



4-H UPDATE

www.sedgwick.ksu.edu

Thank you, Barb!



One of the biggest changes for our office is saying goodbye to someone who has meant so much to Sedgwick County 4-H. Barb Wingfield has retired after many years of dedicated service as our Office Professional. Barb has been so much more than the friendly face who greeted everyone who walked through our doors. She has been the glue that held our office together through years of agent transitions, organizational changes, and countless 4-H seasons. Her knowledge, patience, kindness, and unwavering commitment have touched thousands of youth, volunteers, families, and coworkers over the years. Barb, thank you for everything you have done for Sedgwick County 4-H. Your impact will be felt for many years to come, and you will be greatly missed. We wish you nothing but happiness in your well-deserved retirement.

--Stephanie

KANSAS STATE
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Sedgwick
County

From the Desk of..... Stephanie



As summer begins to wind down, I find myself reflecting on all that has happened over the past few months. It has truly been a season of change, celebration, gratitude, and incredible accomplishments. Most of all, I am reminded how fortunate we are to be surrounded by such an amazing 4-H family.

While it is difficult to say goodbye to Barb, it is equally exciting to welcome Susie Klausmeyer as our new Office Professional. Susie is certainly no stranger to 4-H. She grew up in Sedgwick County 4-H showing dairy cattle, raised her own children through the Achievers 4-H Club, and has become both a local and state leader in the Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports program. Her passion for youth, extensive 4-H experience, and servant's heart make her a wonderful addition to our Extension team. Please join me in giving Susie a warm Sedgwick County 4-H welcome! This summer was also made brighter by two outstanding interns, Chloe Gerona-Sanchez and Olivia Brooks. They spent the summer delivering school enrichment programs, assisting with camps and events, preparing for the county fair, and representing 4-H with enthusiasm wherever they went. Their energy, professionalism, and dedication made a tremendous impact on the youth and families they served.

As they head back to school, we wish them both the very best. Olivia begins her student teaching this fall and will graduate in December, ready to begin her career as an educator. Chloe returns to Kansas State University to continue pursuing a degree in Animal Nutrition. Thank you both for sharing your talents with Sedgwick County 4-H. We know you both have bright futures ahead!

Finally, I simply want to say thank you to every 4-H member, volunteer, parent, superintendent, judge, committee member, and supporter who made this year's Sedgwick County Fair such an incredible success. Fair week is always one of my favorite times of the year because it represents everything 4-H is about. I love watching our young people challenge themselves, celebrate successes, learn from disappointments, develop new skills, build lifelong friendships, and grow into confident leaders. Whether you earned a purple ribbon, tried a new project, showed an animal for the first time, or simply encouraged another member, you helped make this year's fair something truly special.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to our generous sponsors who invested in our youth and made this year's fair possible. Their support helped provide judges, ribbons, premiums, awards, educational opportunities, and so much more. We simply could not provide the quality experience our youth deserve without their generosity.

As a reminder, if you received sponsorship support or award this year, please take a few moments to send a personal thank-you note. A handwritten note is one of the most meaningful ways we can show our appreciation and helps ensure these wonderful partnerships continue for years to come.

Thank you for making Sedgwick County 4-H such an incredible place to learn, lead, serve, and grow. I am grateful for each and every one of you, and I cannot wait to see what this next 4-H year has in store!

With gratitude,
Steph
316-660 -0112

County Fair Highlights!





Kansas State Fair

Static Entry Drop-Off Information

If you are submitting a static exhibit for the Kansas State Fair, please be aware of the following critical drop-off dates and requirements. These deadlines ensure we can properly transport and register your exhibit for judging at the State Fair. See [State Fair Website](#) for any requirements and rules.

All static entries must be dropped off at the Sedgwick County Extension Office on the following days (unless you plan to take it to Hutchinson yourself):



September 2nd-8th |

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

September 9th | 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

During drop-off, you will be required to complete additional State Fair paperwork, including entry tags and exhibit forms. This paperwork must be done at the time of drop-off, so please plan for a few extra minutes.

Important:

No late entries will be accepted after 7:00 PM on September 9th. If you do not bring your exhibit during these designated times, it will not be transported to the Kansas State Fair. You will need to take it to the fair yourself.

Helpful Reminders:

- Make sure your exhibit is labeled correctly and securely packaged for transport.
- **If your exhibit is large, fragile, or unusually shaped, please notify the office before August 15 to we can let the state know to provide space for your exhibit.**
- Ask your club leader if you're unsure about your exhibit's eligibility or display guidelines.

This is an exciting opportunity to showcase your hard work on a statewide stage so don't miss out due to a missed deadline! Let us know if you have questions or need assistance preparing your exhibit.

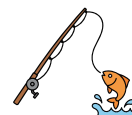
KANSAS 4-H SPORTFISHING TOURNAMENT

2026

The Kansas 4-H Sportfishing Tournament is open to all 4-H members. The contest runs throughout the year and ends September 15, 2026. Anglers can fish year-round but entries must be in by the deadline, fish caught after the deadline may be entered in the next contest. Participants can enter in any species/categories that they catch fish – go fishing and have fun!!!

Entries are to be submitted to: Tommie Berger 406 S. New York Ave. Sylvan Grove, KS 67481.
bergkwf@wtciweb.com 785-524-6112

To enter the tournament, click here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/natural-resources/sport-fishing/>



State Events

2026 KANSAS STATE FAIR 4-H BALE DECORATING CONTEST

The Kansas State Fair invites Kansas 4-H Clubs to participate in the **2026 4-H Bale Decorating Contest**. This creative competition allows clubs to showcase teamwork, creativity, and pride in 4-H while celebrating the decorating theme for the 2026 Kansas State Fair: America 250.

We would love to see several clubs participate from Sedgwick County!

For more information: [click here!](#)



48 HOURS OF 4-H

When: October 10-11, 2026

What: Join us this fall in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend after National 4-H Week, is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers and 4-H Alums too! Find all the information in the links below and start planning your projects. Please register your projects and then follow up with a report so we know about all the great things that happened across the state. 48 Hours of 4-H is the perfect compliment to [#InspireKidstoDo](#).

Who: 4-H Members, 4-H Clubs, Friends, Adult Volunteers, Parents, 4-H Alumni, Partnerships, Community Organizations, Potential 4-H Families

[For ideas, click here.](#)

[For more information and to register your project, click here.](#)

Attention: Teens 14-18

The Youth Council and National 4-H Conference application will be combined, with applicants indicating if they are applying for one or both opportunities. Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2027 may apply as a Council Rep and those 15-18 before January 1, 2027 may apply for National Conference.

This year's KYLF delegation will elect representatives from the [four extension program regions](#) (NE, NW, SE, SW) for one year terms on council. Up to six National Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF and they serve a two year term on council.

The application deadline is Wednesday, October 1, 2026, 11:59 p.m. CST

[For information, click here.](#)

We would love for several Sedgwick County youth to apply!

GROW 4-H

Why Grow 4-H

This is our 5th Annual Grow 4-H Fundraiser, and we need your help to make it the best ever! This initiative isn't just about raising money, it's about investing in the future of our youth, our program, and our entire 4-H community.

Did you know that every dollar donated to 4-H helps grow the next generation of leaders, innovators, and changemakers, right here in Sedgwick County? All donations stay local and go directly to support Sedgwick County youth.

4-H is more than just a youth program. It's a hands-on learning experience that gives young people the opportunity to discover their passions, build life skills, and make a difference in their communities. Whether it's through livestock projects, science experiments, leadership roles, or public speaking, 4-H provides a place for every child to learn, grow, and belong.

But we can't do it alone.

Your generous donations help cover the costs of updated curriculum, project supplies, educational workshops, event scholarships, and even fair entry support. This means more youth, especially those from underserved or rural areas, can participate in high-quality 4-H programming without financial barriers.

The fundraiser has already begun and will run through October 5th.

How Can You Help?

Start collecting donations for Sedgwick County 4-H. What you need to know:

- Donation deadline is Monday, October 5, 2026
- Donations = Raffle Tickets for a chance to win special prizes at the carnival, Sunday, October 11 from 5-7 PM (You can print the page from this newsletter and start collecting now)

What else can you do?

- Help collect raffle prizes. [Click here for a letter you can present to businesses asking for donations.](#)
- Donate an experience-based prize--whether it's a lesson, tour, or hands-on activity, experiences are meaningful and memorable!
- Volunteer your time--we need many hands to make light the work before, during, and after the carnival.
- Encourage Junior Leaders to share their skills, we love seeing our youth lead and inspire others!

If you have suggestions, want to volunteer, or are ready to donate a prize or funds, please reach out. Together, we can GROW 4-H and open the door to endless possibilities for our youth! Please contact Rebecca Snell (rebeblack@juno.com or 719-238-0743), Stephanie Hays (sahays@ksu.edu), or Susie Klausmeyer (susiek@ksu.edu) with prizes, questions or suggestions.

Annual Advisory Council Meeting - Your Club's Voice Matters!

We invite all clubs to be represented at the upcoming Annual Advisory Council Meeting on Thursday, August 27th at 6:00 PM in the Sunflower Room at the Extension Office.

This meeting is one of the most important gatherings of the year—it sets the direction for our countywide 4-H programs, activities, and priorities for the coming year. Decisions made here impact funding, programming, volunteer support, training opportunities, and the overall experience we provide to our 4-H youth and families.

Why do we need club leaders present?

Having two leaders from each club ensures:

- Better communication and stronger collaboration. When more than one leader attends, your club has a clearer understanding of countywide plans and expectations.
- A broader perspective. Different leaders bring different insights, which helps make well-rounded decisions that benefit all clubs.
- Continuity. If one leader is unavailable in the future, the other is fully informed and can carry momentum forward.
- Shared leadership. It's easier to divide tasks and advocate for your club when responsibilities are shared and understood.

Please make every effort to attend and bring a fellow club leader with you. Your participation shows commitment to your members, strengthens our county's 4-H community, and ensures your club's needs and ideas are heard.

Let's work together to make 2026-2027 our strongest year yet!

Kansas Junior Livestock Show

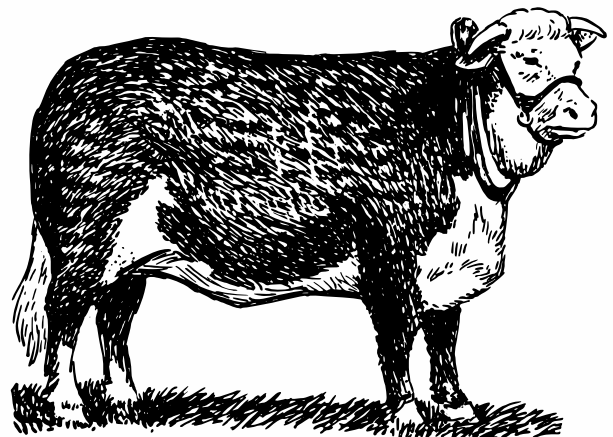
2026 KJLS Entries are open. If you have questions about submitting your entries, please contact KJLS directly.

If you state nominated market animals or commercial breeding females, you will need to use the same credentials you did to submit your nominations in order to access those animals for entry. Do not create a duplicate account.

A complete state livestock nomination does NOT constitute show entry. Nomination only makes animals eligible to be entered into KJLS. You must submit an official entry through the [link](#), as well as pay the appropriate entry fees, in order to be able to participate. Entries due by midnight, August 15.

Everyone is encouraged to review the show schedule and read the rules before entering.

If you are interested in showmanship or the LEAD challenge, make sure to enter those divisions at this time.



TEEN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

For more information contact:

Lori Holt

316-660-0111

llholt@ksu.edu

Sedgwick County Extension Office



**Sedgwick County
4-H invites you to**

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**JOIN THE 4-H
TEEN COUNCIL**

*Meeting Times
4th Monday night of every
month
7:00 p.m.
Extension Office*

Open to any Sedgwick County 4-H Youth ages 13 and over.

Sedgwick County 4-H Teen Council provides an opportunity to work within your community with younger 4-Hers, participate in community service projects, get to know 4-H Teens from other county clubs and participate in leadership conferences and workshops.

June and July were full months for our 4-Hers. Think if one had to add the responsibilities of Teen Council on top of every other fair preparation responsibility. We had a large group of 4-Hers that did just that. These kids do it all!

At the end of June, the kids planned and decorated for our annual Style Revue. They did a great job, and it all went well and the decorations looked great. Good job! Your efforts were greatly appreciated by all who attended.

In July, of course, was the fair. The same teens who helped with Style Revue also helped run the concession stand on static judging day as well as Barnyard Olympics. The concession stand ran smoothly thanks to such helpful and dependable teens. Barnyard Olympics turned out great, after we got the right cups to use in our game. All ages of kids participated and learned a few skills along the way: patience, perseverance, courage. In the end, everyone was successful or at least everyone tried to have fun and learn something about themselves.

If you are 13 years old and would like to be part of our Teen Council group, we meet on the fourth Monday of every month in Meadowlark at the extension office. Our next meeting will be August 24, 2026, at 7:00 pm. If you have questions about our activities and/or meeting, please reach out to Lori Holt at the extension office.



Fair Premiums



County Fair ribbon premiums are available for pick up in the office Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. After August 31, Don't forget to send some thank you notes to our wonderful donors and sponsors!

The Power of 4-H Record Books – Due September 30th !

It's that time of year.....Record Books, Pin Applications, and Award Forms are due soon! Be sure to check with your club leaders to find out your club's specific deadline in September.

Completing your 4-H Record Book may seem like just another task, but it's one of the most valuable tools in your 4-H journey. These books allow you to reflect on what you've learned, track your progress, celebrate your accomplishments, and set new goals.

Here's why Record Books matter:

Life Skills Development: By working on your record book, you build essential skills such as organization, goal setting, time management, and clear communication—skills that will serve you well in school, work, and life.

Scholarships and Awards: A well-completed record book lays the foundation for local, state, and national 4-H awards and college scholarships. Many applications require details of your leadership, community service, and project work—all things you track in your book!

Pin Applications & Recognition: Your record book is required to apply for Membership Pins and to be considered for achievement awards. These recognitions help highlight your growth in leadership, citizenship, and project mastery.

Career and College Preparation: Learning how to track your accomplishments and write about your experiences gives you a head start on building resumes, portfolios, and college applications. Former 4-H'ers say record keeping helped them stand out in job interviews and scholarship essays!

A Personal Keepsake: Your record book becomes a meaningful snapshot of your 4-H years, a record of growth, challenges, friendships, and success.

Record Book-- Tips for Success

Don't wait until the last minute, start organizing your photos, leadership records, service projects, and project work now. If you need help or have questions, reach out to your club leader or contact the Extension Office.

Take pride in your work and give yourself the credit you deserve, submit a Record Book this year!

- ✓ Start early—don't wait until the night before!
- ✓ Ask your club leader or Extension Office if you need help
- ✓ Make it personal—your voice matters!
- ✓ Celebrate your accomplishments, big and small

Record Book Awards

Last year the state had problems getting the pins for record book winners. They are still waiting for last year's order. So we could get most of the pins out to people, we have ordered our own from Shop 4-H. We have received all but two of them and they will be with your premiums when you pick them up in the office.

Delayed gratification for a job well done is good, but this was a lot. Thanks for your patience!



PROJECT RECORDS

1. Project Record(s)

Complete a separate record for each project you enrolled in and want to receive recognition for.

- Front Page/Personal Information is filled out
- Goals are clearly stated for the year
- Activities, learning experiences, and events are recorded
- Photos
- Project story/reflection is complete
- Record is neat, organized, and in your own words

2. Pin Application (for members applying for a Membership Pin)

Choose the appropriate level (e.g., Clover, Bronze, Silver, etc.).

- Pin Application (Membership through Gold Guard)
- Activities are filled in accurately
- Club leader has reviewed and signed
- Member and parent have signed
- Attach supporting documentation as needed (ex: talks, demonstrations, exhibits)

3. County Award Applications

Apply for individual awards like Key Award, Teen Teacher Form, Helping Hand Award, Downtown Kiwanis Award, Top Dog Showman

- Select the award(s) you're applying for
- Complete any extra narrative or reflection pages required
- Ask for letters of recommendation if needed
- Include this packet behind your project records or in a separate folder

4. Assembly & Submission

- All pages are in a binder or folder (labeled with name & club)
- Each project has its own binder or folder
- Forms are printed one-sided (unless your club says otherwise)
- Double-checked for grammar and completeness
- Turned into club leader for their signature by your club's deadline in September

What do you call a pig that climbs an evergreen tree?
A porkupine!

How do you count cows?
With a cowculator.

Submit your best joke and it may be featured in the next newsletter!



Community Service Opportunity Hospice Gown Sewing Day

What: Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice Gown Sewing Day

When: Saturday, September 26; 9 am - 3 pm
(come for as little or as long as you can help)

Where: Sedgwick County Extension Office
4-H Hall

Sedgwick County Fiber Arts is excited to partner with Wichita Sewing Guild to sponsor Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice gown sewing day. 4-H'ers and their parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles can help sew, serge, iron, fold, run, or be an assistant in the making of over 180 hospice gowns. Help is needed in the morning or afternoon or come all day and have a provided lunch. It is a super great service project, pin check, and opportunity to work with great sewers in the community! Did I mention they provide amazing prizes!!! Please reach out to Julie Crow Fiber Arts leader at juliebcrow@gmail.com for more information and to sign up by September 6th. If you do not have a sewing machine, you can help iron, or fold or sort. On the job training is provided! If you have a serger or sewing machine you will need to bring it for the day. Let Julie know what you would like to help with.

All are welcome to help make a difference!



Share Your 4-H Story!

We want to highlight the amazing things your club is doing each month—and we need your help to make it happen!

Every 4-H club has something special to share, whether it's a fun community service project, a unique meeting activity, a celebration of member achievements, or a behind-the-scenes look at project work. These stories are not only exciting—they inspire other members, families, and the wider community!

That's why we're inviting Club Reporters or any interested members to submit articles, photos, or updates to be featured in the monthly Sedgwick County 4-H Newsletter and on our Social Media pages.

Here's how to get started:

- Brainstorm article ideas at your next meeting
- Work with your officer team to write a short story or summary
- Include photos if you have them!
- Email it to the Extension Office by the 25th of each month for the next newsletter

Stories can be simple!

Let's celebrate your club's hard work and creativity, your story deserves to be told!

If you need help getting started or want a sample article format, just reach out. I'm happy to help!

2026-2027 Calendar of Events

August 14	Hay Bale Contest Entries Due (see article)
August 15	State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest, K-State Manhattan Campus
August 22-23	4-H Livestock Sweepstakes, Manhattan
August 24	Teen Council Meeting, Extension Office
August 27	Annual Advisory Council Meeting, Extension Office
September 2-8	Drop off State Fair Entries to Extension Office, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
September 5	State 4-H Dog Show
September 9	State Fair Entries due to the 4-H office, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
September 10	State Fair Entry Day for Static Exhibits, Hutchinson
September 11-20	Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson
September 26	Hospice Gown Sewing Day
September 26	State 4-H Smallbore/Muzzleloading Match, Capital City Gun Club, Topeka
October 1	Happy New 4-H Year! Time to enroll in 4-H online!
October 1	Deadline to apply for Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council (see article)
October 3	State 4-H Archery Match, T.H.E. Archery Range, Wakarusa
October 4-10	National 4-H Week
October 10-11	48 Hours of 4-H Service Challenge
October 11	4-H Carnival, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Extension Center
October 10-11	State 4-H Shotgun Match, Saturday--Ark Valley Gun Club Sunday--STC
October 17-18	State 4-H Dog Conference, Rock Springs
October 17	State 4-H Hunting Skills Match, Sportsman's Acres
November 14	Project Fair
November 8	Project Award Ceremony, 4-H Hall, Extension Center
November 21-22	Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, Rock Springs
November 21-22	Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers Forum, Rock Springs



Beyond Ready



Stephanie Hays

4-H Agent

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[Kansas State Fair 4-H Youth Development Website](#)

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