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Kiley Dillow
Josey Ellis
Rhett Forkner
Sophia Heim
Connor Karleskint
Emma Kintzer
Jaylee Kramer
Kinley Morrison
Elli Pemberton
Wylee Shaffer
Judah Stockebrand
Klara Stock
Gail Wright

Clayton Culver
Kaeleigh Daniels
Jewel Endicott
Hunter Hastings
Kylie Hodgden
Madelyn Kepley
Carly Kramer
Will Maycumber
Jackson Osborn
Seth Shadden
Cashlee Smith
Mason Sterling
Wyatt Whittle

PROJECT ENROLLMENT ADD/DROP DATE

Southwind Extension District policy is 4-H members have till May 1, 2026, to add or drop projects from their 4-H enrollment. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** This will affect which entries you can enter at the County fair.

SUMMER ACTIVITY FUNDS AVAILABLE

4-H Members can complete an application for a scholarship to attend summer 4-H activities? Stop by your local Extension Office and pick up an application or find the Southwind 4-H Event Scholarship Form online [here](#)

4-H DISCOVERY DAYS

4-H Discovery Days will be held June 3 – 5, 2026 at Kansas State University. Classes and learning activities are the focus of this mini-college event. Youth must be at least 13 years old to attend. Registration ends May 8 for more information visit [here](#).

HORSE PROJECT INFORMATION

Each year, there is required paperwork each 4-H'er must have on each horse they plan to exhibit at a 4-H Horse Show. Paperwork required is the Horse ID certificate and proof of negative Coggins test certificate (within the last 12 months). The Horse ID Certificate is due to your local Extension Office by June 1. An Extension Agent will sign the certificate and make a copy to have in the office. The negative Coggins Test certificate will need to be on hand along with your Horse ID Certificate, the day of check-in at the 4-H Horse Show. Please don't wait until the last minute to complete these documents. You can find the document [here](#).

FAIR ENTRIES

All fair entries will be made on the Fair Entry System beginning June 15 through July 1. Entries will not be accepted after Tuesday, July 1, 2026. Watch your e-mail for more information to come.

KITCHEN AID MIXER CHALLENGE

The Carol and Larry Crawford Kitchen Aid Mixer Challenge will take place again this year! Eligibility Requirements:

- Senior Division 4-H'er (age 14-18) in the Southwind District
- Enrolled in the Foods & Nutrition Project
- Submit an entry in each of the following categories in the 4-H Division at the county fair:
 - Angel Food or Chiffon Cake
 - Yeast Bread
 - Preserved Soft Spread
 - Preserved Vegetable
 - Gift Basket

The winner will be determined by points system and announced in August. Look for the entry form on the Southwind website under your local fair.

FIBER ARTS PROJECT

If you're currently in the fiber arts project or interested in the fiber arts project, here's your chance to try something new! The Chanute Quilt Guild will host a quilting workshop for ten 4-H members, ages 10 and up, at the Neosho Valley Event Center, June 1-3, 8:30 am to 11:30 am. They will provide sewing machines and all necessary materials for the projects. Neosho County 4-H Development Foundation is covering the registration fees for this workshop. Register [here](#). If there are any questions, call Kendal 620-625-8620

POULTY PROJECT

Birds exhibited at the county fair in the Southwind Extension District that originated from Kansas will not be tested before the fair until 2027. Birds will then be tested every 5 years. Now, if your bird comes from out of state, you will be required to test within 90 days of the fair or show proof of clean flock certificate.

STEM AND ENTOMOLOGY PROJECT MEETINGS

S.T.E.M. meetings 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Entomology meetings 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Allen County Extension Office.

- May 2nd
- June 6th
- July 11th
- August 8th
- September 19th
- October 10th

STEM questions, call Heather Mentzer 785-410-6081, or e-mail mentzerfarms@gmail.com.

Entomology call Vicky Wallace 620-804-9170 or email vicky.wallace55@gmail.com.

ENTOMOLOGY PROJECT MEETING

How Do We Get Bugs in the Box? That's what we will be working on May 2nd at 1:00 p.m. at the Allen County Extension Office. Bring your display boxes and the insects you have ready to go into the box. We will work on the arrangement and display of insects. If you would like to give a presentation on any project, please bring it to give.

INSECT SPECTACULAR REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for Insect Spectacular. If you are enrolled in Entomology and did not receive

the link for registration, please contact Vicky Wallace vicky.wallace55@gmail.com. You do not have to be enrolled in the Entomology project to participate. If interested in attending and not enrolled in the project, please contact Vicky. A parent must attend with you.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

We would like a 4-H Club from the Southwind District to prepare and serve a meal for Insect Spectacular, Friday evening June 19th at the North Community Building in Iola. Meal needs to be ready to be served at 5:30 p.m. The Club would also be responsible for cleaning up after the meal. This can be as simple as hamburgers and hot dogs or pulled pork sandwiches with chips, veggie trays, and drinks. This is an opportunity for a quick and easy fundraising project for a 4-H Club. We will order a set number of meals in advance. Contact Vicky Wallace at (620)804-9170.

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Getting to Know Your Camera: Understand your camera's basic functions, settings, and controls to take more intentional photos.

Basic Editing: Learn simple edits to improve lighting, color, and overall image quality.

Elements & Components: Explore composition, lighting, and visual elements that strengthen photos.

Photos with a Phone: Use your smartphone to capture high-quality, creative images wherever you are.

- May 2nd in Neosho County, 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Fire Escape Coffeehouse in Chanute



COMMUNICATION OPPORTUNITIES AT THE STATE FAIR 2026 - PUBLIC SPEAKING TOPIC

Remember that 4-H Members ages 9 and older who participated in 4-H Day and received a Purple

or top blue ribbons can take their project talks, demonstrations, and illustrated talks to the Kansas State Fair. Poetry entries can also be entered. Public Speaking entries can come to the State Fair; however, regardless of the topic used locally, all contestants at the State Fair will use the same topic: "How has your journey in 4-H contributed to being Beyond Ready for current challenges and future goals?" More information can be found in the 2026 State Fair Book.

HORTICULTURE & CROPS/WEEDS ID JUDGING

It is time to spring into judging Crops/Weeds ID and Horticulture. Mark your calendars for the upcoming dates of practice and contests. All practices will be between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Allen County Office in Iola. Horticulture will be first at 6:00 p.m., followed by Crops/Weeds ID at 7:00 p.m.

Practice Dates are on Wednesdays:

May 27th

June 24th

July 29th

August 5th

August 12th

August 26th (Crops/Weeds ID ONLY)

September 2nd (Crops/Weeds ID ONLY)

September 9th (Crops/Weeds ID ONLY)

Contest Dates:

*June TBA Regional Contest

*August 15th – State Horticulture at Kansas State University, Manhattan

*September 12th – State Crops/Weeds ID at Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson

Should you be unable to attend, study material will be available. Just reach out by calling 620-365-2242. You don't have to be enrolled in these projects to participate and learn more!!

2026 STATE LIVESTOCK NOMINATION

The information for state livestock nominations has been released. Information may be found under the "Nomination Information" tab on the youth livestock website [here](#).

STEP UP YOUR SKILLS AT SOUTHWIND 4-H JUDGING CAMP!

Ready to take your 4-H livestock judging to the next level? Join fellow Southwind District 4-H members for a high-energy, hands-on experience focused on

sharpening skills and building confidence. This camp is open to both new and experienced 4-H members who are interested in livestock judging, meats judging, livestock skillathon and quiz bowl. Participants will:

- Improve livestock judging skills
- Strengthening oral reasons and boost scores
- Learn strategies for livestock, skillathon and quiz bowl
- Explore the basics of meats judging

Bourbon County Fairgrounds, June 17–18 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. each day. Cost: \$20 (including materials, lunches, and snacks). This camp is a great opportunity to learn from experienced coaches, connect with other motivated 4-H members, and prepare for a successful judging season. Register by June 12th by contacting your local Extension Office.

Don't miss this chance to learn, compete, and grow together—Southwind judging starts here!

4-H SUMMER CONTEST

Youth Livestock Day: TBD

Youth Challenge Day: June 18th at Emporia.

YOUTH LIVESTOCK EVENTS

Locate Spring Shows [here](#).

WANTED! FARM OR RANCH FAMILY TO HOST

TAIWAN TEEN IN JULY

Kansas 4-H has been asked to host an enthusiastic 18-year-old boy eager to learn about agriculture as part of our exchange with Taiwan 4-H. "Diego" has been working throughout his high school years to prepare for a career in agriculture or veterinary science. He's requested a farm or ranch family for his exchange here and says he'll be happy to work alongside his host family while he gains experience and an international perspective. For more information, please contact Mary Kay Munson at 785-375-3189 or mkm2@ksu.edu.

THIRTY KANSAS 4-H'ERS BEGAN PEN PAL PROGRAM IN APRIL

Kansas is pleased to have thirty 4-H'ers enrolled in the Pen Pal Program this spring. After registering with States' 4-H International Exchange for this year's exchange, they were assigned a "pal", who was recruited by Taiwan

4-H or Korea 4-H. They are expected to write their pals at least once each week during April and May. States' 4-H provided contact information and suggested topics to write about each week on the first of April. Of course, they are welcome to continue communicating with their new friends after the program ends.

EIGHT KANSAS FAMILIES NEEDED FOR HOSTING JAPANESE DELEGATES!

Sumer is getting closer ... have you thought about hosting a Japan delegate this summer for something distinctly different than past summers? Take the chance and make memories for a lifetime. Kansas 4-H needs 12 Host Families for 3 girls and 5 boys ages 12 to 18 from Japan. Kansas families are needed to host delegates from July 23 to August 15. Any Kansas family (4-H Family or non-4-H Family) with children aged 9-17 who are interested in hosting someone from another culture may apply. A separate bed is required, but not necessarily a separate room from the host sibling. Delegates are 100 percent medically covered with 4-H insurance and bring their own spending money for souvenirs. For further questions, contact Pam Van Horn, pvanhorn@ksu.edu; 785-826-8917. Families may now apply online [here](#). There is a required application with references. In addition, there will be an in-home interview conducted, as well as background checks conducted for all adults living in the household.

SAVE THE DATE FOR 48 HOURS OF 4-H

The weekend after National 4-H Week is the perfect opportunity to set up a service project for the Kansas 4-H Service Challenge, 48 Hours of 4-H. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers, parents, and 4-H Alums too! October 10-11, 2026, get this on your radar now! Project registration will open [here](#) this summer!

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR VETMED ROCKS SUMMER CAMP

Due to a generous grant from the Bill House Ag Grant through the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas to support 4-H youth learning in the 4-H Veterinary Science project, scholarships are available to 4-H'ers attending KSU's College of Veterinary Medicine's VetMed Rocks Summer

Camps. The day camps are as follows:

- ❖ Monday, July 27: High School, entering grades 9-12, and college.
- ❖ Tuesday, July 28: Middle School, entering grades 6-8.
- ❖ Wednesday, July 29: Grade School, entering grades 3-5.

The registration fee is \$125. If a 4-H member applies for the scholarship and attends camp, they will receive reimbursement. Applications are accepted until funds are exhausted. 4-H members should apply [here](#).

KANSAS YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers, and more. In addition, the 2027 State 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.

Objectives:

- Broaden your understanding of leadership and the qualities of a leader.
- Practice leadership skills you can apply in other settings, such as your local club, school, and community.
- Improve interpersonal communication skills.
- Gain confidence.

When: November 21-22, 2026

Where: Rock Springs 4-H Ranch

Who: Youth 14-18 years old before January 1, 2027. Registration deadline: October 15, 2026

Save the date now! We will open workshop proposals in the next 6 weeks, and registration will open late this summer. Applications for the 2027 Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council will open before Discovery Days and be due October 1, 2026.

ALLEN COUNTY NEWS

ALLEN COUNTY FAIR

Allen County Fair is scheduled for July 23 -26, 2026. Theme: "Take A Walk on the Wild Side".

4-H DAY CAMP

The tentative date is set for June 12th at the Allen County Extension Office. More details to come. Any

older 4-H'ers who would like to help are encouraged to reach out to Jennifer.

FRIENDS OF 4-H DINNER DETAILS

4-H Council decided to have the same cater and meal as last year, two \$10 gift cards donated per club, and each family is to provide a dozen cookies. This event will be on July 21st at the Lola High School.

BOURBON COUNTY NEWS

4-H FAMILY SHOUTOUT

A **BIG** Thanks to the 4-H families that baked cakes for "Feeding Families" at First United Methodist Church. This was a terrific opportunity to complete a community service project.

Kendyl, MaKinlee & Rheason Bloesser, Jack & Jewel Endicott, Rinley & Stetson Holly, Macie Hueston, Ranse & Ryson Keating, Grady Madison, Harley & Paisley Murphy, Cash Pitts
Kinsley & Korbin Snyder, Riley & Sheridan Stephan.

BOURBON COUNTY FAIR

Fair is scheduled for July 11-18, 2026. Theme: "Take A Dive into the Bourbon County Fair. 4-H members are encouraged to use Ocean Life decorations for Livestock Stall Entries, Poultry, Rabbit, 4-H Club Banners, 4-H Club Displays.

BOURBON COUNTY FAIR PAPER

The 2026 fair paper will be published in the Fort Scott Tribune Saturday, May 2nd. The schedule will also be located on the Southwind website.



BOURBON COUNTY FRIENDS OF 4-H DINNER

4-H families, sponsors, and fair board members are invited to join us at Ellis Fine Arts Center July 7th. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Public Style Revue. The Extension Office will be sending invitations to those that support 4-H and the Bourbon County Fair.

NEOSHO COUNTY NEWS

NEOSHO COUNTY FAIR

Neosho County Fair is scheduled for July 23-27, 2026. Theme: "Surf in the USA".

NEOSHO COUNTY FAIR

Fair is scheduled for July 23-27. The fair theme this year is "Surf in the USA. 4-H members are encouraged to use Beach decorations for all Livestock Stall Entries, Poultry, Rabbit, 4-H Club Banners, 4-H Club Booth Displays.

CLEAN-UP BEFORE FAIR ASSIGNMENTS

Buildings must be ready by Monday, July 20th. Please weed eat around your area as well.

Best Yet: Beef Barn/Show Arena

Hillcrest: Neosho Valley Event Center

Jolly Jayhawkers: Sheep/Hog Barns/Wash Racks

Neosho Valley Busy Bees: Open Class Building, Horse Barn/Arena

Southeast Sunflowers: Dairy/Goat Barn

Sunrise Challengers: Bath House/Poultry Barn

PHOTOGRAPHY FUN CLASS THEME FOR 2026

Photography fun class. Theme: "For the Love of Your Country" This is in celebration of the 250th anniversary of America. The photo must be of something in your County. A photo winner will be selected not just from how the photo looks, but also from the note card. 4-H'er must include a 3x5 note card with the following:

- Name
- Where the picture was taken
- How does this picture represent your County?

Not eligible for Grand or Reserve Champion

ROYALTY CONTEST DETAILS

It's that time of year to select your candidates. The Royalty Contest is a special contest to help raise money for Neosho County 4-H Council to use for special activities and events, such as paying for the event scholarships, achievement banquet, etc. Royalty details and the questionnaire form for candidates are located [here](#). Please have your club royalty contestant list to Tara by June 19th tsolomon@ksu.edu or call 620-244-3826. Contestant questionnaires are due July 11th, and money will be due July 20th.

4-H SHOWCASE

Entry will consist of a one-gallon jar filled with cookies. The jar must be decorated and contain at least 6 different kinds of cookies. A sample of each cookie must also be entered on a separate plate, so the judges can judge them for flavor. An award will be based on the flavor of the cookies and the decorations of the jar and table. Cookies must be individually wrapped in plastic. Decorations must follow the Fair theme (Surf in the USA) or be Patriotic for the 250th anniversary of America.

1st Place - \$300

2nd Place - \$250

3rd Place - \$200

4th Place - \$150

5th Place - \$100

6th Place - \$50

WOODSON COUNTY NEWS

WOODSON COUNTY FAIR

Woodson County Fair is scheduled for July, 17 -20, 2026. Theme: "No time like Fair Time".

SPECIAL PHOTO AWARD AT FAIR

Photos showing a theme of "Botanical Beauty in Woodson County" entered in Open Class or 4-H photography divisions will be eligible for 3 overall cash awards sponsored by the Woodson County Chamber of Commerce and Woodson County Farm Bureau, Sharla Miller, Financial Agent. The Chamber of Commerce requests access to use the winning photos.

CLOTHING & FIBER ARTS MEMBERS

We're excited to share a new schedule for Clothing & Fiber Arts judging! Wednesday, July 15th New York Valley Church, 1432 US-54, Yates Center. Here's what the day will look like:

- **2:00 p.m.** – All Boys & Girls Shopping in Style and Constructed Garments Style Revue (modeling)
- **3:00 p.m.** – Judging of Constructed Garments and Fiber Arts items
Constructed and fiber arts items must arrive no later than 3:30 p.m.
- **6:00 p.m.** – **Public Style Revue** in the New York Valley Church sanctuary

Family and friends are warmly invited to attend!

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- Where the picture was taken
- How does this picture represent your County?

Not eligible for Grand or Reserve Champion

