Ellis County 4-H Happenings

Hey 4-H Families!

Great to see so many of you at the 4-H Day events this past month. This is such an important event due to the focus on these critical communication skills our 4-H’ers build by participating. It is fun to watch how they grow in their confidence each year!

The last chance to make changes in your project enrollments for 2017 is coming up May 1. Be sure to check in on your 4-H Online account and make sure you are enrolled in the projects that you are planning to work in. Remember that you must be enrolled in a project in order to exhibit in that project area in the 4-H division of the County Fair. If you’ve found a new area you’d like to explore, be sure to get your enrollment updated in 4-H Online before May 1.

The Ellis Co. Fairbook will be posted on-line at www.ellis.ksu.edu very soon. Check it out! You will also receive a hard copy soon.

As always, if you have questions, please feel free to contact us.

Come join the fun & learning!

Yours in 4-H,

Susan Schlichting
County Extension Agent – 4-H Youth Development

Meetings Coming Your Way

4-H Ambassadors – April 30 following Cloverbud Fun Day activities
4-H Ag Livestock – May 3, following weigh-in
4-H Council – Watch for a Doodle coming your way
4-H Scholarship & Development – Watch for a Doodle coming your way
4-H PDC – Watch for a Doodle coming your way
4-H Home Ec, BBQ, Foodstand – Watch for a Doodle coming your way
Achievement Banquet, 4-H Day, Promo – Watch for a Doodle coming your way
ET4H – Watch for a Doodle coming your way

Remember, Deadlines are Deadlines in Ellis Co. 4-H. Please pay attention to and respect those deadlines so that your child doesn’t miss out on an opportunity! We do offer many ways for you to contact our office. See below.

Ways to Contact Us

- We make a drop box available in the front of the Extension Office for your convenience.
- You can reach the 4-H Office Voice Mail at (785) 628-9430 ext. 14
- Extension Office fax # is (785) 621-2002
- sschlich@ksu.edu

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO NOTE

- April 1 – Discovery Day Floor Counselor Aps Due to KSU
- April 1 – Camp Counselor Aps Due
- April 3 – Register for Teaching Leadership or Advanced Leadership Sessions
- April 15 – Register for 4-H Discovery Days
- April 21 – Register for Tractor Safety Training
- April 24 – Early Bird Registration for Ellis Co. Spring Livestock Show
- May 1 – Last Day to Make Changes to Your 4-H Enrollment for 2017
- May 1 – 4-H Horse ID Papers Due in Ext. Office
- May 1 – Registered Breeding Livestock in name of 4-H’er
- May 1 – Register for 4-H Discovery Days
- May 3 – Bucket Calf & Commercial Breeding Heifer forms due in Ext. Office
- May 10 – Register for 4-H Rocket Classes with HRC / ERC
- May 15 – Register for 4-H Campference
- May 15 – Register for NW 4-H High Adventure
Congrats to . . .
4-H’ers who participated in 4-H Day! And to the parents who supported them in this important effort!
Receiving Top Blues (complete results)
Jr./Int. Demos / Illustrated Talks - Isabelle Jones - GJ; Kaleb Neher - VV
Sr. Demos / Illustrated Talks - Heather Scheck – VV; Katie Weisenborn – GJ
Jr. / Int. Project Talks – Karli Neher – VV; Kate Pope – B&S
Public Speaking – Emma Pope – B&S; Quentin Rupp – BCA
Extemporaneous Speaking – Kelli Buxton – BNS
Readings – Anna Kuhn – ES; Dustin Rajewski – GJ; Grace Schmeidler - BJF
Skit – Buckeye Jr. Farmers
Jr. Piano Solo – Devlyn Jochum – GJ
Sr. Instrumental Solo – Katy Walters – BJF
Jr. Vocal Solo – Devlyn Jochum – GJ
Sr. Vocal Solo – Katy Walters – BJF
Model Meeting – Ellis Sunflowers

Regional 4-H Day Special Honors (full results here)
Top Blue – Project Talk – Karli Neher – VV
Top Blue – Other Talent – Alyssa Church – GH
Top Blue – Sr. Readings – Anna Kuhn – ES

NW 4-H Judging Contestants! (full results here)
Intermediate Livestock – Grace Schmeidler – 6th
Intermediate Livestock Team – 3rd place team
Senior Livestock – Jacob Schmeidler – 1st

Lifeskills Judging @ 4-H Day Contestants! (full results here)

4-H NW Shooting Sports Contestants! Good Luck @ State!

Grants Received to Support 4-H Work
Thanks to Midwest Energy who gave a grant to help us build 4-H Dog Agility obstacles for the 4-H program.
Thanks to the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, Midwest Energy and the Hays Optimist Club who gave grant funds to support a 4-H mobile technology lab that will be used for a variety of project learning opportunities.

Service Project Opportunities
Looking for a way to give back to 4-H or the community? We have several service opportunities that will need some help and leadership.

1) 4-H Dog Agility obstacles will need to be constructed. They will need help with sewing, building wood projects, painting, putting pvc pipes together. If you can help with any of these needs, contact darajochum@yahoo.com
2) Big Creek Clean Up – Kelli Buxton is coordinating a time to help clean up an area of East Frontier Park along Big Creek on Saturday, April 29 from 1 – 3 p.m. If you can help out, let Kelli know at 18KBuxton@gmail.com
3) Rodeo Grounds Work Day – April 29 beginning at 10 a.m. They’ll be repairing the Crow’s Nest, and cleaning up the grounds around the arena so everything’s ready for the summer season ahead. All horse project members are encouraged to come and help out. For questions, contact Norleen @ norleenknoll@yahoo.com

4-H Quilt Project Workshops Continue
The next 4-H Quilt project meeting is set for April 6, 5:30 – 7 at the Extension Office Back Meeting Room. Message Tatum Kimzey to get added to the “Ellis County 4-H Quilters” Facebook group and to learn more about what to bring to this session.

Lion’s Club Pancake Tickets
Thanks to everyone who made the time to sell pancake tickets again this year in support of the work of the Hay’s Lion’s club!
4-H Cookie Thank You Project
Ellis Co. 4-H Council wants to thank everyone for the generous donation of yummy cookies for this year’s Cookie Thank You project. The cookies are always a real hit with the sponsors across Ellis Co. This is a great way to thank organizations who go above and beyond to support 4-H each year.

4-H Cloverbud Craft Day
Hey Cloverbuds, the 4-H Ambassadors are holding a Cloverbud Fun Day, just for YOU! Plan to come to the Extension Office back meeting room on Sunday, April 30, 2 p.m. to make a special craft for your Mom. Please sign up by April 23 so we can have the needed supplies on hand. RSVP to Rhiannon @ rhiannonjcorn@yahoo.com

Tractor Safety Training Offered
If you are 14 – 15 years of age and interested in taking the training needed to hire out to work on a farm, you need to take the Hazardous Occupations Safety Course. It is offered in Hill City on May 6. If you plan to attend, contact the Ext. Office to register by April 21. Stacy Campbell is willing to take participants with him to Hill City.

Livestock ID Procedures
Large and Small animal ID procedures for 2017 are posted to the Ellis Co. website. Please take time to review them.

Small Livestock Weigh-in Date Set for May 3, 6 – 8 p.m.
If you’re planning to show Feeder Calves, Meat Goats, Sheep or Swine at this year’s Ellis County Fair, make plans now to get your official 4-H tags and tag your project animals before the weigh-in at the Fairgrounds. Swine will continue to have to option to weigh or have their tags visually inspected. The Ellis Co. Spring Livestock Show has been set as an alternate weigh-in date on Sunday, May 7. Please call our office to let us know if you plan to use the alternate date.

Bucket Calf and Commercial Breeding Heifer Photo ID
Don’t forget to purchase your official 4-H EID tag and snap a photo of the project animal with the tag in its ear now. These are submitted to the Extension Office by 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 3.

Livestock Deadlines for Kansas State Fair and Kansas Jr. Livestock Show Participation
May 1 — All Market Steer/Heifer nominations for the KSF and KJLS are due in Manhattan.
June 15 – All Commercial Heifer, Sheep, Swine & Meat Goat nominations for KSF and KJLS are due in Manhattan.

Ellis County Spring Livestock Show
A committee is working hard to make this year’s Spring Livestock show a great success. The date for this year’s show is Sunday, May 7. Registration and Spring Show Circuit Rules are posted on the Ellis Co. 4-H website.

K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy
The eighth annual K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy will be held in June 2017 at Kansas State University’s campus. This four-day event focuses on increasing knowledge of Kansas’s diverse livestock industry, as well as building participant’s leadership skills. Twenty high school students will be selected to participate based upon educational, community, and agricultural involvement. The event is sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council. More information and applications will be on the website, www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu. Aps due April 1, 2017.

4-H HORSE ID PAPERS DUE MAY 1
Horse ID papers are available at the Extension Office or on line at kansas4-h.org. You have to have these papers completed and on file with our office by May 1 in order to show at 4-H sanctioned horse shows. Now’s the time to get the photos taken and the forms filed with the Extension Office.

National Volunteer Week is APRIL 23 – 29
Have you said thank you to your 4-H Leader lately?? If not, take time this month to let them know how much you appreciate them! We have great volunteers in Ellis County! Thanks to each of you who steps forward to give your time and talents to 4-H members! THANK YOU!
The Theme is “Rides, Ropes and Blue Ribbon Hopes”.

Check the Ellis Co. 4-H website for a final 4-H events schedule for the 2016 Ellis Co. Fair.

Ellis County Fair Volunteers Needed
We have posted an on-line form that you can complete to let us know how you’d like to help. Older 4-H’ers and interested adults are encouraged to join our “team” in getting things ready for this year’s Fair. Here’s the link to the on-line form.

Once again, all clubs will be asked to recruit volunteers to help with a variety of jobs at the Fair, as well.

ET4H - Teen Leaders Meeting
ET 4-H (Ellis Co. Teens) will meet on each month to work on leadership projects. They will meet on Sunday, April 2, 4:30 p.m. at the Extension Office. Come join us as we get this exciting leadership group up and going! Check out our Facebook page ET4H to keep up on the latest.

Summer 4-H Camp Opportunities
Summer is just around the corner. Registrations are beginning to open for a variety of 4-H Camps. Be sure to fill out a Camp Scholarship application to help with the cost of going to any of these camps!

4-H Camp Here WE Come!
4-H Camp will be held June 7-10 at Rock Springs 4-H Center! Get ready to have fun exploring streams, riding horses, canoeing, swimming, and much more! Start asking your clubs now for financial support to attend. Registrations will be due May 1.

Camp Scholarship Apps for 4-H Camp and other trips are due April 1. These will soon be posted on the Member Corner page of the Ellis Co. 4-H website.

We are also looking for enthusiastic teens 15 & older to serve as counselors. Applications are on the Ellis Co. website on the Camp Central page. They are due in the Ellis Co. Extension Office April 1. Consider this awesome leadership opportunity.

Campference
Too old to go to 4-H Camp, but you love camp? Campference is for YOU! It’s held at Rock Springs, June 26 – 30. Campference is a cross between Camp and a Leadership Conference for 12 – 14 year old 4-H members. Registration will open soon on the www.kansas4-H.org website. Register quickly, as spaces fill quickly. There’s been a long waiting list the last 3 years! Don’t miss out!

4-H Sewing Camp at KSU is for 13 – 18 year olds who love sewing. It is also May 30 – June 2. Registration closes April 15. They are also looking for adult and teen volunteers to help with this camp. Apply by April 1.

Discovery Days at KSU May 30 – June 2 – register on Kansas 4-h.org now until May 1.

2017 Northwest High Adventure Trip – Canoeing the Mighty Niobrara river in Nebraska and visiting the State 4-H Camp July 5 - 8. Hurry up and reserve your spot as registration is due May 15th. Space is limited to the first 30 who register.

Photo Adventure Day Camp
Each summer we offer a photography day camp for 4H’ers and other youth in the community who would like to be able to take better photos. Ellis Co. teens teach workshops on some fun and funky photo techniques. There are also camp crafts and games during the day. If you’d like to get signed up, watch for the new Hays Rec Class catalog coming your way in mid-April and get signed up through their process. It’s a great fun and creative day that concludes with participants taking a photo home that’s ready to enter in the Ellis County Fair!
2017 Discovery Days Floor Counselors
For the 2017 Discovery Days, we are again looking for responsible, mature and dependable young adults to serve as floor counselors. These floor counselors will be responsible for leading floor meetings, doing room checks and making sure youth stay in their rooms after lights out each evening. Floor Counselors can expect to work evenings and early mornings. They will receive free room and board for 5 days and 4 nights and $100. Applications are due by April 1, 2017.

Host Families Needed for 4-H International Youth
Here’s a chance to learn about another country without ever leaving home! They are looking for families to host youth from Japan, girls from Austria, Estonia, Germany, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. We will also have inbounds from Greece and Taiwan. Youth range in age from 12—26 years and typically stay with a family for 3 weeks during the summer or fall. If you’d like to learn more about hosting, give the Extension Office a call or visit the KS 4-H International programs website.

Hudson Flour Festival
If you love all things wheat, check out this new event sponsored by the Hudson Mill in Hudson, KS on Saturday, April 29. There are Mill tours, wheat displays, photo, art and bake off contests for all ages. They also have fun things like a Youth Wheat Pit Dig, Biscuit Launch and Pancake Toss planned! Contact Barb Alpers @ 620-458-4001 for more information.

Here are a few of our Ellis Co. 4-H’ers in action this past month.

Remember, DEADLINES are DEADLINES in Ellis Co. 4-H. Please pay attention to and respect those deadlines so that your child doesn’t miss out on an opportunity!