

Harvey County 4-H Happenings

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Harvey
County

The Informer

September & October 2025

www.harvey.ksu.edu

A huge “*congratulations*” goes out to every 4-H member who exhibited at the Harvey County Fair this year. We know how much dedication it takes to plan, prepare, and present a project — and then stand before judges to have your hard work evaluated. Every ribbon and award was well earned, and it was clear that our 4-H youth gave their very best all year long.

We also want to extend a heartfelt *thank you* to the many volunteers and parents who made the fair possible. From shuttling kids to events, keeping schedules on track, lending a hand wherever needed, and so much more — it truly takes a team, and we couldn't do it without you.

County Fair has always held a special place in my heart, with many memories of my time, and I still love seeing the kids' projects, hearing about their passions, and watching our community come together to make it all happen. Every year, it reminds me why 4-H is so special and keeps me energized for the year ahead.

But we're not slowing down! September and October bring important end-of-year activities and a fresh start for the new 4-H year. In this newsletter, you'll find details on club leader documents, scholarships, awards, outstanding 4-H'ers, and other key deadlines. Please take time to mark your calendars so nothing is missed. Re-enrollment for the 4-H year will open in October — we encourage everyone to get that completed before the end of the year.

Looking ahead, we're also excited about new and current opportunities for our youth. We have tried to make some projects a bit clearer in 4-H Online, and hopefully you will see that when you enroll.

Thank you again to everyone who made the fair a success and continues to make Harvey County 4-H such a strong, supportive community. Here's to finishing this year well — and stepping into the next one with energy and excitement!





2025 Harvey County 4-H Recognition Night (google.com)

HARVEY COUNTY 4-H AWARDS

In preparation for our annual 4-H Recognition Night, all Project Record Books, pin applications, and other award applications are due in the Extension Office no later than **September 19, 2025**. Please respect the due dates that your Club Leaders have set up.

The applications, forms, and instructions are available on our website:

https://www.harvey.k-state.edu/4-h/record_keeping_and_awards/

Project Record Books

Harvey County uses the Record Books to select County Champions in 4-H projects. Project Record Keeping may be recorded through ZBOOKS online or on the Form Fillable PDFs. All Project Record documents need to be printed and compiled in a 3-prong folder or appropriate sized binder.

Member Achievement Pins

Kansas 4-H Member Achievement pins are designed to recognize 4-H members as they reach milestones throughout their 4-H journey. The pins are awarded in a series: Membership, Bronze, Clover, Emerald, Silver, Silver Guard, Leadership, Gold, and Gold Guard. Member Achievement Pins are different than project pins and recognize a 4-H'er for overall 4-H growth and involvement. 4-H members should turn these applications into their Club Leader along with their record book.

Outstanding 4-H'er Award

This award recognizes Harvey County 4-H members who have demonstrated leadership and dedication to the Harvey County 4-H program. Four \$50 awards are given out. 4-H members may only receive this award once in each age group. This form can be completed by Club Leaders, Volunteers, 4-H Members or by self-nomination. Nominees must fit into the 2 age groups; 13-15 and 16+ and actively enrolled in Harvey County 4-H. 4-H'ers who have already been given this award are not eligible to reapply in the same age group.

Harvey County Volunteer of the Year

This award recognizes a Harvey County 4-H volunteer who demonstrate exceptional service to Harvey County 4-H. Harvey County 4-H will continue with nominating the winner for The Kansas 4-H Salute to Excellence Award.

4-H Club Seals

A seal is awarded to a 4-H Club each participation year that requirements are met. The seals are white, red, blue, and purple. Your 4-H Club may try for any seal without regard to the seals previously received. Please turn in all other end of the year documents at this time as well

Development Fund College Student Scholarship

This scholarship application is intended for students who have been active Harvey County 4-H members who graduated May of 2025 and are enrolled as full-time post-secondary students in the Fall 2025.

Committee Meetings: SAVE THE DATE Join us on October 18th!

Before Recognition Night kicks off, we'll gather to reflect on how our committees functioned this year, celebrate successes, and discuss ways to strengthen our work moving into next year. Come ready to share ideas, give feedback, and help shape the future of our programs. More information to come.

Harvey County 4-H Ambassador Program

Our 4-H Ambassador Program is designed for a select group of youth leaders who proudly represent Harvey County 4-H in the community. Ambassadors serve as the *face and voice* of 4-H, sharing their experiences and helping tell the 4-H story at county-wide events, programs, and outreach activities.

Ambassadors work closely with community stakeholders, younger members, and volunteers to promote leadership, service, and the positive impact of 4-H. This role offers valuable opportunities to build public speaking skills, develop leadership abilities, and make a difference in the community.

Youth ages **13 and older** are eligible to apply. Ambassadors meet monthly to plan activities, prepare for events, and strengthen their leadership skills.

Interested in joining? Enroll in the "project" in 4-H Online when enrolling in 4-H in October and review the [roles and responsibilities](#) of becoming a Harvey County 4-H Ambassador. Ambassadors will need to have that document signed and on file in the office.

2025-2026

4-H COUNCIL SCHEDULE

October 23
December 11
February 26
April 23
June 25
August 27
October 22

Thursdays 7:00-8:00 PM
Location: TBD

More information will be emailed
around 4-H Council meeting times.

For more information, contact:
Anne Pitts
aelpers@ksu.edu
316-284-6930

2025-2026 4-H ENROLLMENT STARTS OCTOBER 1

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

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

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

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Happy 4-H New Year!

The 4-H Year begins every October. It is time to re-enroll and is also time to select 4-H projects to participate in.

As a reminder, there are no deadlines to enroll, but enrolling and selecting projects you are interested in by the end of December means you won't miss out on important communication concerning projects or tagging deadlines. Enrolling and submitting payment by May means you won't risk the ability to show in the County Fair.

Why not try something new? One new project in Kansas 4-H this year is Entrepreneurship. Several projects in Harvey County 4-H are growing. There is always something new to discover and learn in any project. Choose from over 30 4-H Projects to enroll in. Local support for projects may vary. Learn more about enrollment and local projects [HERE](#).



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

48 Hours of 4-H

48 Hours of 4-H is perfect time for 4-H youth, clubs, volunteers, and families to give back to the community. October 11-12 is this year's 48 Hours of 4-H. Plan and do some community service (big or small) as a club, family, or individual. Enter and record your plan and service hours at: [48 Hours of 4-H](#). Let's see how many hours Harvey County 4-H can give back to the community!



We're Moving

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Moving Fall of 2025!

**Follow us on Facebook or sign
up for our monthly email
newsletter for exact dates!**

215 South Pine Street, Newton

Phone: 316-284-6930
harvey.k-state.edu
PO Box 583, Newton KS



Our new home will be on the third floor of the Pine Street Building, above the Harvey County Health Department. Come see us!

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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

Self-Reflection Survey

Harvey County 4-H Club and Project Leaders: Recently we sent you an email asking you to complete a self-reflection survey. Please take a few minutes to complete this. The self-reflection portion will help you think about how you have been doing when working with 4-H youth. The information you share in the Plan of Action portion of the survey help us support you in being a great club or project leader.



Beyond Ready

Beyond Ready is the new National 4-H movement that will run through 2030. It is also the theme for National 4-H week (October 5-11). This movement is the result of a conversation around the need to focus our efforts on preparing youth for work and life. Beyond Ready is more than a brand from National 4-H. It's a mindset and framework that positions 4-H as an organization to not just prepare youth for the future, but capable of leading the generations to come. This initiative highlights the real-world skills youth gain in 4-H and emphasizes workforce readiness, leadership, and civic engagement. Adults play a crucial role in helping youth recognize, develop, and articulate these competencies.

Kansas 4-H Volunteer Forum

The Kansas 4-H Volunteer Forum will be held November 22-23, 2025 at Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Center. This is an opportunity for 4-H volunteers and staff from around Kansas to learn and network. For more information, visit the website below. The registration link will be available soon.

[Kansas Volunteer Leader Forum](#)

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Volunteers for 4-H need to register on 4-H Online. Previously screened 4-H Volunteers are required to renew on 4-H Online each year. If you have any questions, please email Anne at aelpers@ksu.edu.

To register or renew go to:

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

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4-H Parent Corner

Social Media

I think it goes without saying, our Facebook has blown up, we have gone viral this year during the county fair. This has been great because we have had the chance to promote, educate, engage, and present Harvey County 4-H. But it also has a shadow side to it. We've seen thousands of comments on posts, some supportive and some critical of agriculture and 4-H. While this can feel overwhelming, it also presents a unique opportunity to help our children learn how to engage thoughtfully and responsibly online.

Research shows that guided social media use can teach young people important skills, including communication, critical thinking, and empathy. ([NCBI](#), [HealthyChildren.org](#))

We encourage parents to use this as a teachable moment. Talk with your child about what they see online, help them consider the tone and accuracy of posts and comments, and model how to respond respectfully or not at all, even to criticism. These skills will not only help navigate social media now but also build digital citizenship that will last a lifetime.

We hope you have enjoyed the media around the fair and the pictures our 4-H interns were able to capture. Our goal moving forward is to keep bettering our media for the county fair, and to keep showcasing the hard work the 4-Hers have done.

H  AD

HE  RT

H  NDS

HE  LTH



4-H ALUMNI

Are you a 4-H Alumni?
Go to this [survey](#) to let
us know how you are
doing!

State & Other News



**Kansas
State Fair
September
5-14**

*Registered static
projects are due in the Extension Of-
fice September 3.*

**Instead of premiums, 4-H youth
with registered entries get 2
gate tickets to the 2025 Kansas
State Fair.**

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.

To find the application, go to the link below.

It is a simple two question process.

Turn it into the office once completed.

To find the application use this link:

[Records and Forms \(k-state.edu\)](https://k-state.edu/records-and-forms)

Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams

Would you like to get involved with state leadership? You help make decisions and plans for various projects? 4-H youth and adult volunteers are needed to join one of the Project Partnership Teams. Applications are due September 15, 2025

Go to this link for more information and to apply to be on a particular team:

[Project Partnership Teams](#)

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum will be held November 22-23, 2025 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. KYLF is for youth ages 14-18 before January 1, 2025. KYLF will feature leadership workshops, Youth Council Elections, and opportunities to learn and have fun. For more information, visit the website below. The deadline to register is Wednesday, October 15, 2025 by 11:59 PM. The registration link will be available soon.

[Kansas Youth Leadership Forum | Conferences and Events | Events and Activities | Kansas 4-H Youth Development](#)

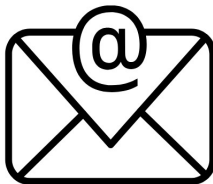
Upcoming 4-H Dates

September 5-14	Kansas State Fair
September 19	All Pin Applications, Scholarship Applications, Club Information, Record Books, Outstanding 4-H'er Applications Due!
October 1	Enrollment Opens
October 2	Taste of Newton - 4-H New Years Cookies Booth
October 5-11	National 4-H Week
October 6	Beyond Ready: Go Green Day
October 9	4-H for Good Day
October 11-12	48 Hours of 4-H Service Challenge
October 18	Harvey County 4-H Committees Meetings
October 18	Recognition Night
October 23	4-H Council Meeting
November 22-23	KYLF, Rock Springs Ranch
November 22-23	Kansas 4-H Volunteer Forum, Rock Springs Ranch

CONNECT WITH US



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