COVID-19 & 4-H Update

- All in-person Extension-sponsored events including all 4-H programming by employees and volunteers between now and July 4th must be moved to virtual environments or cancelled.

- Events that we know are cancelled for 2020:
  * Shooting Sports State Spring Match
  * Ag Day
  * May 4th Project Meeting Evening
  * Discovery Days
  * June 2nd Fairgrounds Panel Painting
  * Hazardous Occupations Safety Training in Agriculture
  * 4-H Camp & Campference
  * KSU Horse and Livestock Judging Camps
  * K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy
  * District Horse Show

- If you have a meeting, such as a club or project meeting, that you would like to hold virtually, we suggest using Zoom. Let Ginger know if you need assistance as Zoom is a program used by the Extension Office on a regular basis. Zoom bombing has become more common recently. To prevent this, we suggest not making notices about zoom meetings public, using a password for your meeting, changing the screen sharing option to “host only”, and encouraging users to update their Zoom program so it has the most up-to-date security features.

- We have been told some more direction on county fair and whether we will be able to have 4-H participation will be coming by mid-May. We will communicate more with you at that time including about goat, sheep, and swine tagging options. Even if we are unable to have fair in the traditional sense, we will do everything possible to ensure youth have the opportunity to display their work. Whether it's posters or videos or virtual judging, we will do all we can to save the 4-H exhibit experience for 4-H members this summer.

- The Extension Office continues to be closed to the public. Extension Staff are still working and are committed to continuing to provide services to our clientele through phone and email. The Extension Office phone number is 785-238-4161. You will be asked to leave a message and someone will get back to you. You can also send email to individual staff members or if you don’t know who to direct the question to, you can email ge@listserv.ksu.edu to contact all staff.

You will continue to receive updates via email and newsletter as things change and more information becomes available. Know that we are disappointed to see all of these 4-H events and activities being cancelled and look forward to them coming back better than ever next year!
May 1st will be the last day you can drop or add projects for county fair. This means that if you do not add the project by that date, you will not be eligible to exhibit in that area at the fair. Sign in to your 4-HOnline account to see what projects you are enrolled in and to drop or add projects. As a reminder, the 4-HOnline website address is https://ks.4honline.com/. Contact Ginger via email at gkopfer@ksu.edu if you have problems logging into 4-HOnline. The State Office suggests use of Chrome or Firefox browsers to access 4-HOnline.

A new 5-week series of virtual project lessons started the week of March 30th. These lessons are for the four projects with the highest enrollment in Geary County. Mondays are for Photography, Tuesdays for Clothing Buymanship, Wednesdays for Foods & Nutrition, and Thursdays for Visual Arts. A short video lesson and activity is posted on the Geary County K-State Research and Extension Facebook page and on the Geary County 4-H website at https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/resources.html. I hope you will check these out! A listing of additional At-Home and Virtual Resources continues to be updated online at https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/resources.html. A current listing of those resources is included with this newsletter.

This special week will be held April 19-25 this year. Take some time to recognize the many 4-H volunteers who have touched your life. Volunteers make the 4-H program possible and deserve many thanks for all of the time and effort that they give to the program.

The deadline for King and Queen applications will be June 1st. The requirement to visit a club meeting will be removed for 2020. The requirement that candidates have to be club nominated will also be removed for 2020. If you are eligible, you may apply. Eligibility guidelines, more information, and the application are available online at https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html.

YQCA is a national, multi-species youth livestock quality assurance program that covers food safety, animal well-being, and character development through age-appropriate educational curriculum.

Who needs to get certified?

Any youth 8 years of age and older who will be exhibiting a market or breeding animal at the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive or Kansas Junior Livestock Show is required to obtain certification. YQCA certification numbers will be submitted through the nomination process for market animals, and at the time of entry for exhibitors who only have registered purebred breeding animals. All youth should complete the training by June 15, 2020. Please contact Ginger if you would like to get certified so you can receive further information about the online training including how to get a discount for the training.

If you have questions, contact Chuck or Ginger at the Extension Office.
Bucket Calf ID Forms Due

Bucket Calf ID forms are due May 20th by 5:00pm in the Extension Office. Bucket Calf ID’s are required in order to show your calf at the County Fair. Forms can be found online at https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html. We suggest emailing forms to gkopfer@ksu.edu or mailing forms to the office before the deadline. If you need to deliver in person, papers can be dropped through the mail slot in the door at the Extension Office.

Horse ID Forms Due

Horse ID forms are due May 1st by 5:00pm. Horse ID’s are required in order to show your horse at the County Fair and State Fair. We suggest emailing papers to gkopfer@ksu.edu or mailing papers to the office before the deadline. If you need to deliver in person, papers can be dropped through the mail slot in the door at the Extension Office. We will sign, copy, and return papers via mail. If you need new forms you can find a link online at https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/forms.html.

State Fair Horse Show

With no District Horse Shows being held this summer to qualify for the State 4-H Horse Show, the tentative plan is for the state show to be open to all 4-H horse project members who meet age qualifications, enter by August 1st, and have passed Level 1 testing before July 15th. Contact Ginger to get started on level testing.

Kansas State Fair & Kansas Junior Livestock Show Nomination Deadlines & Information

Market Steers and Market Heifers (no market heifer show at KJLS) – May 1st
Commercial (Crossbred) Heifers – June 15th
Market Lambs – June 15th
Commercial Ewes (Wether Dams) – June 15th
Market Hogs – June 15th
Commercial Breeding Gilts – June 15th
Meat Goats – June 15th
- DNA hair samples are required for each nominated animal for ALL SPECIES
- Nomination fee is $8 per animal
- There is a one-time per year $20 fee if a nomination has to be returned to the family for any reason (ex.: incomplete form)
- Ear notches continue to be required for swine
- Full Scrapie tag information continues to be required for sheep and meat goats
- YQCA training continues to be required for all exhibitors 8 years and older
- Families are encouraged to include breed and secondary form of ID in lower right hand corner of the front of DNA envelopes

Changes:
- All steers with papers issued by the Maine-Anjou association will show together in the Maine division at KJLS. Refer to the 2020 KJLS rules for details.
- ShoWorks is the online entry system used by both state shows. Exhibitors are encouraged to download and use the new ShoWorks passport app.

Contact the Extension Office if you have questions about nominating livestock.
Hazardous Occupations Safety Training in Agriculture is required by law for those 14 and 15 years of age to complete prior to working on a farm operated by anyone other than their parent or legal guardian. The in-person training scheduled for June 2-3 has been cancelled. An online self-study option is available for youth needing to complete the training. There will be a written test administered by a parent or guardian after the youth have studied and the parent or guardian will return the test to the Extension Office to be graded. From there, it will be just like it has been in the past, with a farmer or parent giving the youth a driving test. Once the student has passed the driving test and a verification form is returned, a completion certificate will be issued. Contact Chuck at cotte@ksu.edu or more information.

The Kansas 4-H Sportfishing Tournament is open to all 4-H members. The contest runs throughout the year and ends September 15, 2020. Anglers can fish year round but entries must be in by the deadline. Fish caught after the deadline may be entered in the next contest. Participants can enter in any species/categories that they catch fish – go fishing and have fun! One 4-H Angler of the Year will be named in each of the species/categories (catfish, sunfish, crappie, black bass, carp or drum, other game fish). These are fish commonly found in Kansas waters. Each Angler of the Year will receive a 4-H Sportfishing cap, a frameable certificate, and a Walmart gift certificate hopefully to be used for fishing equipment (one per individual). All participants who enter a certified entry will receive a 4-H Sportfishing cap. Contact Ginger for additional rules and entry form.

Wednesday, April 22nd (office professional’s day) is the date designated this year to let Christina and Traci know how much we appreciate the work they do in the Extension Office. They work hard to keep the Geary County 4-H programming running smoothly and we are very appreciative!

May
1 Horse ID’s due to Extension Office by 5pm
1 Project Drop/Add deadline
1 Market Steers & Market Heifers KSF/KJLS nomination deadline
20 Bucket Calf ID’s due to Extension Office by 5pm

June
1 King & Queen Applications due to Extension Office by 5pm
1 4-H Council Zoom Meeting, 7pm (Council members will receive further information about joining the Zoom meeting)
At-Home & Virtual Resources
Located at https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/VirtualResources.html

General Resources
- 4-H Inspire Kids to Do Activity Guide
- Iowa 4-H At Home Learning Resources
- Johnson County 4-H At Home
- Nebraska 4-H Virtual & At-Home Learning
- Oklahoma 4-H At Home
- Vermont 4-H Online Enrichment Learning Opportunities
- Georgia Plugged into 4-H

Agriculture Resources
- National Agriculture in the Classroom Student Center
- Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation Virtual Learning
- Progressive Ag Safety Lessons
- North Dakota State Virtual Livestock Showmanship Clinic Series

Horse Resources
- AQHA Activity Book for Horse-Loving Kids
- Horse Judging from Home
- Online Horse Show

Horticulture/Crops Resources
- Junior Master Gardeners on Facebook Live
- Minnesota 4-H Agronomy Lessons

Judging Contest Resources
- Geary County 4-H Judging Contests Guide
- Livestock Judging Classes

STEM Resources
- 4-H STEM Lab
- NASA STEM Engagement
- 4-H Science & Engineering Activities
- Texas 4-H Virtual Experiences
- Virginia 4-H Web Wednesdays

Visual Arts Resources
- 4-H Virtual Visual Arts
April 15, 2020

Check out this newsletter to find out about upcoming 4-H deadlines. You will also learn about lots of available virtual resources and some cancellations due to COVID-19. During this unprecedented and stressful time, know that the Extension Office staff are still working and willing to assist you as needed. Together we are #4HStrong!

Ginger D. Kopfer
County Extension Agent

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. K-State Research and Extension is committed to making its services, activities, and programs accessible to all participants. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting Ginger Kopfer at 785-238-4161 or gkopfer@ksu.edu. Notify staff of accommodation needs as early as possible.