Hello everyone! My name is Emerson Nichols and I am a Midway District Intern for the summer of 2023. I graduated from Russell High School in May 2022. I currently attend K-State where I am majoring in Nutritional Sciences (Pre-Med). I would like to become a family physician, pediatrician, or dermatologist. At K-State, I am involved in my sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta, the Pre-Med Club, Silver Key Sophomore Honorary Society, and St. Isidore's Catholic Church.

Growing up, I was heavily involved in 4-H, so I am very excited for this opportunity! I was involved in the photography, cooking, visual arts, and the style review. I also participated in other projects, but these were some of my favorites. I held multiple positions in my club, Lone Star, during my 12 years involved in 4-H. I was very fortunate to be in Lone Star growing up because I was able to meet such wonderful people. Being one of the older members in the club last few years in 4-H allowed me to reflect on all of the wonderful things 4-H taught me and I was able to remember some very good times spent in 4-H. One of my all-time favorite things to do in 4-H was simply talk to the younger members. I remember being a clover bud and being excited to do anything the older members were doing. Knowing what that felt like, I tried my best to be a good role model to the younger kids in my 4-H club. This meant talking with them about their projects, talking with them about life, etc. It also meant being willing to participate in every activity offered, especially the recreation event at the end of 4-H meetings. These events are typically organized by the younger members in the club, so participating in these events means the world to them. When you become one of the older 4-H members, your position in the club is to be a good role model and to make sure the younger members are having fun and learning. For this reason, I thought that this job would be a perfect fit for me this summer. I am excited to spread the joy of 4-H to kids in the Midway District!
Russell Style
Revue Theme:
4-H, Never goes out of Style

Russell County Fair Dates
The fair kicks off on Saturday, July 15 with the Horse Show. The Style Revue is on Sunday, July 16th. The Dog Show is Wednesday, July 19. Friday, July 21 will be judging contests and visual arts judging. The rest of the fair begins on Monday, July 24 and goes through Friday, July 29.

Fair Set Up/Clean Up
Everyone needs to plan to help!
Set-Up
Wednesday, July 19 at 6:00pm
Clean-up
Saturday, July 29 at 10:00am
Lots of hands make the work go quickly!

2023 Fair
All needed documents will be posted on the Midway District website
https://www.midway.k-state.edu/4-h/events/fairs/rscopycountyfair.html
Dog Class practice in Ellsworth will begin soon, so be on the lookout for more information!

Archery practice will begin on Wednesday, May 24th in Ellsworth contact Pam and Tim Hays for more information.

Fair Set Up/Clean Up
Everyone needs to plan to help!

Set-Up
Sunday, July 16 at 6:30pm

Clean-up
Sunday, July 23 at 4:00pm

Lots of hands make the work go quickly!

2023 Fair
All needed documents, including instructions for Fair Entry, will be posted on the Midway District website

https://www.midway.k-state.edu/4-h/events/fairs/ewcountyfair.html
Midway District Shooting Sports News

Congrats to the following youth who qualified for the State BB Gun Shooting Sports match this year!

Taylor Cook
Ty Cook
Elena Jundt
Anna-Marie Marsell
Janessa Miller
Christin Miller
Josey Norris
Jonae Radke
Teagon Schepmann

Trenton Hays was selected to be on Nation compound team and Tim Hays was selected as the coach. Our State BB gun team was selected to go to Daisy Nationals in Roger’s Arkansas.

Ellsworth County Jr. Leaders talked to the public about different 4-H projects at the Farm, Field, and Fun Day on May 6th.
Russell County Jr. Leaders held a Spring Livestock Clinic at the Russell County 4-H fair grounds on May 7th. The Livestock species that youth could learn about was Horse, Poultry, Beef, Goat, Swine, and Rabbits. Thank you to our speakers and volunteers for their knowledge and time.
Livestock Sale Participants

NOW is the time to start visiting with supporters for the Premium Auction at the fair. Be sure to thank them for previous support and ask for their continued support of 4-H members’ projects.

Brain-storm with your parents—who does your family do business with? Think about your bank, parents’ employers, local or regional businesses. If they cannot commit to supporting the auction (or they are providing support in another way at the fair), remember to politely thank them for consideration.

Having an “elevator speech” ready about WHY 4-H is important and HOW it has impacted you are crucial pieces of these conversations. Additionally, begin thinking about lining up processing slots depending on your species as we don’t always have a floor for some areas.

4-H is about more than the ribbons & awards...
It’s about the people, the experiences, the life-long skills, the memories, the County Fair
It’s about being a role model, giving back, & making the best better.

Cloverbud Guidelines for the Fair!
Cloverbud 4-H is a non-competitive learning experience for youth ages 5-6 years old. Cloverbud 4-H members receive participation ribbons, feedback from the judge, but do not receive premiums or participate in the premium auction.
**LEADERS.... DID YOU...**

**REVIEW**
- 4-H Update Important Dates/Deadlines (Calendar)

**TO DO**
- Check mailbox at the Extension Office
- Report from 4-H Council Meetings
- Provide any leadership changes to the Extension Office ASAP
- Update Volunteer Renewal information

**PROMOTE/RECRUIT**
- 4-H members: ask a friend to attend meetings
- Encourage current 4-H members to review and complete applications for KYLF, Citizenship in Action, Citizenship Washington Focus
- Remind all 4-H members and parents who are volunteers to enroll via 4-H Online
- The Extension Office has a copy of the Cloverbud handbook for each club—please provide this resource to your club Cloverbuds
- Provide officers and clubs leadership updates as soon as possible to the Extension Office

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**Project Spotlight**

The rabbit project is a great animal project to start with in 4-H! Rabbits are versatile animals and there are many different breeds that can fit various living situations. Whether you live in an urban or rural setting, want to keep your rabbits indoors or outdoors; rabbits are flexible to what might work best for your 4-H family.

**Life Skills Through Rabbits**

The 4-H Rabbit project and contests can be used to learn various life skills, including:

- Public speaking and communicating with others.
- Planning, organizing, and decision making.
- Whether it is building a nesting box, making an educational poster or other rabbit related static exhibit, youth have the opportunity to plan and organize their projects.
- Record keeping, observing and comparing alternatives.

**What you need**

**Rabbit:**

There are currently 49 different recognized rabbit breeds! So the first task will be to study the different rabbit breeds and consider what rabbit size and temperament would work best for your project.

**Housing and Supplies:**

While the size and type of cage or housing might look different depending on what breed of rabbit and where they are being kept, most of the supplies needed for rabbits can be found at local farm supply stores, pet supply stores, farmers cooperative or even Walmart.

The basic supplies needed include: a cage or housing unit, bedding, water bottle, food dish, pellet food and/or hay and grooming supplies including a nail trimmer.
Livestock Exhibitors!

As a reminder for Registered Breeding livestock, including cattle and dairy goats—All entries must be registered in the 4-H member’s name BY June 15 of the current year and proof of registration (copy of papers on file) is DUE to the Extension Office BY July 1. If paperwork is not on file and the animal was not tagged during spring weigh-in, the animal will not be allowed to show.

As a reminder, completion of YQCA is required by June 15 of the current year to sell an animal (including poultry and rabbits) through the livestock auction and to show at the Kansas State Fair and the Kansas Junior Livestock Show. Registration is required via https://yqcaprogram.org/

Please consider this an important educational aspect of livestock projects.

The Kansas 4-H Sportfishing Tournament is available for youth in the Wildlife Sportfishing project. This is something that can be done at their own pace throughout the year, helping engage them in project learning. The contest will end September 15, 2022. Details and entry forms are available on the webpage.
Upcoming Events

June 7
EW Jr. Leaders Day Camp

July 1
LOTS of fair paper work due
(see emails for details)

July 15-20
Ellsworth County Fair

July 24-29
Russell County Fair

August 5
KS State Fair Entry Forms
due to the office

September 8-17
Kansas State Fair

September 21
Project Records/Record Books Due

If you would prefer receiving this newsletter via mail (in addition to the email and posted version), call the Extension Office at (785) 483-3157 and we will add you to the mailing list.

Upcoming Events: Be sure to regularly check the Midway District website for upcoming shows and clinics.

www.facebook.com/Midway4H
www.facebook.com/MidwayKSRE
@Midway4H @MidwayKSRE
@ksre_midway

www.midway.k-state.edu/events/areashows.html
### June 2023

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