



POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

📶 POSTROCK.KSU.EDU 📧 POSTROCK4H@KSU.EDU



GET IN THE KNOW, VISIT COUNTY FAIR WEBSITES!



SCAN ME

Visit your fair website to find online fair books, fair schedules, forms, sign-ups, and more...

[https://www.postrock.k-state.edu/4h-youth-development/events/county-fairs/!](https://www.postrock.k-state.edu/4h-youth-development/events/county-fairs/)



JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY...

If you have a fair question, call the local Extension Office. Navigating fair can be confusing, and there are no silly questions! Reach out before deadlines; we are happy to help!

- Mankato Office: 785-378-3174
- Lincoln Office: 785-524-4432
- Beloit Office: 785-738-3597
- Osborne Office: 785-346-2521
- Smith Center Office: 785-282-6823



NEED FAIR BOOKS OR ENTRY CARDS?

Visit your local Extension Office to pick up a fair book or entry cards as needed! Each county of the Post Rock District has specific processes, deadlines and more, so contact your county office to get ahold of these.

PRE-FAIR ENTRY DEADLINES

The pre-fair entry deadline is when all project exhibits must be designated for the class which will be shown at the county fair. It is an ownership and verification deadline. Entries can be dropped, but not added after the pre-fair entry deadline. Any project areas not required by 4-H Council to meet the pre-fair entry deadline will submit entry requirements at the project's fair check-in time.

- 📌 Jewell County Deadline: Past Due
- 📌 Lincoln County Deadline: July 1
- 📌 Mitchell County Deadline: July 2
- 📌 Osborne County Deadline: July 6
- 📌 Smith County Deadline: July 1



JEWELL COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

 (785)378-3174

Katelyn Pahls
Office Professional
kmpahls@ksu.edu



A quick reminder that the Extension Office will be closed Friday, July 3 for Independence Day. Be sure to plan ahead if your family needs anything before fair week kicks off the following week!

JEWELL COUNTY FAIR BOOKS

Haven't picked up your 2026 Fair Book yet? Stop by the office! Just give us a quick call before coming to town to make sure we're here –it's a busy time of year. You can also find a digital copy on our website:
<https://www.postrock.k-state.edu/4h-youth-development/events/county-fairs/jewellfair/>

FAIR CLEANUP ON JULY 6!

The Jewell County Fair is almost here! All 4-H members exhibiting at the fair are required to attend the cleanup on Monday, July 6 at 6 PM. Please bring brooms, rakes, and other tools, and come ready to help get the fairgrounds ready. Let's work together to get everything looking its best for a great fair week ahead!



FOOD STAND DONATIONS

Please bring all food stand donations to the food stand during fairgrounds clean-up on Monday, July 6



NEED ENTRY CARDS?

Visit the Extension Office to pick up entry cards!
Read the fair general rules and project rules in the fair book closely!

**GOOD
LUCK
TO ALL
EXHIBITORS!**



FAIR SUPERINTENDENTS

Please check page 6 in the fair book for your superintendent assignments! There will be a superintendent meeting on Tuesday, July 7 at 4pm at the fairgrounds.

AFTER FAIR CLEANUP ON JULY 13

All 4-H members who participated in fair are required to attend the after fair cleanup on July 13 at 6:00 p.m. Please bring brooms, rakes, and other helpful supplies. Come ready to work, and say good bye to another year of fair.

JEWELL COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

 (785)378-3174

Katelyn Pahls
Office Professional
kmpahls@ksu.edu

CHECK YOUR EMAILS

Our office team is sending regular emails with reminders and tasks as the fair quickly approaches. Please check your messages regularly.

ERROR MESSAGES

As noted above, email is an essential communication tool for 4-H and the fair. If you are not receiving emails, please contact the Extension Office so we can help troubleshoot.

Note: It appears that Hotmail addresses may be blocked by our system. If you have an alternate email address, please use it for now until the issue is resolved.

CLUB PLANNING FYI

4-H Council will hold officer elections during a meeting at the end of October. This will allow clubs to meet earlier in the month to complete new-year transitions and conduct their own elections. This change is intended to provide greater scheduling flexibility for clubs moving forward.

JEWELL COUNTY 4-H CLOVER CONNECTION

Have you joined the *Facebook Private Group* for county 4-H Reminders?



Jewell
County 4-H



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 4 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Jewell County Law Enforcement is hosting a family fun afternoon/night on August 4 at the fairgrounds. They are requesting volunteers to help with some activities and games. 4-H members looking for leadership and service are encouraged to participate. Let the Extension Office know if you can help!



DAY CAMP IN MANKATO ON AUGUST 5

The Post Rock District interns are planning a summer day camp in Mankato. If you're interested in teen leadership opportunities, you can sign up to help. Youth entering grades 1–5 are invited to attend as campers for a hands-on learning experience. Watch your email for more details coming soon!

4-H COUNCIL MEETING JULY 20

The next Jewell County 4-H Council Meeting is Monday, July 20 at 7PM at the Courthouse Meeting Room.

LINCOLN COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

Carla Morrical
4-H Program Coordinator
cemorrical@ksu.edu

 (785)524-4432

Shelby Rathbun
Office Professional
shelbyra@ksu.edu

SIGNUP GENIUS FOR FAIR SUPERINTENDENTS

Adults and 4-Hers are needed for the 2026 Lincoln County Fair as judging assistants. Sign up for the project area you want to assist. It's on a first come/first serve basis.



This is an item you can use on an Achievement pin application.

<https://bit.ly/41Yll17>

LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR

- **Pre-fair deadline:** **July 1** by 11:59 pm to enter your fair items
- **Pre-fair judging:** **July 13** (foods, photography, fiber arts, clothing, fashion revue) at Lincoln Jr Sr High School beginning at 9 a.m. Public Fashion Revue at 6:30 p.m.
- **Fairground cleanup:** SUNDAY, July 12th 5-7 pm
Sunday, July 19th 8:30 am - ???

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY MOUNTING

On Friday, July 10th, Linda Rosebrook will again be mounting photography pictures at the Lincoln Senior Center from 1- 4 p.m. The cost will be \$2 for each matte/cover and payable that day.

2026 FAIR T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

The Lincoln County Fair t-shirt is available for purchase. We will be placing an order before fair, so get yours in soon! Your payment is due to the Lincoln Extension Office when the t-shirts are picked up. To order, go to the Lincoln County Fair website and use the link to order.



LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR PROJECT ENTRY

Entries will be submitted via the Fair Entry System online. ALL 4-H project and Open Class Livestock entries are due by 11:59 p.m. on 7/1. Open Class Static entries are due by 7:00 p.m. on 7/15. Those needing assistance with the Fair Entry System are welcome to visit the Extension Office in Lincoln. Register with the QR Code or at: <http://lincolncountyks.fairentry.com>



CLOTHING PROJECTS

4-H members enrolled in Sewing & Textiles and/or Shopping in Style and Style Revue need to check the Lincoln County Fair website for all information you will need. There is a new form required for each garment modeled in Style Revue. This form must be completed on both sides and a picture attached. Bring this to the pre-fair judging on Monday, July 13th. Please complete this by **JULY 1, 2026**.

4-H EAR TAGS AVAILABLE

If you are still needing to put ear tags in your livestock to exhibit at the fair, please contact our office and stop by to pick them up.

LINCOLN COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL

Wed., August 5 | 6:30 p.m. | Lincoln Senior Center

HORSE PROJECT REQUIREMENT

Per Kansas Dept. of Animal Health, beginning in 2025 all exhibits in the 4-H Horse Show must present proof of negative Coggins test within the last 12 months at check-in.

PRE- AND POST-FAIR CLEAN-UP ASSIGNMENTS

Hunter Huntsman: 4-H Building, grandstands, bathroom by 4-H Building, benches & trash cans.

Jr. Sunflower: Sheep, Goat & Swine Barns and Show Arena.

Bullfoot Creek/Sylvan Hustlers: Beef Barn, Poultry Barn and bathrooms by Show Arena.

Go to the [Lincoln County Fair website](#) for the cleaning details.



MITCHELL COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

 (785)738-3597

Tammy Neiter
Office Professional
tneiter@ksu.edu

Food Stand Shifts

There are still several shifts that need to be filled.

All 4-H families are required to work a shift!

If you are a beef family, please sign up for Thursday evening or Friday evening shifts. If you are a non-beef or non-livestock family, we really need your help on Saturday evening. Youth who work more than one shift can get credit for service learning hours and will earn free Bubbl'r or ice cream! You can sign up at the following link:

[Food Stand Sign Up](#)

July 2nd Deadline

The pre-fair deadline for this year's fair is July 2nd. **The following must be submitted to the Extension office by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 2nd:**

- [Livestock entry forms](#)
- [Poultry, Rabbit & Pet form](#)
- Pen rent (\$1 per animal due with livestock entry form)
- [Fashion Revue pre-entry form](#)
- [Fashion Revue script cards](#)
- [New this year, you can submit your script online here](#)

2026 Fair Books

Stop by the Extension Office to pick up your copy of the 2026 Fair Book!

To view the full fair book online, click [HERE](#)

The August 4-H Council meeting will be Monday, August 24th at The Bank of Tescott meeting room in Beloit starting at 7 p.m.

Mitchell County Fair Dates:

July 20th-25th, 2026



Theme: Sew it, Show it, Grow it

- **Pre-fair deadline: July 2nd** (livestock entry forms, pen rent fees, fashion revue pre-entry forms & scripts cards due)
- **Pre-fair judging** (foods, visual arts, fashion revue) has moved back to the Beloit First Christian Church this year
- **Clean up duties:** please contact the Extension office **BEFORE** cleaning to communicate the date(s) you intend to clean up and to get the checklist for your area
 - **West Beloit:** Pre-fair livestock barns
 - **Tipton:** After fair 4-H building, kitchen, and restrooms
 - **Asherville Achievers:** Before fair 4-H building clean up (kitchen and restrooms)

Fair Information Website

Please bookmark this website so you have a reference to assist you this summer.

<https://www.postrock.k-state.edu/4h-youth-development/events/county-fairs/mitchellfair/>

MC Clover Connection Facebook

We are posting updates and fair tips to our Facebook Group Page. Follow it here-

[MC Clover Connection](#)

★ **HAPPY** ★
Independence Day

The Mitchell County Office will be closed on July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.

MITCHELL COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

(785)738-3597

Tammy Neiter
Office Professional
tneiter@ksu.edu

Pen Rent Forms are due July 2nd. !!

If you are bringing livestock to the fair, you must complete the pen rent form as your registration. You can pick up a form at our office or print it off at home.

Pen Rent Form

- Each 4-Her must fill out their own form, no family entries.
- Complete the form with all the livestock you plan to bring to the fair.
- Important items to know for filling out the form:
Tag number (4-H or EID, not farm tag), animal breed, sex, birth date for breeding animals, and class number (found in fair book).
- Pay \$1 per animal entered- to the Mitchell County 4-H Council.
- Submit completed Pen Rent Form to the Beloit Extension Office by July 2nd at 4:30 p.m.
- If you have any questions, please reach out 785-738-3597.

Bucket Calf Record Sheets are due July 21st at Livestock Check In. !!

If you are bringing a bucket calf to the fair, you must complete a bucket calf record sheet for the judge to review. You can pick up a form at our office or print it off at home.

Bucket Calf Record Sheet

Fashion Revue Pre-Entry Forms and Script Cards due July 2nd. !!

Pre-entry forms are only needed for Sewing and Textile Design Revue (items you've made and will model) and Shopping in Style Revue (outfits you've purchased and will model). Pre-entries are not needed for items that will be judged on construction only or for fiber arts entries.

Please be sure to fill out the fashion revue score card/cost sheet for each outfit you are modeling. The score card/cost sheet will be handed to the judge before you model your outfit. **Bring these sheets with you on July 20th.**

Remember for Shopping in Style a picture of the 4-Her in the garment modeled for judging is to be attached to the score card. This picture will be displayed at the fair.

Fashion Revue Info. Letter

Script Card Online Entry

Score Card/Cost Sheet

Fashion Revue Pre-Entry Form

Script Card Examples

OSBORNE COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

Kim Naber
4-H Program Coordinator
kimn@ksu.edu

 (785)346-2521

Rylee Conway
Office Professional
rgconway@ksu.edu



FAIRENTRY DEADLINE IS JULY 6TH!

- Deadline to register in FairEntry is **July 6th!**
- Any livestock and/or static entry that a 4-H member might possibly enter in the 4-H division must be pre-registered.
- Attention: FAIRENTRY deadline falls immediately after the three-day Fourth of July weekend.
- Don't wait until Monday at 6pm to find yourself scrambling at the last minute. Avoid the stress, avoid the panic and get your entries submitted now so you can actually enjoy your holiday weekend.

[Osborne County FAIRENTRY link](#)



CLOTHING PROJECT FORMS DUE JULY 6TH!

4-H members participating in Sewing & Textile Design (clothing construction) and Shopping In Style (style revue) must complete a Clothing Project form for each item exhibited. Photo's must be attached to the form and a write-up included which is read during Public Style Revue. The form is available on the Osborne County Fair website at: [Osborne County Fair forms](#)



FROSTING/FILLING CALCULATION REQUIRED FOR FOODS EXHIBITS

4-H members exhibiting Foods & Nutrition items with frostings and/or fillings must calculate the sugar content of the filling/frosting. This is to determine if the frosting/filling is stable and safe to eat when stored at room temperatures. Check out page 2 in the district section. If you have questions concerning a particular recipe, please contact Kim as soon as possible. The form is available on the Osborne County Fair website at: [Osborne County Fair forms](#)

OFFICE CLOSED JULY 3RD

The Osborne office will be closed Friday, July 3. Plan ahead if you are needing items from office.

IMPORTANT 2026 PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT INFORMATION

County Commissioner Choice Award

Up to three County Commissioner Choice Awards will be given to photos selected by our County Commissioners recognizing photography entries that best reflect patriotism and America 250. Fourth of July might be a great time to capture that patriotic spirit.



NEW FOR 2026 -No Writing on back of photo board

Do Not Write on the back of the photo board as we have done in years past. No lettering, names, addresses, descriptions, or personal information should be written on the back of the photo board. The back of the photo board is to remain blank!

[Link to helpful photo mounting resources](#)

CHANGES TO 2026 OSBORNE COUNTY 4-H EVENT SCHEDULE

Please note these date changes made to several 4-H 2026 fair events!



- Osborne County 4-H & Open Class Horse Show has been moved to **Saturday, July 18th at 5:00 p.m.**
- 4-H Foods & Nutrition judging has been moved to **Tuesday, July 21st at 1:00 p.m.**
- Only one Vet Check on Tuesday, July 21st from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **No Wednesday morning Vet Check.**

CLUB BOOTHS WILL BE ALLOWED TO SET UP ON SATURDAY, JULY 18TH AFTER 4-H BUILDING HAS BEEN CLEANED

The Rules Committee voted to allow 4-H clubs to sit up club booths on Saturday, July 18th if they choose. This request allows clubs to get that task completed in a timely fashion.

OSBORNE COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

Kim Naber
4-H Program Coordinator
kimn@ksu.edu

 (785)346-2521

Rylee Conway
Office Professional
rgconway@ksu.edu

PRE-FAIR CLEAN UP JULY 18TH

- ALL 4-H members participating in the 2026 4-H division of the Osborne County Fair are required to help with Pre-Fair Clean Up. Clean up is Saturday, July 18th at 8:00 a.m.
- If you are not able to attend pre-fair/post-fair clean up, please contact Kim to schedule make-up work.
- Each club is assigned an area and a list of tasks. Your club leader will have that info. Please bring rakes, push brooms, leaf blowers, weed eaters to help us get the 4-H Building, Food Stand and livestock barns in tip top appearance.

FOOD STAND SHIFT EXPECTATIONS

Our 4-H Food Stand is the main fundraiser that funds all of the Osborne County 4-H year round activities including ribbons, judges fees, paying the yearly 4-H program fee, FAIRENTRY license to name a few. We understand that you may have signed up for a shift during which the family has to step away for judging times. Please be respectful in that event and keep the time away to a minimum. Also, the expectation for working a food stand shift is that the 4-H youth and parents all work the shift. Families only have to work one shift and many important life skills can be gained by the youth working in the Food Stand. If you need a reminder of what shift you signed up for, check the [Osborne County Fair page](#).

GRAND CHAMPION & PREMIUM AUCTION THANK YOU NOTES DUE AUGUST 3

An incredibly important post fair task is to show appreciation to all those for the support 4-H members received during the Osborne County Fair. Each 4-H member who received a Grand Champion prize award is required to write a thank you to the award donor. An excel spreadsheet will be provided which lists all awards and the respective donor. Each 4-H member who sold items through the Premium Auction is required to write a thank you to the buyer.

OSBORNE COUNTY FAIR 2026 RESOURCES

For the latest news, deadlines, forms, fairbook, fair tips and fair details, follow the [Osborne County Clover Connection group Facebook page](#).

[CLICK HERE FOR THE 2026 OSBORNE COUNTY FAIR 4-H EVENT SCHEDULE and FAIR BOOK.](#)



QR code for Osborne County Fair website

OSBORNE COUNTY 4-H GROUP PICTURE SATURDAY, JULY 25

Be sure to wear a 4-H t-shirt of some type as we plan to take a county 4-H group picture. Meet at the Covered Arena bleachers, Saturday, July 25, at 8:45 a.m. before the Premium Auction.

FUN FAIR ACTIVITIES SATURDAY NIGHT

Osborne County Fair will be having Laser Tag from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday night. Be sure to join in on the fun across from the Food Stand. Any youth ages 5 - 18 can participate and best of all.....it's free!

- The 4-H Food Stand closes at 4 p.m. on Saturday.
- Food trucks will be there including The Grain Bin featuring BBQ, Taste Me Now Food Truck featuring loaded baked potatoes, salads and fresh squeezed lemondade and Frosty's Sno Shack.



CAPTURE THOSE FAIR MEMORIES

We publish photos from the fair Grand Champion award winners for the newspapers and social media. Please share photos capturing hard work, smiles and 4-H memories of the 2026 Osborne County Fair to kimn@ksu.edu.

SMITH COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

 (785)282-6823

Shelly Garlow
Office Professional
sgarlow@ksu.edu

★ ★ ★ Fair Tips ★ ★ ★

- You may purchase a fair book at the office for \$3.00
- All Animals Tagged by July 1
- Print your Pictures 8x10 and get boards to mount them on at the office
- Fair Clean Up SUNDAY July 12th 2 P.M.
Let The Extension office know if you cannot attend clean-up.

PREMIUM SALE PHOTOS DUE BY JULY 1

The Premium Sale will be indoors in 2026. 4-H Council is responsible for creating a 4-H member spotlight slideshow to be used by the fair board during the sale.

By July 1, email Shelly at sgarlow@ksu.edu 1-3 pictures of youth with the livestock animal/species and (other project areas if eligible) they intend to sell in the sale. It does not need to be a backdrop photo from fair - just something that features the youth and their project work.

Important Dates:



July 1 Pre-Fair **armory and stall** reservations due to the Extension Office



July 1 Premium Sale Photos (To Shelly)

July 9 Fashion Revue Forms due. Please email Scripts to alehmann@usd237.com

July 10 Foods Judging

July 12 Fair Set Up 2 p.m.

July 13 Fashion and Sewing Judging

July 14 Hand Pets/Cats Judging

SUNPORCH in Smith Center



July 16-20 Smith County Free Fair

July 20 Fair Tear Down 11 a.m.

July 28 2 dozen cookies to Extension Office by 10 a.m. for fair donors

CHECK YOUR EMAIL REGULARLY!

Check your emails often! If you think you are missing reminders, call the Smith Center Extension Office to double check your 4-H contact information!

NEW Livestock Barns for 2026

We would like to thank our fairboard members and our donors for their contributions to our NEW livestock barns at the Smith County Fairgrounds! We are so fortunate to be able to update our facilities for our future 4-H and FFA families and our communities!

Cat and Handpet Judging at SunPorch in Smith Center!

Take advantage of watching our 4-H members share their Cat and Handpet projects while they are being judged at SunPorch on Wednesday, July 14, starting at 6:00 p.m. Come and visit with residents and 4-H members at the same time. Hope to see you there!



[Fair Information and Forms](#)

THE GREEN LINK DISTRICT & STATE NEWS

 [POSTROCK.KSU.EDU](https://postrock.ksu.edu)  POSTROCK4H@KSU.EDU
POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

SUMMER LEARNING IN POST ROCK DISTRICT

We are excited that we'll have a variety of Summer Enrichment Offerings available to youth across Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith Counties this summer! The experiences will not require 4-H membership to attend. Watch our [Post Rock District 4-H Facebook](#) page for announcements. We'll also be sharing youth day camps, workshops, and other opportunities on our [Post Rock District website](#) under 'Youth Programs'.



Follow
Post Rock District 4-H
on Facebook
for Summer Experience
Announcements!



Reading Makes Cents

Coming to
Mitchell County!

Reading Makes Cents is a 2-day experience where youth will discover the value of earning, saving, sharing, and spending through a fun-filled learning adventure! Youth will explore the world of money through engaging stories, hands-on activities, and interactive games. Through challenges and real-life scenarios, participants will build financial literacy skills while learning how to make smart money decisions.

For: Youth entering grades 4-6 in the fall
Participation Fee: \$20

*Fee is non-refundable and payable to
Post Rock Extension District by cash or check.*

Meal: Lunch provided to participants.
See registration form for details.

Dress: Dress for the weather and to be active.

Questions? Call the Post Rock District Extension
Office at (785) 738-3597 or
email postrock4h@ksu.edu

Register Online by July 22, 2026: Scan QR Code

*Space is limited. Must be fully paid
registration to confirm registration.*

https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bO6tyBAEbK31kou

July 28 & 29
Attend both days
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Beloit, KS

First Christian Church
Gym/Fellowship Hall (321 N. Mill St.)



KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Post Rock District

DANE G. HANSEN
FOUNDATION



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 Nora Rhodes four weeks prior to the start of the event at 785-378-3174 and rhodesn@ksu.edu. 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 is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Reading Makes Cents

Coming to
Smith County!

Reading Makes Cents is a 2-day experience where youth will discover the value of earning, saving, sharing, and spending through a fun-filled learning adventure! Youth will explore the world of money through engaging stories, hands-on activities, and interactive games. Through challenges and real-life scenarios, participants will build financial literacy skills while learning how to make smart money decisions.

For: Youth entering grades 4-6 in the fall
Participation Fee: \$20

*Fee is non-refundable and payable to
Post Rock Extension District by cash or check.*

Meal: Lunch provided to participants.
See registration form for details.

Dress: Dress for the weather and to be active.

Questions? Call the Post Rock District Extension
Office at (785) 282-6823 or
email postrock4h@ksu.edu

Register Online by July 22, 2026: Scan QR Code

*Space is limited. Must be fully paid
registration to confirm registration.*

https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Zn83cSiGZ5R3Bs

July 28 & 29
Attend both days
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Smith Center, KS

Nazarene Church
North Meeting Room (117 E. New York)



KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Post Rock District

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FOUNDATION



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 Nora Rhodes four weeks prior to the start of the event at 785-378-3174 and rhodesn@ksu.edu. 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 is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

Tuesday, July 7, 2026 | 10:00 - 11:00 AM
Sylvan Grove Public Library | 122 S Main Street, Sylvan Grove, KS
Kindly RSVP to the library at 785-526-7188



KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Post Rock District

4-H NEWSLETTER

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THE GREEN LINK DISTRICT & STATE NEWS

 [POSTROCK.KSU.EDU](https://postrock.ksu.edu)  POSTROCK4H@KSU.EDU
POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

COUNTY FAIR PROJECTS

All exhibits entered in the 4-H/FFA division of a county fair must be the handiwork of the exhibitor; the grower, where agricultural exhibits are shown; and the owner and feeder, where livestock is entered. All exhibits entered in the 4-H/FFA division of a county fair must be the result of the current program year's work. Ownership is defined so that the project (animal, garden, crop, exhibit creation, sewing, photo, etc.) is under the daily care and supervision of the member; all project-related practices, expenses, and management are the responsibility of the member; and all county fair exhibits should be a planned part of the project.



READ YOUR FAIR BOOK CLOSELY!

There are general rules and project-area rules that need to be met in order for you to be able to exhibit in the 4-H/FFA division of the county fair. Don't wait until the last minute to read the rules. Call your Extension Office if you have questions!

FROSTING AND FILLING RESOURCE TO ASSIST WITH FAIR PREPARATION

Not all frostings are safe for storage at room temperature or warmer. For food safety purposes, 4-H County/State Fair entries with frostings and fillings must calculate the amount of sugar in the frosting/filling recipe. Frostings and fillings used in 4-H County/State Fair exhibits need to contain more than 65% sugar for safety. The calculation should be attached to the entry.



- Examples on how to calculate this percentage can be found here: https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/download/frostings-and-fillings-worksheet_4H1171
- More information on the food safety of frosting and fillings can be found here: https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/download/food-safety-of-frostings-and-fillings_MF3544
- The following website will help you convert volume measurements to weight in order to complete the calculations: <https://www.kingarthurbaking.com/learn/ingredient-weight-chart>



Does this frosting meet the minimum requirement to be considered safe at room temperature?

Simple Buttercream Frosting	
Ingredients	Weight in Grams
2 cups unsalted butter	454
8 cups powdered sugar	960
1/2 teaspoon salt	3
1/4 cup heavy cream	59
2 teaspoons vanilla extract	8
Total weight 1,484	

% sugar: $(960/1,484) \times 100 = 65\%$

This frosting meets the minimum requirement of 65% sugar and is considered safe at room temperature.



**Frostings and
Fillings Worksheet**

THE GREEN LINK DISTRICT & STATE NEWS

📶 [POSTROCK.KSU.EDU](https://postrock.ksu.edu) ✉️ POSTROCK4H@KSU.EDU
POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

FAIR PREMIUM AUCTIONS AND PROJECT SALES



County Fair Premium Auctions and Project Sales are NOT governed or clerked by Post Rock Extension District nor the local county's 4-H Council. We are also not the fiscal agent for the event. The premium auction or project sale is operated differently in each county. You can contact your local extension office to learn about the event in your county so you can be prepared to meet all requirements, if you want to participate. We are happy to share the expectations and rules set by the group that governs your respective event.

HORSE COGGINS TESTING

Horse project members are strongly encouraged to get your horse coggins testing completed soon. This will prevent you from having any issues with participation at 4-H and non-4-H events during the spring and summer. Kansas Division of Animal Health has revised regulations and it is now the responsibility of the horse owner to have a negative Coggins test. A negative Coggins test is valid for 12 months. It is up to the participant to provide verification if event organizers require proof of a negative Coggins test! Read the full regulation on the [Kansas Division of Animal Health website](https://www.kansas.gov/divisions/animal-health/).



SHOOTING SPORTS STATE QUALIFIERS

Youth have to qualify for State Shooting Sports at a local qualifier, and you can only register with paperwork signed and submitted to the host confirming that you have participated in instructor-led practices and that you're in good standing within the local unit's project. Generally, each qualifier has a fee. Youth can attend a qualifier anywhere in Kansas, and you are allowed to attend as many as you want to register for. The state will post qualifier dates and registration information at www.kansas4-h.org/projects/natural-resources/shooting-sports/shooting-sports-events/local-qualifiers.html. Call your local office if you have questions!



ARCHERY QUALIFIER IN POST ROCK DISTRICT

Stede Underwood is hosting an archery qualifier on July 26th in Glen Elder. Information will be emailed to enrolled youth once registration opens! This would be open to any youth 9 years and older who have completed instructor-led practices. More details to come.

SHARE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR PROJECT WORK

We love to hear what individual members and clubs are up to! Help us celebrate your learning and success by sharing your highlights (photo and details) to postrock4h@ksu.edu to be featured on our Post Rock District 4-H Facebook page!

Are you following us on Facebook? If not, scan the QR Code!



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4-H PROGRAM COORDINATORS MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SMITH, JEWELL, MITCHELL COUNTIES

Part-time or Full-time roles may be negotiated
for the right candidate.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.POSTROCK.KSU.EDU

SUMMER CLUB IDEAS

Looking to add some excitement to your 4-H Club meetings in July, and August? Here's some summer ideas for your group to consider:

- Picnic at a Park: Have a club meeting and picnic. Soak up the summer sunshine!
- Joint Meeting: Invite a neighboring club to join for a joint meeting!
- Poster/Project Work Day: Share supplies while members mentor and support each other with making your fair posters and finishing other projects.
- County Fair Project Tour: Have a meeting during a slow time at the county fair. Tour the buildings together, giving each member a chance to share their project work.
- Parade Float: Build a float to share your love of 4-H during a local parade.
- Give Back: Organize a trash pickup to keep your community looking great!
- If you have a unique idea...we'd love to hear about it!



4-H CLOVER CONNECTION
Facebook Private Groups

Don't forget to join your county's page! We have Facebook private groups - one for each County 4-H program served by Post Rock District. The private group provides reminders and updates for active members, families, and volunteers in the local Kansas 4-H program.



Jewell
County 4-H



Lincoln
County 4-H



Mitchell
County 4-H



Osborne
County 4-H



Smith
County 4-H

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STATE FAIR ANIMALS

Exhibiting an animal beyond the 4-H division at a Post Rock District county fair means that ownership and identification must meet the requirements outlined by the specific show's governing body. The 4-H member is responsible for understanding the deadlines and expectations involved. If your animal species doesn't classify for state livestock nomination, visit the [Kansas 4-H State Fair website](#) for important ownership, verification, and exhibition deadlines and details. Contact your local Extension Office as soon as possible if you are considering showing at the Kansas State Fair, so we can share resources to help you navigate the process.

STATE LIVESTOCK NOMINATIONS

All youth who would like to be eligible for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS) must be nominated. The [Kansas Youth Livestock Program](#) website outlines the [State Livestock Nomination Process](#) under the "Nomination Information" tab. Families are highly encouraged to use the resources available, especially the *Rookie Guide*.

The nomination process is through an online system. Families will purchase DNA envelopes in advance, submit their animal and exhibitor information online, then mail their completed and signed DNA samples by the deadline. Extension Agents and FFA Advisors will approve nominations online.

Exhibitors who nominated animals in past years need to use their existing ShoWorks account. Those who need help accessing their account may request a password reset through ShoWorks or contact the [Kansas Youth Livestock Program](#) for assistance. Returning exhibitors should not create a new account. The ShoWorks website is <https://kansasnom.fairwire.com/>.



KANSAS
YOUTH LIVESTOCK
PROGRAM
WEBSITE

Grand Drive and KJLS Important Dates:

- July 1: Registered Breeding Ewe Papers in Exhibitor's Name
- July 15: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive Entry Deadline
- July 25: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive Late Entry Deadline
- August 15: KJLS Entry Deadline
- August 31: KJLS Late Entry Deadline
- September 11- 13: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive
- October 2 - 4: Kansas Junior Livestock Show



STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW

There are important deadlines that must be met to be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show. Kim Naber, 4-H Program Coordinator, is an excellent resource for the equine project and she is happy to explain the requirements and deadlines. She can be reached at 785-346-2521 or kimn@ksu.edu. Visit the Kansas 4-H website at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/horse/state-horse-show.html>.

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KANSAS 4-H LIVESTOCK SWEEPSTAKES

NOTIFY EXTENSION OFFICE OF INTEREST BY JULY 28

Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes will be hosted August 22-23 in Manhattan. The deadline to register is August 1 to the state, so **all interested youth must notify their local Extension Office before July 28 so we can enter Post Rock District teams.** Youth from multiple Post Rock District counties can make up a team. The expenses and transportation for participation are up to each individual. Post Rock District staff do not coach teams, so adult volunteers are also needed to serve as coaches. The contest rules, schedule, and more information is posted on the [Livestock Sweepstakes](#) page of the youth livestock website. Call your local Extension Office if you have questions.



STATE 4-H HORTICULTURE JUDGING & KANSAS 4-H WHEAT EXPO INFORMATION



Two great state-level 4-H events will be offered in the month of August. See more below.

State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest: Saturday, August 15 in Manhattan

Interested youth should notify their Extension Office so we can form district teams. Adult volunteer coaches are also needed. For more information, go to the [State 4-H Horticulture Judging](#) website.

Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo: Tuesday, August 4 in El Dorado

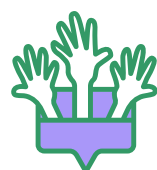
Watch for more information to come. Refer to the following link, which we expect to be updated soon, to learn more. [Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo Information](#)

4-H PRESENTATIONS AT STATE FAIR

If you earned a purple at 4-H Day with a presentation, you may be eligible to present your communication skills at the Kansas State Fair! Checkout the entry requirements in the Kansas State Fair Book at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/fair-resources/kansas-state-fair/> This is a great experience that reflects well in project records and on pin applications! Notify your local Extension Office ASAP if you'd like to enter.



YOUTH COUNCIL AND NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE APPLICATIONS



Applications for the Kansas Youth Leadership Council and the National 4-H Conference are open. All applications will be completed online and will be due by October 1, 2026. Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2027, may apply as a Council Rep, and those 15-18 before January 1, 2027, may apply for the National 4-H Conference.

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STATE FAIR STATIC (INDOOR) PROJECT SIGN-UP

Each county fair's 4-H division allows qualification for the Kansas State Fair in accordance with the expectations outlined in the Kansas 4-H State Fair Book.

- Youth must be 9 years old by January 1 of the current year to be eligible for the State Fair.
- There may be additional exhibit requirements to exhibit at the state fair, and some county-level projects are not eligible to go to state.
- To qualify for the State Fair, static exhibits need to earn a purple ribbon at the county fair level. A purple ribbon does not include county fair grand or reserve grand champion awards.
- 4-H members must refer to their county fair book to understand when qualifying projects must be designated for state fair. Post Rock District staff will complete the entry process as outlined by Kansas 4-H, using the information submitted by qualifying members. **It is highly recommended that BEFORE COUNTY FAIR ENTRY RELEASE you have a conversation with your local Extension Staff and let them know about your intentions to compete at state fair.**



Post Rock District staff will coordinate transportation of non-animal exhibits to-and-from the Kansas State Fair for 4-H exhibition. Exhibits will only be transported by extension staff if they can easily be moved by one person, if they can fit within an extension vehicle, and if they can be safely transported with many other items. 4-H members can transport their own items, including those that are too large, heavy or fragile. More details will be shared in the August 4-H Newsletter about preparing exhibits for state fair entry.

STATE FAIR 4-H VOLUNTEER & LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

There are many opportunities to gain leadership experience as a volunteer at the Kansas State Fair. It is a great way to get leadership hours to contribute toward your project record book or earn an achievement pin. Volunteering is also a fantastic way to grow as a club leader, project leader, or even train to be a county fair judge in a project area of interest! If you want to volunteer or have some questions, contact your local Post Rock District Extension Office and we will assist you with signing up!



- **GREETERS:** Serve as a greeter at the 4-H Centennial Hall informational booth any day during the State Fair.
- **JUDGING ASSISTANTS:** Serve as a judging assistant on September 10 or 11 in a static project judging area of interest. Record notes for judges, assist with organizing projects, help enter exhibits, etc.
- **FASHION REVUE EVENT ASSISTANTS:** The Western KS Area is responsible for hosting the fashion revue at State Fair this year. We can use teen and adult volunteers. If you are able to help September 19 please let your local office know!

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MEMBER ACHIEVEMENT PIN APPLICATIONS

TIP: Update forms/record books before school activities begin in August!

Member Achievement Pins are a great opportunity to be recognized for your hard work and activities throughout the 2025-2026 4-H year! Applications, with all required signatures, are due to your local Post Rock District office no later than close of business on Thursday, October 1. Please plan ahead so all signatories can review your application and assist with any questions or concerns.



Many of your achievement pin requirements will be met before school begins. Take some time right after the fair to update your application so you know where you stand with earning your pin. This will make meeting the deadline much easier!

Download the Member Achievement Pin and Key Award applications for the Kansas 4-H website at www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/. If you are not sure what awards you are eligible for, please call the Extension Office. Post Rock District has helpful information to assist you with completing your applications at <https://www.postrock.k-state.edu/4h-youth-development/member-resources/member-achievement/>.

4-H RECORD BOOKS - DON'T WAIT TO BEGIN!

IDEA: Have a 4-H Club record book work day. Encourage everyone to bring a snack to enjoy. Update your record books before school begins!

Kansas 4-H offers paper-based and online record keeping forms. Work on them regularly this summer! Find details at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/LocalRecordKeeping.html>. **Record books are due on Thursday, October 1st!**

It is recommended for each member to select one project to focus on for a record book, and to update your permanent record for 4-H involvement in 2025-2026. Many sections can be filled out after the county fair. Take time before the busy school year to update your books as much as possible! After you work through the steps of doing a project record book and your permanent 4-H record, you can choose to complete more books if desired.

Why 4-H records and reporting? Record keeping and reporting are valuable life skills taught to members of the Kansas 4-H program. The purpose of objectives of 4-H records and reports:

- To learn how to set goals, how to make plans for action, and how to decide how well you did (evaluation).
- To learn the skills of record keeping and organization to use now and in the future. Examples: finances, taxes, health, immunizations, careers, etc.
- To learn to communicate, prioritize, and summarize your project mastery and experiences.
- To practice responsibility by completing a task.
- To evaluate information that will market personal skills through future resumes and application forms.
- To allow 4-H members to tell how they have grown, what they have learned, where they came up short and to do it within outlined parameters.
- To provide an opportunity for competition at the County, Regional, and State level.

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4-H CODE OF CONDUCT

Summer is a busy time in 4-H! It provides many opportunities to learn and grow as a person and team. Remember, when you signed up for 4-H, you agreed to follow the Kansas 4-H Code of Conduct. This includes youth as well as all adults assisting youth involved in 4-H and FFA.

The 4-H Code of Conduct is intended to foster a safe environment that encourages optimal learning and growth. The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege and not a right.

To remind yourself of the code of conduct, visit www.kansas4-h.org/resources/policy-guide/.

THANK FAIR VOLUNTEERS, SPONSORS AND DONORS!

The annual county fair is a highlight for 4-H members, but it wouldn't be successful without countless hours of work put in by volunteers as well as contributions from sponsors and donors. Those who contribute are happy to do so when their efforts are valued. There is no better way to show appreciation than the youth of 4-H taking time to deliver or send a personalized 'thank you note'.

7 STEPS TO WRITE A GREAT THANK YOU NOTE

1. A greeting to the thank-you note recipient (Dear . . .)
2. The specific reason you are thanking them (Mention what they bought, gave or did. This is always important to do first.)
3. The reason why you appreciate them (They supported you, were thoughtful and gave a gift, went out of their way to help you out or other reasons.)
4. How you plan to use the gift or why the gift or act of service was important to you (You will use it to save for college; you really enjoy playing the game; you can't wait to go shopping with the gift card; you know you have a great chance at the scholarship because of the letter of recommendation – or other ways.)
5. A comment or detail about yourself, an update on your life or a positive comment (This is a great time to share news on your life or to add a positive remark about the recipient.)
6. A repeat of your thank-you (You may leave this out if you sign "with thanks" at your closing.)
7. A closing and signature of your name (With thanks, Name or Sincerely, Name)



How to Write a Thank You Resource:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/236/66837/CYI048ThankYouNoteHandout.pdf>



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POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H

DISTRICT/STATE EVENTS AND DEADLINES AT A GLANCE



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JULY 2026 ISSUE

Jul. 1:	Lincoln County 4-H Pre-Fair Entry deadline	Aug. 4:	Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo, El Dorado
Jul. 1:	Smith County 4-H Pre-Fair Entry deadline	Aug. 4:	National Night Out, Mankato
Jul. 2:	Mitchell County 4-H Pre-Fair Entry deadline	Aug. 5:	Lincoln County 4-H Council Meeting
Jul. 6:	Osborne County 4-H Pre-Fair Entry deadline	Aug. 5:	Science Day Camp, Lincoln
Jul. 7:	Where the Wild Things Are, Sylvan Grove Library	Aug. 15:	State Horticulture Judging Contest, Manhattan
Jul. 9-12:	Jewell County Fair	Aug. 15:	KJLS Entry Deadline
Jul. 10-11	Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic, Manhattan	Aug. 22-23:	Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes, Manhattan
Jul. 13-18:	Lincoln County Fair	Aug. 24:	Mitchell County 4-H Council Meeting
Jul. 13:	Farm to Fashion Camp, Manhattan	Sept. 5:	State 4-H Dog Show, Hutchinson
Jul. 15:	KSF Grand Drive Entry Deadline	Sept. 11-13:	Kansas State Fair Grand Drive
Jul. 16-20:	Smith County Fair	Sept. 11-20:	Kansas State Fair
Jul. 20-25:	Mitchell County Fair	Sept. 26	State 4-H Smallbore/Muzzleloading, Topeka
Jul. 20:	Jewell County 4-H Council Meeting	Oct. 1:	Project Record Books & Pin Applications due
Jul. 22-25:	Osborne County Fair	Oct. 1:	Youth Council/Ntl. 4-H Conference Apps Due
Jul. 26:	Post Rock District Archery Qualifier	Oct. 2-4:	Kansas Junior Livestock Show
Jul. 27-29:	Vet Med Rocks Summer Camp, Manhattan	Oct. 3:	State 4-H Archery Match, Wakarusa
Jul. 28-29:	Reading Makes Cents Day Camp, Beloit	Oct. 10-11:	48 Hours of 4-H Service Challenge
Jul. 28-29:	Reading Makes Cents Day Camp, Smith Center	Oct. 10-11:	State 4-H Shotgun Match
Jul. 28:	Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes Intent Due	Oct. 17-18:	4-H Dog Conference
Jul. 29:	Smith County 4-H Council Meeting/Cookie Plates	Oct. 17:	State 4-H Hunting Skills Match
Aug. 1:	State 4-H Horse Show Entries Due	Nov. 21-22:	Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, Rock Springs
Aug. 3:	Lincoln County Beef Carcass Show, Ellsworth	Nov. 21-22:	Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers Forum, Rock Springs
Aug. 3:	Science Day Camp, Mankato		
Aug. 3:	Osborne County 4-H Council Meeting		

July



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