

THE BUTLER COUNTY

4-H NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026



Beyond Ready



A MINUTE WITH MADELINE

The 4-H Year is Far From Over

Although the excitement of the Butler County Fair has come to an end, the 4-H year isn't over just yet. August is the perfect time to start thinking about your end-of-year accomplishments and preparing for record books, pin applications, and other year-end recognition.

Take a moment to reflect on everything you've experienced this year. Maybe you exhibited a project at the Butler County Fair, gave a club demonstration, served as a club officer, volunteered at a community event, attended 4-H Day, participated in a judging contest, or helped welcome younger members into your club. Every one of those experiences tells part of your 4-H story.

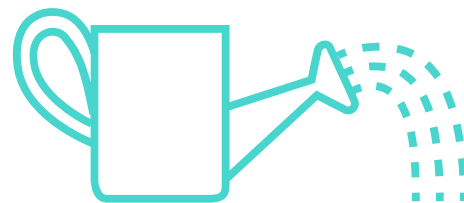
The Kansas 4-H Beyond Ready campaign reminds us that 4-H prepares young people for life, not just through ribbons and awards, but through the skills they build along the way. You're gaining skills that will benefit you in school, future careers, and your community. That's why your record book is so important, as it serves as a record of your growth. It gives you the opportunity to look back on your goals, celebrate your accomplishments, and recognize how much you've learned throughout the year.

To make record book season less stressful, start gathering information now:

- Save photos from club meetings, project work, and the Butler County Fair.
- Keep track of leadership roles, presentations, and community service activities.
- Make a list of workshops, camps, conferences, and events you attended this year.
- Write down project goals you achieved and challenges you overcame.
- Ask yourself: What did I learn this year that I couldn't do last year?

LEADERS

LOUNGE



AUGUST CHECK-UP

- Encourage 4-H'ers to invite their friends to attend a meeting & join 4-H!
- Ask your 4-H parents to encourage others to get involved.
- Have a club information booth at your local schools.

REVIEW

- Read the 4-H Newsletter and mark important dates on the calendar.
- Review highlights from the 4-H Newsletter at your club meeting.
- Participation and awards earned at the County Fair

PROMOTE/RECRUIT

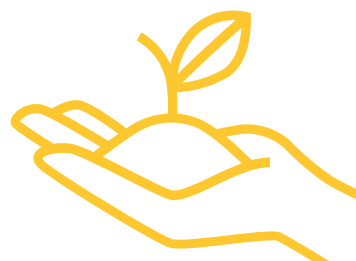
- Club Participation at the Kansas State Fair
- Encourage older 4-H members to apply to be an Ambassador!
- Encourage 4-H members to prepare and submit record books, pin applications, and scholarship awards.

TO-DO

- Check in with Project Leaders to ensure they are on task and holding meetings
- Check the club mailbox at the Extension Office
- Check the club's progress toward goals
- Remind families to "Subscribe" to 4-H Online broadcast messages. This is where all newsletters and important information are sent out to families!
- Help 4-H members plan and prepare record books.
- Begin preparing your yearly Club Summary.
- Check out the Kansas 4-H Club Resources page [HERE](#)

REMEMBER

- Work with your co-leader!
- Pick up buyers' cards, ribbons, and return signed buyers' cards by September 1.
- If your Club is planning a bake sale, fundraiser, or making t-shirts, please contact our office prior to doing so!



IMPORTANT DATES

& DEADLINES



AUGUST

- August 1: State 4-H Horse Show Entries DUE
- August 4: 4-H Wheat Expo - El Dorado
- August 11: Kansas State Fair Entries DUE to the Extension Office
- August 15: State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest
- August 15: KJLS Entries DUE by 11:59 p.m.
- August 22-23: State 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes- Manhattan

SEPTEMBER

- September 5: State 4-H Dog Show - Hutchinson
- September 7: Labor Day - Extension Office Closed
- September 8: State Fair Project Drop Off from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- September 8: 4-H Council Meeting at 7 p.m.
- September 9: State Fair Project Drop Off from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.
- September 11 - 20: Kansas State Fair - Hutchinson
- September 21: All KAP's and Pin Applications due by 5:00 p.m.
- September 26: State Small Bore/Muzzleloading Match - Topeka

OCTOBER

- **October 1: 2026-2027 4-H New Year Begins**
- October 1: Kansas Youth Leadership Applications DUE by 11:59 p.m.
- October 2-4: Kansas Junior Livestock Show - Hutchinson
- October 10-11: 48 Hours of 4-H
- October 10-11: State Shotgun Match - Sedgwick & Augusta
- October 12: 4-H Open House at 6 p.m.
- October 13: 4-H Council Meeting at 7 p.m.
- October 15: Kansas Youth Leadership Forum Registration Due
- October 17: State 4-H Hunting Skills Match - Junction City
- October 17-18: 4-H Dog Conference - Rock Springs
- October 24-25: Shooting Sports Discipline Leader Training - Fort Scott



*See the full 2025-2026
Calendar [HERE](#)*

4-H CLUB

NEWS



BENTON BUSY BEES

"The Benton Busy Bees 4-H members joined together for a Club Tour and Pizza Party on Sunday at the Butler County Fair. 4-H members walked through the animal barns and static building to show their projects and results to each other. After the tour, the club enjoyed pizza and dessert and then participated in the Sunday Funday and judging contests at the fair!"

-Wiley P., Reporter



BUTLER COUNTY FAIR

THANK YOU'S



The county fair is over, and the dust has settled. The fair relies on a plethora of volunteers and buyer support to be a success. Have you sent your thank-you notes? Do you know whom to send one to? Below is a list of suggested individuals to show your gratitude to!



- **Food Auction Buyers:** Even if you don't know who bought your item, we have a list available in the office! Did you know the funds from the food auction help support scholarships for you to attend 4-H events?
- **Premium Auction Buyers:** You are required to get a buyer's signature on your card! Our buyers are the heart and soul of the auction. Without them, the premiums would not be there. Did you have an add-on? If so, we encourage you to write them a thank-you note, as well!
- **Fair Board:** A lot goes on behind the scenes to get everything ready for the fair. Consider sending a thank-you card to the members of the fair board for all their hard work.
- **Superintendents:** We encourage you to write a thank you to the superintendent(s) of the divisions you participated in. Volunteers are the heart of the Butler County Fair!
- **Extension Office Staff & Extension Board:** These individuals work year-round to support our 4-H members.
- **Auctioneers:** The auctioneers from Sundgren Realty & Auction do an amazing job getting the most they can for the youth and their projects. Let them know how much you appreciate them!
- **Judges:** Why not write a letter to the judge to thank them for helping, even if you aren't happy with your ribbon placement? Without judges, we wouldn't have a fair.
- **Club and Project Leaders:** Need we say more?
- **County Commissioners:** They support our program, and we need to let them know how thankful we are!

2026 KANSAS STATE FAIR INFORMATION



Dairy Exhibitors:

- Entries are not done through the Extension Office. These entries are all online through the Kansas State Fair.
- The Kansas State Fair open class information and registration can be found here:

Volunteer Information:

Teen and adult volunteers are absolutely vital to the 4-H Division at the State Fair! If you would like to volunteer at the Kansas State Fair, please contact the Extension Office to learn where needs are greatest. Each volunteer will receive an admission ticket for the day(s) they signed up to assist.

Ticket Ordering:

- We will be ordering additional 4-H State Fair Tickets if you would like to purchase them. Please note that each static exhibitor will receive two free tickets in lieu of premium money.
- Adult Gate Tickets are \$7, and Youth Gate Tickets are \$4. There will be a \$2 handling fee for all ticket orders; this fee is per order, NOT per ticket. Tickets must be ordered by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, August 11th. Orders and payment for the tickets must be made by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, August 11th. Cash or checks only. Checks will need to be made payable to: Butler County 4-H.
- Ticket orders can be placed here:



Entry Information:

- The Butler County Extension Office will be accepting Kansas State Fair entries through 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11.
- Please read through the General and Division rules in the State Fair Book. You can find that link here:



- To be eligible for State Fair, entry you must 1) be 9 years old 4-H age, and 2) receive a purple ribbon at the Butler County Fair.
- Division rules will detail any labeling and forms required for exhibits. Please read this carefully, as accurate forms and labeling are the exhibitors' responsibility.
- Complete the entry collection form for your entries. Please make sure you have all the required fields as required on the second page.



- You can log into 4-HOnline to check each 4-H member's years in a project. You can print this form and drop it off during office hours, mail it to our office, or attach it to an email. If you choose to email, please send it to mgwallac@ksu.edu.
- Exhibitors will receive two free entry tickets in lieu of premiums. We will order these and notify exhibitors when they are available for pick up.
- Entries may be dropped off at the 4-H Building on Tuesday, September 8, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., and on Wednesday, September 9, from 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. Further instructions about entry preparation for transit will be sent to exhibitors.
- **Please note that some divisions, such as Fashion Revue, Building Block Engineering, and Visual Arts, limit the number of entries per county. Those entries are preselected, and eligible 4-H members have been notified.**

GRAND DRIVE & KJLS IMPORTANT DATES

April 20	Last Day to Order Beef DNA Envelopes
May 1	Market Beef Nominations Due Online & DNA Postmarked
	Last Day to Order Small Livestock DNA Envelopes
June 5	Small Livestock Nominations Due Online & DNA Postmarked
June 15	-Market Swine, Commercial Breeding Gilt -Market Lamb, Commercial Breeding Ewe -ALL Meat Goat (<i>Market & Breeding</i>)
	Commercial Heifer Nominations Due Online & DNA Postmarked
	Registered Breeding Heifer Papers in Exhibitor's Name
	Registered Steer Papers in Exhibitor's Name
	Registered Breeding Gilt Papers in Exhibitor's Name
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
Sept. 11-13	Kansas State Fair Grand Drive
Oct. 2-4	KJLS

*Allmarket animals must be nominated to be eligible for either show, regardless of breed or gender.

**Allcommercial breeding females must be nominated to be eligible for either show.

***Registered breeding females must be in the exhibitor's name by the appropriate date to be eligible for either show. Refer to show rules for details.

****All meat goats, including market, commercial breeding does, and registered breeding does must be nominated to be eligible for either show.

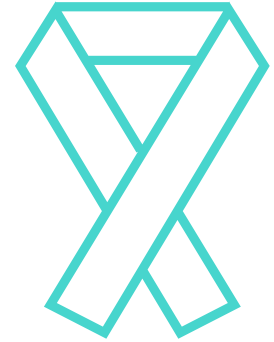
RECORD BOOKS, PINS, AND AWARDS!



IT'S TIME TO UPDATE YOUR RECORD BOOK AND PIN APPLICATIONS!

Questions about what goes into a record book?

Are you new to 4-H and wondering what record books, pins, and awards are? Do you need a refresher course? Call or email Madeline to schedule a time to have your questions answered, either virtually or in person!



ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

All record books, pin applications, Ambassador applications, club summaries, scholarship applications, club officer notebooks, and special award applications are due in the K-State Extension - Butler County office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21. Don't miss this deadline! All forms can be found online [HERE](#).



Want to help judge record books?

If you are interested in helping judge record books, please let Madeline know! This is a great learning experience. Don't worry if you've never judged before, we will help you get started! We will judge them at the end of September/first week of October. Stay tuned for the exact date!

ABOUT THE AMBASSADORS



Butler County 4-H Ambassadors: Who are they?

The 4-H Ambassadors are a group of 4-H members ages 14-18 (as of January 1) who are interested in being the face and voice of promotion for Butler County 4-H.

They participate in and host events. Some events include Ambassador Day Camp, Barnyard Olympics at the Fair, 4-H Open House, help with the achievement banquet, and officer training. They also help promote 4-H and have a lot of fun doing it!

If you are interested in applying to become a member of the Butler County 4-H Ambassadors, applications are due in the Extension Office on September 21 by 5:00 p.m. The Ambassadors are an energetic, fun group to be a part of. The application can be found online at <https://www.butler.k-state.edu/4-h/ambassadors.html> or picked up at the Extension Office. Join this fun group today!



4-H SCHOLARSHIP

OPPORTUNITIES



DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BUTLER COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL HAS EVENT SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO ALL BUTLER COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS?!

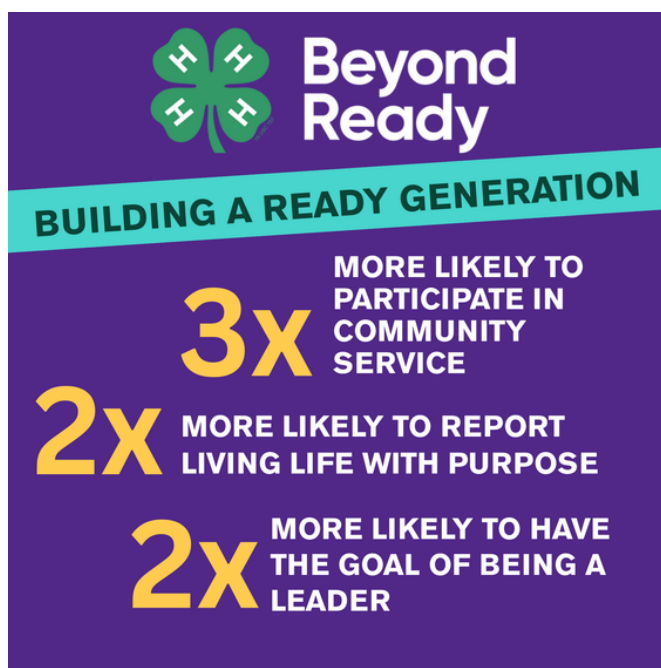
SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- Any current 4-H member (including Coverbuds) is eligible to apply for a scholarship.
- 4-H'ers are limited to 2 event scholarships per 4-H year.
- Completed forms are to be submitted to the Butler County Extension Office with event payment prior to the event registration deadline.

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS:

- If you did not submit a KAP and pin application or did not receive a pin within the past year for a \$100 scholarship
- Submitted a KAP and received a pin within the past year for a \$200 scholarship. Those who have already received their 10-year pin are exempt from the pin requirement.

YOU CAN FIND THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION HERE:
[HTTPS://WWW.BUTLER.K-STATE.EDU/4-H/SCHOLARSHIPS.HTML](https://www.butler.k-state.edu/4-h/scholarships.html)



STATE EVENTS

& OPPORTUNITIES




cool careers
Student Edition
contest

**Your Video.
Your Future.
Your Cash Prize.**

FILM A REAL PROFESSIONAL. TELL THEIR STORY. PRIZE MONEY TO TOP VIDEOS.

PRIZE POOL
\$1000

SUBMIT BY:
AUGUST 2, 2026

4-10 min.
video length

MP4
file format

1-4 People
team size

NEW IN 2026

- Open to both 4-H and non-4-H youth
- Two age groups: Intermediate (10 - 13) & Senior (14-18)
- Cash prizes for top placing videos
- Awards ceremony at the Kansas State Fair - 2nd Saturday during the KSF Public Fashion Revue.

YOUR VIDEO SHOULD COVER:

01
What they do on the job

02
Why they chose this career

03
How they learned skills

04
What they enjoy about it

05
Type of education needed for this career

TECH & TOOLS:

- Smartphone, tablet, or video camera - your choice!
- Edit with iMovie, Capcut, Canva or any editing app
- Free tutorials on YouTube or AI platforms for filming & editing basics.
- Inspiration: HirePaths.com/cool-careers-videos . Watch past episodes like Cybersecurity Analyst, Plumber, Pilot

ALL RESOURCES
LOCATED AT:
KANSAS4-H.ORG

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY



QUESTIONS?
AMY COLLINS
ACOLLINS@KSU.EDU

Cool Careers Contest Information

YOU CAN FIND MORE KANSAS 4-H STATE EVENT OPPORTUNITIES HERE:

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/index.html>

LOCAL EVENTS

& PROGRAMS



Coffee Mugs Now Available!

Get yours today at the K-State Extension - Butler County Office
206 North Griffith, Suite A
El Dorado, KS 67042





TWO LOCATIONS. ONE PURPOSE. EMPOWERING WOMEN IN THE CATTLE INDUSTRY.

A no-pressure, practical skills camp for women ready to grow their knowledge—and their role—in beef cattle management.

**WESTERN KANSAS, HAYS WKREC
SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2026**

**EASTERN KANSAS, PARSONS SEREC
MAY 5-6, 2026**

Contact Us

Western: Dr. Emma Briggs
785-625-3425

Eastern: Dr. Jaymelynn Farney
620-820-6125

LEARN MORE AT:
https://www.wkrec.org/events/cow_camp/



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