

Harvey County 4-H Happenings

K-STATE
Research and Extension



The Informer

January & February 2026

www.harvey.ksu.edu

Happy New Year!

As we gather for the start of this year, I am thankful to have a full office of dedicated individuals and many volunteers who take pride in 4-H and its programming with 4-Hers. I think this year, you will find many opportunities for our 4-Hers to attend and have a deep learning experience. I feel like after many years, things are starting to take off, and we are going to have a good year!

These two months are a bit slower, but we do have some important things to note. The competition for the 2026 Fair theme is now open, accepting 4-Hers ideas. Please let this competition be for the 4-Hers. 4-H Council will pick the theme during our February meeting.

4-H Club Day is coming up sooner than you might realize. February 21st is the day when 4-Hers will talk their hearts out to our judges and hopefully take home a winning ribbon. Club Day sign-ups and descriptions can be found on our website. Please consider signing up to help with one of the many areas, as there are many options available for parents and kids to get involved.

Another date that is approaching sooner than usual is the Beef Weigh-in. We are a week ahead of schedule. Please mark your calendars and make plans! The Junior Producer days are on the calendar and are always filled with lots of information for kids to learn about.

Please read the newsletter and make notes of the important dates. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and has a Happy New Year!





County Wide News

Multi-County 4-H Club Day

Saturday, February 21, 2026

Start preparing your presentations.
Check out our website for resources, details,
and to sign up for a time to present and a time to help:

2025-2026 4-H ENROLLMENT IS OPEN

ENROLL FOR THE 2025-2026 4-H YEAR ONLINE AT:

[Sign In \(4honline.com\)](https://4honline.com)

In Search of:

2026 Harvey County Fair Theme

Last year our fair theme was Blue Jeans and Country Dreams at the Harvey County Free Fair, submitted by Taysley. As we gear up for the 2026 Fair year, we are looking for the newest theme. Who will submit this year's winning theme? 4-H Council will vote on the theme during their February meeting. **Harvey County 4-H Youth please submit your theme ideas by February 25, 2026 to be considered.**

To submit your theme go here:

[Online Survey Software | Qualtrics Survey Solutions](#)

4-H

Record Book Workshop



4-H youth are encouraged to complete Record Books each year. It's best to start early in the year. We will help you through the process with the 1st of 3 Record Book Workshops.



Thursday
January 22, 2026



215 S Pine, Newton
2nd Floor Meeting Room



6:30 PM



Why Attend?

Learn about
Z-Suite for
online
recordkeeping



Work on
Writing Goals
for Project
Records



Work on
Record Books,
Q & A



**REGISTER
NOW**



316-284-6930



<https://forms.gle/PEwMJbWErg5g93yy6>

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2025-2026 Harvey County 4-H Calendar

October 1	2025-2026 Program Year Begins / 4-H Online Enrollment Opens
October 2	Taste of Newton Ambassador's New Year's Cookies Booth, Newton
October 5-11	National 4-H Week
October 11-12	48 Hours of 4-H Service Challenge
October 18	HVCO 4-H Recognition Night, Salem United Methodist Church
October 23	HVCO 4-H Council Meeting, 7 PM, Courthouse
November 1	Live Well, Lead Well/Engineering & Technology Workshop, Wichita
November 2	HVCO 4-H Leadership Lab, Sacred Heart Parish Center, Halstead
November 22-23	Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, Rock Springs Ranch
November 22-23	Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers Forum, Rock Springs Ranch
December 15	HVCO 4-H Ambassadors, 6 PM, Wal-Mart
December 15	HVCO 4-H Council Meeting, 6:30 PM, Courthouse
January 10-11	Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council Orientation Retreat, Rock Springs Ranch
February 15-16	4-H Citizenship in Action, Topeka
February 21	Multi-County Club Day, Chisholm Middle School, Newton
February 21-22	4-H Horse Panorama, Rock Springs Ranch
February 26	HVCO 4-H Ambassadors, 6 PM
February 26	HVCO 4-H Council Meeting, 7 PM
February 28	HVCO Beef Weigh Day
March TBD	HVCO Beef Clinic
March 26	HVCO 4-H Ambassadors, 6 PM
March 28	HVCO Spring Beef Show
April TBD	Shutterbug Photography Event, TBD
April 23	HVCO 4-H Ambassadors, 6 PM
April 23	HVCO 4-H Council Meeting, 7 PM
April 25	Spring into Volunteering, Salina
April 28-29	Youth Entrepreneurship Contest (YEC), Manhattan, KS
May 8	HVCO Sheep/Goat/Swine Tagging
May 28	HVCO 4-H Ambassadors, 6 PM
June 3-5	Discovery Days, Manhattan
June 19-20	Insect Spectacular, Yates Center
June 12-14	State 4-H Geology Field Trip, TBD
June 25	HVCO 4-H Council Meeting, 7 PM
June/July	4-H Camp, Rock Springs Ranch
June TBD	HVCO Rocket Launch
June/July TBD	HVCO Dog Show
July TBD	HVCO Style Review
July 22	HVCO 4-H Ambassadors, 6 PM
July 25	HVCO Horse Show
July 30 - August 3	HVCO Free Fair - 4-H & Open Class, Newton
August 15	State Horticulture Judging Contest, Manhattan
August 22-23	4-H Livestock Sweepstakes, Manhattan
August 27	HVCO 4-H Council, 7 PM
September 11-20	Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson
September 24	HVCO 4-H Ambassadors, 6 PM
September 30	2025/2026 Program Year Ends
October TBD	Record Books, Scholarship, End of Year Documents Due

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4-H Volunteer News

When you believe in the power of young people, it is important to stay up to date with theories, resources, policies, and much more. Staying up to date with the “hip” things these days takes a lot of work. Hopefully this part in the newsletter will help with keeping you up to date. ---Anne

Volunteer Association Zooms for KS 4-H Volunteers

The Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers is trying something new for this 4-H Year. They will be holding Zoom Connections for Kansas 4-H Volunteers. They want to continue with the theme from the Leadership Forum and nurture more Kansas 4-H Volunteers to be the most successful they can be in their volunteer role!!!

Upcoming Sessions and Topics

Sunday, February 22 @ 7 PM (Club Days, Spring Into Volunteering, Fairs)

Sunday, June 28 @ 7 PM (State Fair, Record Books)

Sunday, August 30 @ 7 PM (Club Structure, Club Activities, Volunteer Forum)

NOTE: Hosts will log out at 7:30 PM if no one has logged on and/or the conversation is complete.

In addition to the topics listed, questions can be asked at any time during the Zoom regarding any topic. If you know or can think of those questions now while registering, please share them and our KA4-HV Board Members can be prepared.

An email will be sent to registered volunteers to register for each zoom. Then, the Zoom link will be sent in a confirmation email.

Thank you for joining us to help make Kansas 4-H Members the best they can be!

4-H Parent Corner

Nurturing Leaders, Growing Futures - Own It!

This year KYLF's theme was "Nurturing Leaders, Growing Futures." The keynote speaker, Brandon Lee White spoke to the 4-H Youth on leadership with his slogan "Own It!" A big part of leadership is communication. Here are some conversation tips that work for anyone:

How to Talk to People

1. Caring Questions
2. Affirming Responses
3. Selective Sharing

How to Compliment

"Thank you _____ for _____. That show me you are _____."

"I appreciate that you _____."

"I respect that you _____."

"You did a great job _____."

"You're really good at _____."

How to Apologize

"I am sorry that _____. I would feel really bad if someone did that to me. I hope that you can forgive me."

How to Give Your Opinion

"I can see why someone would think _____ because _____, but, personally, I think _____ because _____. But, that's just my opinion."

State & Other News

Deadline for Kansas 4-H Scholarships is January 5!

The deadline for the Kansas 4-H Scholarships is Monday, January 5, 2026. This is for current graduating high school seniors (and current college students and graduate students). Fill out 1 application for all available scholarships.

Selections will be completed early enough for seniors to share scholarship results with their high schools, so you can be recognized for all your accomplishments.

The scholarship application is now live on the Kansas 4-H website — don't wait, start yours today!

Information and application can be found at:
<https://kansas4h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>

ROCK SPRINGS RANCH

Sign up for camp at Rock Springs Ranch. Harvey County 4-H Youth use coupon code *HVCO4-H26* for \$100 toward camp from the Harvey County 4-H Development Fund. Go to [Rock Springs Ranch](#) for dates and to register.



Save the Date:

4-H Day with Wildcat Women's Basketball

Saturday, March 1, 2025

Kansas State vs Iowa State

Event Scholarship Opportunity

Attending a State 4-H event and want support paying for this event?
Then apply for a Harvey County 4-H Development Fund Event Scholarship.

It is a simple two question process.

Turn it into the office once completed.

To find the application use this link:

[Records and Forms \(k-state.edu\)](#)

CIA - Citizenship In Action

February 15-16, 2026 in Topeka

More exact information and registration will be coming in an email soon, but you can find some here:

[Citizenship In Action | Conferences and Events | Events and Activities | Kansas 4-H Youth Development](#)

Typically, the 1st day we learn about the legislative process, have a formal dinner, and go to the Capital to debate a bill on the House and Senate floors. We stay overnight at a hotel with the Kansas 4-H Group. Then we spend the next morning at the Capital again meeting with our representatives and touring the Kansas Capital building.

This event is for 4-H youth who are 13 and older as of January 1, 2026.



Kansas 4-H Events

To see a list and detail information about various Kansas 4-H Project-Based Events offered throughout the year go to [Project-Based Events](#).

Kansas 4-H Projects

Animal Science

Beef
Dairy Cattle
Dairy Goats
Dog
Horse
Meat Goats
Pets
Poultry
Rabbits
Sheep
Swine
Veterinary Science

Communication & Expressive Arts

Communications
Interior Design & Architecture
Performing Arts
Photography
Visual Arts

Engineering & Technology

Aerospace/Rocketry
Ag Mechanics Welding
Astronomy
Building Block Engineering
Computer Science
Electric & Renewable Energy
Robotics
Small Engines
Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
Woodworking

Family & Consumer Sciences

Family Studies
Fiber Arts (includes 9 projects)
Foods & Nutrition
Health & Wellness
Sewing & Textile Design
Shopping in Style

Leadership & Personal Development

Civic Engagement
Entrepreneurship
Leadership
Reading Adventures
Self-Determined

Natural Resources

Environmental Science
Geology
Shooting Sports (includes 10 projects)
Wildlife

Plant Sciences

Agronomy
Entomology
Forestry
Horticulture & Landscape Design



2026 K-STATE JUNIOR BEEF PRODUCER DAY

Program

Join us on March 7, 2026, for the biennial K-State Junior Beef Producer Day! This event is a fun-filled educational day for youth, parents, beef project leaders, ag teachers, and extension agents to expand their knowledge of youth beef projects. Presentations by K-State faculty, staff, K-State livestock judging team members, students, and guest speakers will cover topics that may include selection, nutrition, daily care, meat science, reproduction, health, grooming, and showmanship. An optional YQCA certification class will be offered at the end of the day. A complimentary lunch and t-shirt will also be provided for those who register by the deadline. The registration fee is \$20 per person for those who sign up by February 13. The fee will increase to \$30 per person for those who register after the deadline. Only those who register by February 13 will receive a t-shirt. This is a family event! Anyone attending the event must register, including youth and adults.

Registration

Deadline: February 13

Fee: \$20/person

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/BeefJrProducer>

Late Registration: \$30/person (after February 13)

*All attendees must register, including youth & adults.

**Late registrants will not receive a t-shirt.



Scan Me!



Tentative Schedule

8:00AM	Check-in
9:00AM	Welcome
9:15AM	Project Selection
10:00AM	Morning Breakout Sessions -Nutrition, Meat Science, Daily Care, Grooming & Fitting
Noon	Lunch
1:00PM	Afternoon Breakout Sessions -Health, Reproduction, Showmanship
3:15PM	Dismissal
3:30PM	Optional YQCA Class

Questions?

Lexie Hayes

☎ 785.532.1264 ✉ adhayes@ksu.edu

Registration Due
February 13



K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

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2026 K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day



Date

4.11.2026

Manhattan, KS



Scan Me!



Registration

Due: 3.20.2026

Cost: \$20/person

<https://bit.ly/SheepJrProducer>

**All adults & youth must register to attend.*

***Only those registered by 3/20/26 will receive a t-shirt.*

****Late registration is \$30/person.*



Questions

Lexie Hayes



785.532.1264



adhayes@ksu.edu

Program

Join us for the biennial K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Presentations will be provided by featured guests, as well as K-State faculty, staff, and students. This event will be an educational day of activities in which youth, parents, extension agents, ag teachers, and sheep project leaders can increase their knowledge of youth sheep project selection and management. A variety of topics will be shared, including an optional YQCA certification at the end of the day. All ages and skill levels are invited! Lunch and a t-shirt are included. The registration fee is \$20/person for those who sign up by March 20 or \$30/person for those who register after that date. Only those who register by the deadline will receive a t-shirt. This is a family event! Anyone attending, including both youth and adults, must register. There will be an optional tour of the sheep and meat goat center offered on Friday evening and Saturday after jr. day.

Tentative Schedule

Friday, April 10

5:00-7:00PM Optional Tour of Sheep & Goat Center

Saturday, April 11

8:00AM Check-in

9:00AM Welcome

9:15AM Selection

10:00AM Nutrition

10:45AM Morning Breakout Sessions

-facilities & equipment, reproduction, project management purchase to show

NOON Lunch

1:00PM Health

1:45PM Afternoon Breakout Sessions

-wool, showmanship, clipping & grooming

3:45PM Dismissal

4:00PM Optional YQCA Class


4:00-6:00PM Optional Sheep & Goat Center Tour



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County Project Information

<p>Beef Project</p> <p>Beef Weigh Day: February 28, 2026</p> <p>Spring Beef Show: March 28, 2026</p>	<p><u>Beef Weigh In Information:</u> <u>Starts at 10:00 A.M.</u> <u>6307 N Hillside, Walton, Jim Brubacher Farm</u> Directions: Hillside and Walton Rd (60th) north on Hillside, west side of road. Enter south drive, south side of round top.</p> <p>We will be using single animal scales under the chute, processing will be done in one location. In order to show at the County Fair, you MUST weigh & tag at Weigh Day. If you cannot bring your animal please try to get someone else to bring your animal to be weighed and tagged THAT DAY. As a last resort, call the office and make alternate arrangements BEFORE weigh day. We will NOT tag any animals after weigh day.</p>
<p>Dog Project Leaders: Amy Brown & Marcia Oden Email: h2oskii@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Our dog project gets super active in the spring make sure to reach out to Amy about times and dates! Those registered in Dog Project , please pay attention to your email.</p>
<p>Rocketry Project Leaders: Doug Stucky & Scott Oden Email: dougstucky68@gmail.com</p>	<p>Now is a great time to get your model rockets to get started for the 4-H year. Remember, buy a kit that has balsa wood fins. Plastic fins are not allowed. Looking forward to a great 4-H project year</p>
<p>Shooting Sports Projects Leaders: Justin Schrag, David Becker, & Jason Pomeroy Email: harveycountyshootingsports@gmail.com</p>	<p>Shooting Sports is well underway with the Rifle Discipline, specifically BB Gun. Those participating should keep up with information by joining "Shooting Sports Air rifle/bb gun" on GroupMe with this link: https://groupme.com/join_group/106583767/TFunUX8X</p> 
<p>Other Projects</p>	<p>Keep an eye out on your emails! There will be project meetings starting up!</p>

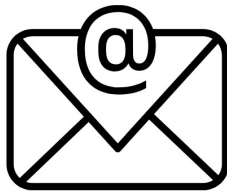
Upcoming 4-H Dates

January 22, 6:30 PM	Record Book Workshop, 215 S Pine, 2nd Floor Meeting Room
February 15-16	KS 4-H Citizenship In Action, Topeka
February 21	Multi-County Club Day, Chisholm Middle School, Newton
February 21-22	Horse Panorama, Rock Springs Ranch
February 26, 6 PM	Ambassadors Meeting
February 26, 7 PM	4-H Council Meeting
February 28	Beef Weigh Day
March 1	4-H Day with Wildcat Women's Basketball
March 28	Spring Beef Show
May 8	Small Animal Tagging - More details to come.
July 30 - August 3	Harvey County Free Fair

CONNECT WITH US



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County 4-H



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