I want to thank each and every one of my 4-H families for the outpouring of love and support over the last seven weeks. Losing important people in your life is never easy. Doing it alone would be impossible. I am so thankful that Hailey and I have so many people in our lives who care about us. Those numbers simply wouldn't be as large, if it weren't for our 4-H family. You all hold a very special place in our hearts, and we are forever grateful for your support as we continue to navigate the new normal of our lives. For those of you who were lucky enough to be directly impacted by George and Cooper's shenanigans, we love the stories you tell us. "The Boys" will forever live in our hearts and in the stories we tell. Thanks again!

Love,
Marcia and Hailey Gier
Russell Report

2021 RS County 4-H Council Officers

President
Kierra Eck

Vice President
Hope Lumpkins

Secretary
Hailey Gier

Treasurer
Conner Miller

Reporter
Emma Karst

*****************

4-H Council Meeting
May 23 at 7:00pm

Be prepared for these meetings with officer and committee reports!

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Russell Fair Board Meeting
April 11 at 7:00pm

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4-H Junior Leaders
April 25 at 6:00pm

Don't forget! The drop/add deadline for 4-H Online is April 29!!!

If you need to add/drop projects, see the editing guide Marcia sent out via email.

Russell County Fair Dates
The fair kicks off on Sunday, July 17 with the Fashion Revue. The Dog Show is Wednesday, July 20. Friday, July 22 will be judging contests and visual arts judging. The rest of the fair begins on Monday, July 25 and goes through Friday, July 30.

FFA & 4-H Livestock Collaboration Project

Russell County 4-H Extension and Russell High School FFA are coming together to create a small livestock project opportunity to learn and grow. 4-H and FFA projects will be able to utilize the facility for minimal costs to help grow a responsible project experience.

Where:
The Russell High School FFA Farm located just east of Shaffer Field on USD 407 property will serve as a location to develop these projects and skills.

What needs to be done:
The project needs help in two different ways as the collaboration begins:

1. Donations of money to help pay for the electrical, structural (insulation), and pen building materials.
   a. This is anticipated to be a $5000- $6000 project using local businesses that will do the work from December 1- February 1.
   b. Donors may make checks payable to USD 407, 802 N. Main, Russell KS. Please be sure to include a MEMO as FFA/ 4-H Farm Project.

2. Donations of time and expertise that can aid in building the pens and organizing the space for families to use.
   a. A work weekend will likely occur soon, organized by KSU Extension agents and the RHS FFA Chapter.
Ellsworth County Fair Dates

The fair kicks off with the Dog and Horse Show on Saturday, July 16 and ends with the Premium Auction on Thursday, July 21.

Don't forget! The drop/add deadline for 4-H Online is April 29!!!

If you need to add/drop projects, see the editing guide Marcia sent out via email.

4-H Is Nacho Average Club

It's time for the Ellsworth Fair Book Cover Contest! The deadline for entry is Wednesday, April 13. Email entries to marciagier@ksu.edu or bring by the extension office!
Many of the events and paperwork- most definitely the paperwork- for 4-H can be overwhelming for new 4-H families! This page will be used to highlight things that may be helpful to know in regard to upcoming events, deadlines, and necessary documents. Your Club Leader is also a great resource!

Local Record Keeping and Project Awards

Record keeping and Project Reporting are valuable skills taught to members of the Kansas 4-H program. Members are encouraged to keep a permanent record of all 4-H and Non-4-H Experience and are encouraged to summarize their experiences on the Kansas 4-H Project Report Form for project recognition.

To help you through this process, please refer to the Guide to Kansas 4-H Project Recognition. This guide and all other supporting records/forms are available online at:

https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ProjectRecognition.html

The Kansas 4-H Project Award is a project-specific record which is eligible for county awards and may be selected for regional and state competition (for seniors). It provides the 4-H member an opportunity to really delve into their project, practice writing and presentation skills, and share in-depth learning about a specific project area. This is often much less about the ribbon you earned as it is about the knowledge you learned!

What is included in a Record Book?

The basic record keeping book includes:

• Personal Information Page
• 4-H Story
• Project Report Forms (age specific and two different categories-General or Animal). One per project.
• Permanent Record

*** If you are 14 or older and your project report form is selected to move on to the regional level, you will have additional documents required in your submission including:

• Cover Letter
• Resume
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

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week is April 17-23. The 4-H program is what it is because of the AMAZING volunteers. Take this opportunity to shine a light on those who lend their time, talent, and voice to make a difference!

The new year is in full swing and before we know it, the state livestock nomination season will be upon us! The state is transitioning to an online nomination system this year. Patience and cooperation will be necessary as we navigate this change.

It is going to be IMPERATIVE for you to plan ahead this year! You will not be able to wait until the last minute and successfully complete the process.

Moving to an online system will help streamline the process from nomination, to entry, through participation in the state shows. Both steps will continue to be required – nomination and show entry. Additionally, the deadlines have not changed and will continue to be enforced. You will have to submit your information online, through ShoWorks, and postmark your completed and signed DNA envelopes by the appropriate date.

All market animals and commercial breeding females must be nominated to be eligible for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS). When we refer to “state shows”, these are the two shows in which state livestock nominations apply.

Deadlines:
May 1 – Market Beef
  -steers
  -market heifers
June 15 – Small Livestock & Commercial Heifers
  -market hogs
  -commercial gilts
  -market lambs
  -commercial ewes
  -market meat goats
  -breeding does (ALL – commercial and registered)
  -commercial heifers

*Registered breeding females that will only be exhibited in the breeding division do not have to be nominated, since they show off of their papers. The registration papers must be in the exhibitor’s name by the appropriate deadline and they basically skip the nomination process and go straight to show entry. The exception is breeding does. Neither show offers a papered division for meat goat breeding does, so ALL meat goats have to be nominated to show in any division.

For more information, click HERE.
District & Regional Club Day
Kansas 4-H Entomology and Visual Arts members: Take advantage of this unique opportunity!
The K-State Integrated Pest Management (IPM) team is sponsoring an insect art contest for 4-H’ers and school-aged youth to participate in. Entries are due April 15, 2022. For more information, go to: [https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/pesticides-ipm/](https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/pesticides-ipm/)

**Insect Spectacular**
The 2022 Kansas 4-H Insect Spectacular will be held Friday, June 17 and Saturday, June 18.
This event is open to all youth and adult volunteers interested in the 4-H entomology project.
More information coming soon!

**Kansas 4-H Discovery Days**
June 1-3, 2022!
Youth age 13-18 before January 1, 2022 are invited to register.
More information coming soon.
Contact Dona Ratliff at dsratlif@ksu.edu or Shane Potter at potters@ksu.edu with questions.

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.

State 4-H Horse Judging will be held in a slightly different format this year. Scheduled for June 9th, it will be directly following the KSU Horse Judging Camp that will be held June 7-8th. The Advanced session will be 7-8th, with a beginner session on the 8th. The camp is open to 4-H and non 4-H members. 4-Hers will then be able to use these skills and apply them on Thursday for the contest.
Upcoming Events

April 1
RS Dev. Fund Academic Scholarships Due

April 10
YQCA Training, 1:00-2:30

April 25
Sm. Ani. Tagging Request Due

April 29
-Horse ID Papers Due
-Last day to Add/Drop in 4-H Online

April 30
EW Small Animal Weigh-in, 10-12

May 1
RS Small Animal Weigh-in, 2-4

June 12-15
RSR 4-H Camp

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.midway.k-state.edu/events/areareshows.html
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