Wow, you all brought talent to the Midway District Club Day on February 25th at the Wilson Elementary School! I listened to a poem, demonstrations, and Extemporaneous speech. Even the judges came back saying how competition was tough and we have some great kids in our district.

I saw youth leave the judging room disappointed that they missed a part of their talk or really excited to know where else they could present at. Maybe it is the competitive side of us that is showing through or maybe the topic is an interest of ours. Whatever the reasoning is, when we are comfortable in front of others about the presentation, the easier it is. Not only will youth THRIVE but they are talking about their SPARK.

Research shows when youth join 4-H, they usually find their SPARK or feel a sense of belonging. Then youth THRIVE in social, emotional, and cognitive learning. Youth have goals, openness to challenge and change. This develops positive youth development, such as, youth will have connection with others, personal standards, and positive academic attitude.

Finally, youth have a long term outcomes marked by vocational or academic success, civic engagement, happiness, and wellbeing. This is known as the 4-H Thrive Model.

Maybe a member joins 4-H because they love to bake cookies with their grandma. Does presentations and gains more knowledge about the project each year. Then eventually becomes the chef at a five star restaurant.

Thank you to volunteers, judges, parents, leaders, and staff for encouraging positive youth development and helping youth THRIVE.
2023-2024 RS County 4-H Council Officers

President
Kierra Eck

Vice President
Conner Miller

Secretary
Katelyn Haddock

Treasurer
Teagen Pfeifer

Reporter
Charlie Herbel

***************
4-H Council Meeting
March 25 at 7:00pm

Be prepared for these meetings with officer and committee reports!

***************
Russell Fair Board Meeting
March 11 at 7:00pm

***************
4-H Junior Leaders
March 18 at 6:30pm

Russell County Fair Dates

The fair kicks off Sunday, July 14 with the Fashion Revue. The Dog Show is Wednesday, July 17. Friday, July 19 will be judging contests and visual arts judging. The rest of the fair begins on Monday, July 22 and goes through Friday, July 26.
2023-2024 EW County 4-H Council Officers

- President
  Molly Ehrlich
- Vice President
  Ashlyn Schwerdtfeger
- Secretary
  Brekyn Zier
- Treasurer
  Addie Janzen
- Reporter
  Josey Norris

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

4-H Council Meeting
April 22 at 6:30pm

Be prepared for these meetings with officer and committee reports!

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

Fair Association Meeting
March 4 at 7:00pm
April 1 at 7:00pm

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

EW Junior Leaders Meeting
April 22 at 7:00pm

Ellsworth County Fair Dates
The fair kicks off with the Dog and Pet Show on Friday, July 19 and ends with the Premium Auction on Thursday, July 25.

Club Day; Life Skills Placement and Scoring Ellsworth County

Senior Division
14-18 Years of Age as of January 1st

1st Place: Brooklyn Thielen
2nd Place: Caleb Dlabal
3rd Place: Hallie Thielen

Intermediate Division
10-13 Years of Age as of January 1st

1st Place: Lakyn Beckman
2nd Place: Brantley Beckman
3rd Place: Lauren Brokes

Junior Division
7-9 Years of Age as of January 1st

1st Place: Wyatt Brokes and Crobin Habiger
2nd Place: Sloane Gray
3rd Place: Cord Norris
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!

Rock Springs 4-H Camp
Sign up to attend 4-H Camp!
https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/sessions-rates/

Explorers: Ages 8-10 (Rising 3rd-5th graders)
Our youngest campers will work on gaining their independence, making new friends and discovering the larger world around them. While at camp they will enjoy archery, swimming, intro to horses, BBs, corcls, our giant swing and many more fun activities! This group will also have the highest staff to camper ratios.

Trailblazers: Ages 11-13 (Rising 6th-8th graders)
This group has greater access to activities and will spend time with more campers in their age group and work on skills development. Activities include aerial archery, swimming, horses, rifles, canoes, climbing wall and more!

Adventurers: Ages 14-17 (Rising 9th-12th graders)
The oldest group in our “traditional” camp. Adventurers spend most of their time at activities they choose along with other campers in their group. Activities are at the top tier of RSR offerings including 3D archery, swimming, horses, trap shooting, kayaks, high ropes and zipline.

Leaders-in-Training (LIT): Ages 14-16 (Rising HS sophomores & juniors)
This immersive experience empowers youth to find their voice and transition into leaders ready to serve their communities. Teens participate in camp activities and challenges while also learning leadership development and civic engagement skills. During the week teens bond and find a sense of belonging through teambuilding, leadership skill development, and generosity.

Counselors-in-Training (CIT): Ages 16-17 (Rising HS seniors)
Teens ages 16 to 17-year, especially rising 12th graders, come to camp as part of our Counselors in Training (CIT) Camp. They will be given responsibility over a group of younger campers from breakfast to bedtime. These teens will receive camper care training and counselor experience, but they will also have “camp” time with their peers built into each day.
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

YQCA-Youth Quality Care of Animals
Completion of YQCA is required to sell an animal (including poultry and rabbits) through the county fair premium auction and to show animals at the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show.

In-person classes will be held at the Wilson United Methodist Church ( 2404 Ave F, Wilson, KS 67490 ). We will meet in the education center behind the church.

Class will be held these following dates:

**TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024**  
6-7:30

**MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024**  
6-7:30

**SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024**  
1-2:30

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 23 with a focus on three core pillars:

- Food Safety
- Animal Well-Being
- Character Development

TO FIND MORE INFORMATION, REGISTER FOR ONE OF THESE DATES OR TO DO THE ONLINE TRAINING, PLEASE GO TO THE FOLLOWING SITE:
https://yqcaprogram.org/

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means for communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the event contact. Clinton Laffin or Karrie Van Winkle two weeks prior to the start of the event at 785-483-3157 and claffin@ksu.edu or karrievan@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.

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week is April 21-27.

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!
CIA (Citizenship in Action) was held on February 18-19th at Topeka, KS. Midway District members went to the state capital on Sunday evening. Members debated and voted in the House of Representatives and in the Senate chambers. 4-Hers also got to talk to legislative and take tours around the capital.
Midway District Club Day was held on February 25th at the Wilson Elementary School. We had great attendance from both counties. The Top Blues (1st place) in each event gets to go on to Regional Club Days in Great Bend on Friday March 8, 2024 starting at 5:00pm. Good Luck to everyone that is moving on to Regional Club Days. We can't wait to see how everyone does at Regionals!
4-H Happenings

Spring Weigh In
Small Animal
April 27, 2024 at Ellsworth Fairgrounds
10am-12pm
April 28, 2024 at Russell Fairgrounds
2pm-4pm
### Upcoming Events

**March 5**  
YQCA Training, 6:00-7:30pm

**March 8**  
Regional Club Day

**March 25**  
YQCA Training, 6:00-7:30pm

**April 1**  
RS Dev. Fund Academic Scholarships Due

**April 20**  
Russell Jr. Leaders Spring Livestock Clinic

**April 21**  
YQCA Training, 1:00-2:30pm

**April 21-27**  
National Volunteer Week

**April 27**  
Small Animal Weigh In at Ellsworth Fairgrounds 10am-12pm

**April 28**  
Small Animal Weigh In at Russell Fairgrounds 2pm-4pm

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**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.**

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**Karrie will be working in the Ellsworth Office**  
March 13  
April 1st  
March 21  
April 18th  
April 25th

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[Upcoming Events](https://www.facebook.com/Midway4H)  
[www.facebook.com/MidwayKSRE](https://www.facebook.com/MidwayKSRE)  
[@Midway4H](https://twitter.com/Midway4H)  
[@MidwayKSRE](https://twitter.com/MidwayKSRE)  
[@ksre_midway](https://instagram.com/ksre_midway)
### March 2024

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