



Geary County

4-H NEWS



A Newsletter for 4-H Families and Volunteers

March 2026

Regional 4-H Day

Regional 4-H Day will be held on Saturday, March 28 in Clay Center at the high school. The schedule will be posted on the Geary County 4-H website when available at <http://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/>.

Fair Changes

The following fair rule and schedule changes were made at the February 4-H Council meeting or to stay in line with state fair rules. Also included is an auction change made by the Fair Board. A fair schedule is included with this newsletter.

- **Livestock cleanup** will be held Friday morning following the auction and will be included as part of the herdsman award. Indoor cleanup will be held Thursday evening as usual.
- Classes for **promotional items** will be added to the Banner division as an option for 4-H Clubs to exhibit.
- For **fashion revue**, if the exhibitor constructed an item only (a shirt, pair of pants, a skirt, etc.), they may still model the item in the constructed fashion revue division with a purchased item to complete the outfit. This must be disclosed on the Fashion Revue Scorecard and Cost Per Wear Form. (This change will be made to stay in line with new state fair rules.)
- Livestock judges will rank 1-5 in overall **showmanship** for each species to determine Round Robin participation.
- Poultry Pen of 3 Meat-type Chickens will be eligible to participate in the fair **auction**. Participants must meet all auction criteria.

4-H Overnight Camp Deadline for Financial Support

The deadline to sign up for 4-H camp at Rock Springs and receive financial support in the amount of \$225 from the Geary County 4-H Foundation is May 1. Use the discount code GECOCAMP26 when you register to have these funds applied to your account. The code will need to be added for each camper's registration. In order to be eligible for this financial support, 4-H members must have been enrolled in 4HOnline by January 1, 2026. For more information about camp and to register, visit <https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/>.

Shutterbug Photography Event

This event will be held April 11th in Manhattan at the Midwest Dream Car Museum. Registration will begin at 8:30am and workshops will begin at 9:30am and end at Noon. Cost for each 4-H member will be \$25 and youth in attendance will need to be accompanied by an adult. Cameras will be available to check out during the event, but participants are encouraged to bring their own. Register online at <https://cvent.me/027Zb9>.

**Fair Auction
Participation
Requirement for 2026**

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 2026. Official record of meetings attended will be the club secretary's book. This requirement does not limit fair participation, only participation in the auction. Plan ahead now to make sure youth meet the requirement if they want to participate in the auction.

Beef Weigh-In

Weigh-in will be held on Sunday, March 15th from 2:00 to 3:00pm at JC Livestock. We will be weighing and tagging market beef cattle. Please bring \$3.00 for each tag that you will need.

**Coggins Testing for
Geary County 4-H
Horse Show**

Due to regulations from the Kansas Department of Agriculture, all equine exhibitions require proof of a negative Coggins test for participation. To comply with the regulation, participants in the fair horse show will be required to submit a negative test result in the last 12 months. Proof can be submitted with Horse ID papers by the June 1 deadline or at the time of the show.

**Upcoming Youth
Livestock Events at
K-State**

The K-State Youth Livestock Program has an exciting event planned for the upcoming month. Mark it on your calendar now and plan to attend!

Junior Sheep Producer Day – April 11 (register by March 20)

More information on this event is available online at <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/ks-jr-producer/index.html>.

The K-State Youth Livestock Program has social media accounts to keep everyone updated on information and deadlines. Go to the webpage listed above to find links to these accounts.

**Insect Art Contest
Opportunity**

The K-State Extension Pesticide Safety and IPM Program is hosting its annual insect-themed art contest, open to all ages and skill levels. This year's theme is "Metamorphosis Magic". The goal is to explore insects that undergo complete and incomplete metamorphosis, then create artwork that fits the contest theme. Artwork may include drawings or paintings, digital art, or a 3-D piece such as sculpture, stained glass, or other creative media. Awards will be given for 1st through 3rd place in 5 different age categories. Full contest rules and details are available at <https://bit.ly/3NHulEU>. Entries must be received or postmarked before April 15th.

**Horse Panorama
Results**

Congratulations to Geary County 4-H members Grant Slough and Elena Svoboda for their excellent showing at the recent 4-H Horse Panorama. Grant won 1st place in Senior Demonstration/Illustrated Talk, placed 6th in Senior Hippology, was on the 1st place Senior Hippology Team, and placed 2nd in Senior Horse Bowl. Elena received 1st place for her Intermediate Project Talk, placed 13th in Intermediate Hippology, was on the 2nd place Intermediate Hippology Team, and placed 4th in Open Horse Bowl. Way to go Grant and Elena!

**Super 4-H Saturday
Northwest Judging
Contests**

The annual Super 4-H Saturday Judging Contest, which includes Crops, Entomology, Geology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Photography, Livestock, and Wildlife Skills will be held in Hays on Saturday, March 21. Pre-registration is due by Monday, March 16 for sack lunch and afternoon STEM and Visual Arts rotations. The morning will also include a volunteer/parent session. More information can be found online at <https://www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu/>.

K-State Open House

K-State Open House will be held April 18 with family-friendly free entertainment, career exploration activities, and student research exhibits serving as highlights for the day. Find more information at <http://www.k-state.edu/openhouse>.

**States' 4-H
International Pen Pal
Program**

States' 4-H International Exchange Program is offering a Pen Pal program for two months this spring for 4-H members age 9-18. Participants will interact weekly with a youth their age in a partner country. Registration will close on March 20 or when all of the spots are filled. Visit <https://states4h.org/pen-pal-program/> for more information and to register.

**Donated Items
Available**

Check out the February 4-H Newsletter for a list of animal health items donated by Tractor Supply Company that are available at the Extension Office until the end of March. Also available is an American flag and supplies for a nail string art project. Contact the Extension Office if you are interested in any of these items.

Ag Tech Day

This event scheduled for Saturday, April 4th provides a unique opportunity for youth in grades 5 through 12 to explore Flickner Innovation Farm in Moundridge and learn about both new and established technologies that are helping make farm management easier and more efficient for producers. A wide variety of stations will be set up around the farm for attendees to visit while they learn from presenters. The event will last from 10:00am to 2:00pm and snacks will be provided. Register online at <https://bit.ly/AgTechDay>.

**Fair Judge's Training
Opportunity**

Are you an adult interested in judging county fair exhibits or just learning more about the judging process as a project leader or parent? Judge's Training is being offered on Tuesday, April 14th at the Cloud County Fairgrounds in Concordia. Registration will start at 5:15pm with dinner to follow and opening remarks starting at 6:15pm. Registration fee, including dinner, is \$20 and registration is due by April 1 at <https://bit.ly/4ap7LsG>. Projects being offered are:

Aerospace/Rocketry
Fashion Revue
Posters, Notebooks, Displays
Sewing and Textiles
Welding

Building Block Engineering
Photography
Robotics
Visual Arts
Woodworking

**4-H Day Family &
Consumer Science
Judging Contest
Results**

Cloverbud Division

Participation – Easton Spellman, Ares Beamer

Junior Division

Purple – Odynn Beamer, Corabel Hock, Elena Svoboda, Remington Spellman, Koy Gibbs, Kaleah Walker

Blue – Grace Greenstreet, Iris Briones

Intermediate Division

Purple – Ayla Walker

Blue – Gracen Gfeller, Grace Mueller, Kyla McDonald

Red – Natalie Briones, Arthur Strauss, Jared Kline

Senior Division

Purple – Brittney Dibben, Eloise Ryan, Sean Mueller, Olivia Kline, Charlie Strauss, Addison Gibson

Blue – Colden Blockcolsky, Austin Sohnrey, Tyler Proietti, Kaitlyn Sohnrey, Deyton Dibben, Kara McDonald, Ray Boller, April Strauss, Blake Proietti

Red – Lorelei Olson, William Strauss, Braden Blockcolsky, Tava Gustafson, Kaycee Brown, Newt Miller

White – Grant Slough

Cloverbud Division

Participation – Ares Beamer, Easton Spellman, Jasper Hock

Junior Division

Purple – Leo Anderes, Lilly Fielder, Odynn Beamer, Will Snider, Corabel Hock

Blue – Grace Greenstreet, Kaleah Walker, Koy Gibbs

Red – Iris Briones, Elena Svoboda, Remington Spellman

Intermediate Division

Purple – Gracen Gfeller, Grace Mueller

Blue – Ayla Walker, Kyla McDonald, Arthur Strauss, Jared Kline, Camden Kramer

Red – Grason Fielder, Bo Ryan, Natalie Briones

Senior Division

Purple – Brittney Dibben, Blake Proietti, Lorelei Olson, Kara McDonald

Blue – Sean Mueller, Olivia Kline, Kaitlyn Sohnrey, Eliot Oentrich, Ray Boller, Adrian Williams, Deyton Dibben, Colden Blockcolsky, Kennedy Moreland, Eloise Ryan, April Strauss, Kaycee Brown, Tyler Proietti, Grady Oentrich, Newt Miller

Red – Braden Blockcolsky, Austin Sohnrey, Addison Gibson, Charlie Strauss, William Strauss, Grant Slough, Tava Gustafson

**4-H Day Photography
Judging Contest
Results**


Congratulations!

Calendar of Events

March

- 7 Junior Beef Producer Day @ K-State
- 15 Beef Weigh-in, 2:00-3:00pm @ JC Livestock
- 16 Northwest Super 4-H Saturday registration deadline for sack lunch and afternoon project activities
- 20 Junior Sheep Producer Day registration deadline
- 21 Northwest Super 4-H Saturday, Hays
- 28 Regional 4-H Day, Clay Center

April

- 1 Fair Judge's Training Registration due
- 4 Ag Tech Day @ Flickner Innovation Farm in Moundridge
- 11 Shutterbug Photography Event, Manhattan
- 14 Fair Judge's Training, Concordia
- 15 Insect Art Contest entry postmark deadline
- 18 K-State Open House, Manhattan
- 19-25 National Volunteer Week
- 26 4-H Project Afternoon (note date change)

May

- 1 Ag Day
- 1 Project Drop/Add deadline
- 1 Deadline to register for overnight camp at Rock Springs to receive financial support from Geary County 4-H Foundation
- 1 Market Steers & Market Heifers KSF/KJLS nomination deadline
- 4 Fair Royalty applications due to Extension Office by 5pm
- 19 Market Goat/Sheep/Swine Weigh-in @ fairgrounds – 5:30-7pm
- 20 Bucket Calf ID forms due to Extension Office by 5pm
- 21 Market Goat/Sheep/Swine Weigh-in @ fairgrounds – 6:30-8pm
- 22 Market Goats/Sheep/Swine must be tagged/tag forms due to Extension Office

June

- 1 Horse ID's due to Extension Office by 5pm
- 1 4-H Council meeting, 7pm @ 4-H/Senior Citizens Center
- 3-5 Discovery Days @ K-State
- 14 4-H Project Afternoon
- 15 Commercial Heifer/Market Lamb/Commercial Ewe/Market Hog/
Commercial Breeding Gilt/All Meat Goat nomination deadline
- 26 Fair pre-entries due through FairEntry



Beyond Ready



K-State Extension

Geary County

119 E. 9th Street
Junction City, KS 66441
(785) 238-4161

March 5, 2026

Check out this newsletter for lots of upcoming events and activities in 4-H! Hope everyone is enjoying the spring weather!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ginger D. Kopfer".

Ginger D. Kopfer
County Extension Agent



This institution is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, 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.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

Deadline Pre-entries in:

All Projects Due online through FairEntry
Dog & Cat - health papers
NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

MONDAY, JULY 13

8:00- 4-H Sewing & Textile Design Judging
11:30 a.m. (Conference Method at Extension Office)
(Schedule will be sent after pre-entry date)
Noon 4-H Modeling Demonstration for
Fashion Revue
1:00 p.m. 4-H Fashion Revue & Shopping in Style
Judging
(Conference Method at 4-H Building)
(Schedule will be sent after pre-entry date)

THURSDAY, JULY 16

8:30 a.m. 4-H Public Revue Setup
5:30 p.m. 4-H Public Revue Practice
7:00 p.m. 4-H Public Revue
4-H Royalty Announcement

FRIDAY, JULY 17

6:30 p.m. 4-H Dog Show

SATURDAY, JULY 18

9:00 a.m. Fair Clean-up
4-H Barn and Building Set-up

SUNDAY, JULY 19

6:00 p.m. 4-H Horse Show

MONDAY, JULY 20

8:00 a.m. - 4-H Livestock can be brought in
5:30 p.m. (swine can be brought Monday or Tuesday)
1:00 p.m. 4-H Food & Food Preservation
Judging
(Conference Method)
(Sign up for judging times online)
1:00 p.m. Judging of 4-H Photography
(Conference Method)
(Sign up for judging times online)
4:00 - 4-H Market Beef, Goats, and Sheep
6:00 p.m. Weigh-in
4:00 - 4-H entries accepted
7:00 p.m. (do not bring early)

5:30 p.m. ALL cattle/goats/sheep must be in place
6:00 p.m. Exhibitor Meeting – Required for Dairy,
Goat, and Sheep Show Participants
7:00 p.m. 4-H Shepherd’s Lead, Dairy, Goat, and
Sheep Show
7:00 p.m. **All indoor 4-H exhibits in place**
except Agronomy/Floriculture/
Horticulture
NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

TUESDAY, JULY 21

ALL DAY 4-H Food Sale
7:30-9:30 a.m. 4-H Swine Weigh-in
8:30 a.m. Judging of 4-H Visual Arts
9:30 a.m. All swine must be in place
9:30 a.m. Judging of 4-H Veterinary Science, Wildlife
10:00 a.m. Judging of 4-H Aerospace/Rocketry, Ag
Mechanics Welding, Astronomy, Building
Block Engineering, Club Notebooks,
Computer Science, Pets, Reading
Adventures, Robotics, Shooting Sports,
Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
11:00 a.m. 4-H Agronomy, Floriculture, Horticulture,
Poultry, and Rabbit EXHIBITS IN PLACE
11:00 a.m. Judging of 4-H Floriculture, Miscellaneous
Projects
11:30 a.m. Judging of 4-H Electric & Renewable
Energy, Small Engines
Noon Judging of 4-H Horticulture
12:15 p.m. 4-H Bucket Calf practice in arena
12:30 p.m. Judging of 4-H Agronomy, Entomology,
Forestry, Fiber Arts, Geology
1:00 p.m. Judging of 4-H Woodworking
1:30 p.m. Judging of 4-H Banners, Interior Design &
Architecture
5:00 p.m. Exhibitor Meeting – Required for Beef
Show Participants
5:00 p.m. 4-H Bucket Calf - Consultation Judging
7:00 p.m. 4-H Beef Show
Show order- Bucket Calf, Breeding Beef,
Showmanship, Market Beef

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

- 8:00 a.m. 4-H Poultry Judging
- 8:30 a.m. 4-H Rabbit Judging
- 9:30 a.m. 4-H Cat Show
- 1:00 p.m. Photography and Horticulture Judging Contests
4-H members can begin judging any time after the start of the contest, but all forms must be turned in by 3:00 p.m.
- 5:00 p.m. **Deadline for registering 4-H project items for Auction**
NO LATE REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED
- 6:00 p.m. Exhibitor Meeting – Required for Swine Show Participants
- 7:00 p.m. 4-H Swine Show
- 9:30 p.m. **Deadline for registering 4-H livestock for Auction**
(or ½ hour after end of swine show) NO LATE REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED

THURSDAY, JULY 23

- 10:00 a.m. 4-H Round Robin
(Beef, Dairy, Goat, Horse, Sheep, Swine)
- 11:30-11:50 a.m. 4-H Livestock Judging Sign-up (Fair Office)
- Noon 4-H Livestock Judging Contest
- 3:00 p.m. Livestock Auction Set-Up and Barn Clean-Up
- 4:30-6:30 p.m. 4-H Barbecue and Watermelon Feed
- 6:30 p.m. 4-H Project & Livestock Auction
- 8:00 p.m. RELEASE OF 4-H EXHIBITS
All premiums will be forfeited if 4-H exhibits are removed before 8:00 p.m.
- 8:30 p.m. Clean up of Building
Every 4-H member with indoor exhibits is expected to stay until everything is cleaned

FRIDAY, JULY 24

- 9:00 a.m. *Livestock Clean up*
Every 4-H member with livestock exhibits is expected to help with cleanup