Check-Up

The final month of the 2024-2025 4-H year has arrived! Where has the time gone? It is hard to believe another year has come and gone. Take a moment and review the end of the year responsibilities. Also, be aware...the new year begins October 1! Let's see where we are...

- _____ Organizational Leaders, appointed or elected, names reported to either Extension Office by September 1
- _____ Gear up for a great New 4-H Year!

Review

- _____ 4-H Newsletter read and important dates marked on calendar.
- _____ Highlight key points from the 4-H Newsletter at club meeting
- _____ Results – recruitment efforts; i.e. project leaders.

To-Do

- _____ National 4-H Week Activities planned.
- _____ Have new 4-H parents complete the volunteer service application form and make arrangements to attend volunteer screening Orientation.
- _____ Check project leaders list.
- _____ Check club mailbox at the Extension Office.
- _____ Send Club changes; Organizational Leaders, times, meeting places submitted to Extension Offices.
- _____ Election of officers.
- _____ Plan club achievement programs.
- _____ Announce 4-H Week and 4-H Sunday.
- _____ Plan meeting with Parents' Committee.
- _____ Plan installation of officers for October.
- _____ Review constitution and by-laws with executive committee.
- _____ Update 4-H Records, Project Award Applications, and Pin Applications.



Promote/Recruit


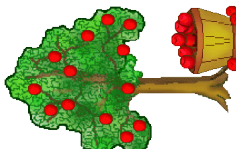
- _____ Parents' Committee meeting and recruiting project leaders.
- _____ Announce to club parents that you are recruiting project leaders.
- _____ Nominating Committee developing a slate of officer candidates.
- _____ Salina Lion's Barbecue workers recruited.
- _____ Delegate club responsibilities to other volunteers.
- _____ Promote Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF).

Remember

- _____ Organizational Leader Update to kick off the New Year, Wednesday, September 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the College Center Conference Room on the K-State Salina Campus AND Thursday, September 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Minneapolis Courthouse Meeting Room. Organizational Leaders just need to attend one of the updates...whichever one fits best into your schedule. Don't forget to register. Watch for an email with more details.
- _____ Kansas 4-H Project Award Applications due September 22, 5:00 p.m., either Extension Office.
- _____ Achievement Pin Applications completed and turned into either Extension Office, by September 22, 5:00 p.m.
- _____ Annual Summary (for club seals) and Club Secretary and Treasurer Books due September 22, 5:00 p.m., either Extension Office.
- _____ National 4-H Conference and State 4-H Youth Council Applications due October 1, 11:59 p.m., online.

September, 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Minneapolis and Salina Offices Closed Deadline for Club Roll 2025-2026 Organizational Leader names DUE 	2 State Fair entries (including food exhibits) due in Extension Offices no later than 4:00 p.m.	3 State Fair entries (including food exhibits) due in Extension Offices no later than 4:00 p.m.	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 October newsletter articles due to Kate	11	12	13
			Kansas State Fair - September 5-14			
14	15	16 State Fair entries pick-up date for Salina after 9:00 a.m.	17 State Fair entries pick-up date for Minneapolis after 9:00 a.m. 4-H Council Officer Applications DUE, 5:00 p.m. Organizational Leader update, Salina, 7:00 p.m., College Center Conference Room, K-State Salina Campus	18 Organizational Leader update, Minneapolis, Extension Meeting Room, 7:00 p.m.	19	20
21	22 Key Award, Ten-Year Pin Application; 4-H Project Award Application, Club Summary, Secretary's and Treasurer's Books, & District Awards - DUE by 5:00 p.m. 4-H Council, Minneapolis, 7:00 p.m.	23 4-H District Project Award Application Judging, Salina, 6:00 p.m., Location: TBD	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Ambassador Applications DUE by 5:00 p.m. 4-H PDC Youth Application DUE by 5:00 p.m.	UPCOMING DATES: October 1—Minneapolis and Salina Offices Closed 1—4HOnline Enrollment open 1—State Youth Council application due ONLINE 1—National 4-H Conference application due ONLINE 5-11—National 4-H Week 11-12—48 Hours of 4-H 15—Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYL) Registration Due November 1—End of Year Financial Review due to either Extension Office by 5:00 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

Summer Time!

Dear 4-H Families,

As summer winds down and county fairs conclude, we wish our 4-H families a smooth transition into an exciting fall season. The CKD 4-H team is excited for another enriching year and looks forward to helping make your 4-H experience a success! Be sure to keep an eye on newsletters, emails, and the extension calendar for updates, upcoming events, and important information about 4-H enrollment. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Ellie

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