



Geary County

4-H NEWS



A Newsletter for 4-H Families and Volunteers

June 2025

Fair Pre-Entry

Instructions on submitting pre-entries for fair were included with your fair book and can be found online at <https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/fair.html>. **Fair pre-entries are due through FairEntry by 11:59pm on June 27th.**

Fair Books

Fair books have been distributed via club meetings or pick-up. If you have not received a fair book, please call the Extension Office to arrange to pick one up or have it mailed to you. The book is also available on the web located at <http://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/fair.html>.

Sign Up to Receive 4-H Reminders

The Extension Office is using the Remind program to send 4-H-related reminders (including fair items) to 4-H families. To sign up to receive reminders, go to <https://www.remind.com/join/geco4h>.

Fair Clean-Up & Set-up

All 4-H families should plan to attend fair clean-up and set-up on Saturday, July 19 at 9:00am at the Fairgrounds. Bring rakes, shovels, old rags, and buckets to help with the cleaning. Clean-up/set-up will count towards the Herdsman Award again this year so make sure you sign in at the picnic shelter or inside the building.

Fair Livestock Insurance

A fee of \$5 per head for market beef, market lambs, market hogs, and market goats will be required at the time of fair pre-entry to purchase livestock insurance. This insurance will cover livestock from the time you leave home for the fair until you return home. Please plan to pay this fee by the pre-entry deadline of June 27.

Fair T-Shirts

The Geary County Free Fair Board is excited to announce the opportunity for 4-H members, families, volunteers, supporters, and others to order t-shirts branded with the 2025 fair logo! More information will be sent out via email when it is available.

Dogs on Fairgrounds

Fair Board has ruled that no dogs will be allowed on the fairgrounds during the Geary County Free Fair, July 20-24. Thanks for abiding by this rule!

**Fair Auction
Participation
Requirement for 2025**

4-H members will be required to attend in-person at least 4 regular monthly meetings of the 4-H club in which they are enrolled between October 1 and June 30 to participate in the project/livestock auction held at the end of the fair in 2025. Official record of meetings attended will be the club secretary's book. This requirement does not limit fair participation, only participation in the auction.

**Reminder: Fair Auction
Premium Only for
Livestock**

As in 2024, the livestock portion of the fair auction will be premium only. Livestock ownership will not be transferred to the buyer. 4-H members are responsible for disposition of all market animals. Kansas 4-H policy now allows 4-H members selling livestock through a premium only auction to maintain ownership and show those animals at future livestock shows. Non-livestock projects sold will continue to change ownership to the buyer. Those projects eligible for state fair may be reproduced for exhibit at the state fair.

After-Fair Celebration

The After-Fair Celebration is scheduled for Friday, July 25 at the city pool from 7:15 to 9:00pm. Plan to join us to celebrate!

Fair Theme

The 4-H Ambassadors and fair board have agreed on the theme "Glowing and Growing" for the 2025 Geary County Free Fair. You will see this theme at Public Revue and throughout the fair. Clubs are encouraged to include the theme in food table displays and herdsman decorations if they so choose.

Poultry Testing for Fair

Fair Poultry testing for Pullorum-Typhoid is now being done on a rotational basis with each county being required to test every 3 years. 2025 is a testing year for Geary County. Fair Poultry testing for Pullorum-Typhoid will be held Friday, July 18 at the fairgrounds. The time is still being determined and will be shared with poultry project members when it becomes available. All chickens and turkeys going to fair must be tested. Exhibitors who do not attend this testing are responsible for getting birds tested and showing proof of testing when birds are brought to the fair.

**Judging Contest Help
Needed**

Adults and older youth are needed to help with the Horticulture and Photography Judging contests on Wednesday, July 23 from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Those who volunteer will be assisting with conducting the contests by helping youth sign-up and begin judging, reading for youth who need assistance, answering questions, and making sure that no cheating occurs. If you can help, contact the Extension Office.

**Geary County &
Kansas 4-H Social
Media Hashtags**

As you post 4-H pictures and information on social media, please use the hashtags #geco4H, #KS4H, and #4HGrowsHere. By doing this, you can help Geary County and Kansas 4-H create a stronger and more consistent brand.

Decorated Squash Contest @ Fair

Got Squash? Got left over craft materials? Be creative!! Make it a family affair. Decorate any kind of squash for the Open Class Fair. Home grown or purchased squash decorated with natural or artificial items can be entered Monday, July 21 from 3:00 to 7:00pm or Tuesday, July 22 from 8:30-11:00am. Judging will be Wednesday at 4:30pm with prizes awarded in Youth (4-10 and 11-15) and Adult (16 and over) Divisions. You do not have to be enrolled in 4-H. Complete contest information is available at <http://www.gearycountyfair.org>. Don't forget, 4-H members can enter Open Class Youth Horticulture, Floriculture, and Agriculture classes if you are not entering the equivalent 4-H classes.

Dibben and Erichsen Earn State 4-H Scholarships

Congratulations to Humboldt 4-H Member Kourtney Dibben and Clarks Creek 4-H Member Gracie Erichsen on being awarded scholarships through the Kansas 4-H program. Kourtney was awarded the Gary and Lorraine Kilgore 4-H Scholarship and Gracie was awarded the Vanier Family Scholarship. Way to go Kourtney and Gracie!

Kansas 4-H State Wheat Expo in Hutchinson

Check out the annual Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo on August 7 at the South Hutchinson Community Building in Hutchinson. The wheat expo is open to all 4-H family members and 4-H leaders. There will be eight contests open to youth members with cash prizes and ribbons awarded. Attendees will tour Dillon Nature Center and Kauffman Seed. There is a \$15 per person registration cost payable at the event. For more information about the wheat expo, visit <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/wheat/>. For additional questions contact Kelsey Nordyke at knordyke@ksu.edu.

Calendar of Events

June

- 13-15 Kansas 4-H Geology Field Trip, Concordia
- 15 Commercial Heifer/Market Lamb/Commercial Ewe/Market Hog/
Commercial Breeding Gilt/All Meat Goat nomination deadline
- 27 Fair pre-entries due through FairEntry by 11:59pm
- 27 \$5 per fair market animal for insurance due to Extension Office by 5pm
- 27-28 Kansas 4-H Insect Spectacular, El Dorado

July

- 10 Fair Royalty Interviews, evening
- 14 Sewing/Fashion Revue/Shopping in Style Judging
- 15 Kansas State Fair Grand Drive livestock entries due
- 17 Public Revue
- 18 4-H Dog Show, 6:30pm @ 4-H/Senior Citizens Center
- 19 Fair Clean-up at 9:00am, Fairgrounds
- 20-24 Geary County Free Fair
- 25 After Fair Family Celebration @ City Pool, 7:15-9pm

August

- 4 Record Book Work Time, 6pm @ 4-H/Senior Citizens Center
- 16 State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest, Manhattan
- 23 State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, Manhattan



K-State Research and Extension

Geary County

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June 9, 2025

Hope you are all enjoying summer and looking forward to the 2025 Geary County Free Fair! Don't forget that fair pre-entries are due through FairEntry by June 27 at 11:59pm.

Ginger D. Kopfer
County Extension Agent

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means for communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the event contact Ginger Kopfer four weeks prior to the start of the event at gkopfer@ksu.edu or 785-238-4161. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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