














JANUARY 2025

Highlights:

-  January 3: Bread Kit Assembly Day
-  January 11: January Jamboree
-  January 20: Office Closed- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
-  February 2: Beef Tagging & Weigh-In

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Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Dates to Remember:

- January 11: January Jamboree
- January 20: Office Closed- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 2: Beef Tagging & Weigh-in
- February 23: County Club Day

In the event of severe winter weather watch our Facebook page for updates!



Search for
Shawnee County 4-H

Please send Chatterbox submissions to Lisa and Grace by January 26

Visit us on the Web:
www.shawnee.ksu.edu

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A Word From Your Agent...

Happy new year everyone! I hope you all had a restful break and enjoyed the holidays! We are looking forward to a fantastic 2025 here in the office.

County Club Day has been scheduled for February 23rd from 2-5 pm and Shawnee Heights Middle School. A sign-up sheet will be emailed out via 4-H Online soon, so be sure to keep an eye out for that. With an event coming up, it is a great time to double check your 4-H enrollment for 2025 and ensure that you are re-enrolled in the program.

If you are a senior in High School this year, Kansas 4-H has scholarships available that I would really encourage you to apply for! You can find more information about them at this link: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>

We are in need of some new superintendents for the 2025 fair! Please be aware, that if a project has no superintendent, we will not be able to have that project. The list includes: Decorated Eggs, Home Environment, and Photography. If you would like to volunteer for this, or know of someone who may be interested, please reach out to the office!

-Grace

Shawnee County GroupMe

Interested in text updates about Shawnee County 4-H activities? Sign up for our new GroupMe:

https://groupme.com/join_group/102815469/5JDLs55L

Requests to join are subject to approval, and we will only accept enrolled members and their parents/guardians as listed in 4-H Online.

Ambassador Information

4-Hers who are program age 12 or older and who have been in 4-H for at least 3 years are encouraged to join the group! For email updates, please sign up for the official Ambassador's email list here:

<https://forms.gle/4yTw5tZoGNtzRwwGA>

"To Make the Best Better!"

County Notes



The Extension Office will be closed the following days:

January 20- Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January Jamboree

Join us for January Jamboree on January 11th! This crafting event is open to the public where youth of all ages can make small crafts and is a great time see all your 4-H friends! Crafts normally range from being free to around a dollar. Invite your friends and we'll see you there!

JANUARY JAMBOREE

JANUARY 11TH 10:00 -12:00



COUNTRYSIDE UMC:

3221 SW BURLINGAME RD, TOPEKA, KS

**FUN CRAFTS AND AN INTRO
TO OTHER 4-H PROJECTS!**

OPEN TO 4-H MEMBERS & NON MEMBERS

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Shawnee County Royalty Represent County 4-H Program

Shawnee County 4-H royalty took part in the 29th Annual Miracle on Kansas Avenue Parade on December 7th. King Cameron Thompson, Queen Megan Louderback, Prince Keaton Mengarelli and Princess Harper Dudley represented Shawnee County 4-H by building a float and spreading Christmas cheer during the parade in downtown Topeka. The float was one of more than 250 entries in the parade and the youth were recognized by the announcers, Melissa Brunner and David Oliver of WIBW.



Coding & Robotics Meetings

Attention All Coding and Robotics Interest:

Hi, I'm Miles Burgess and for the last few years I have been doing coding and robotics and recently there has been not many people doing the project So, I am starting to host a coding class where you will learn coding from the basics being scratch (Basic coding website) to being able to code python (Coding Language) and develop software of your choosing. In this class we can also work on fair projects and other forms of coding. The dates for the class is as follows

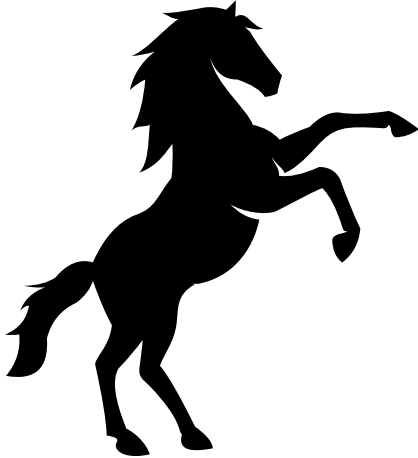
- Wednesday, January 8th - 6:30 pm-8 pm
- Wednesday, March 5th - 6:30 pm-8 pm
- Wednesday, May 7th - 6:30 pm-8 pm
- Wednesday, June 4th - 6:30 pm-8 pm
- Wednesday, July 2nd - 6:30 pm-8 pm

The coding class will be held in the upstairs meeting room at the extension office. Hope to see you there.

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Livestock Corner



Horse ID Forms Updated

Horse ID papers have been updated! All members intending to show horses in 4-H events next summer must have this form completed and signed by Grace or Abigail by June 1, 2025. THE OLD FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE STATE. Find the new form in the K-State Bookstore at https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/item/horse-identification-certificate_P1039.

YQCA Launching Scholarship Program in 2025

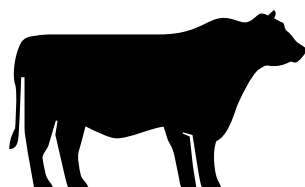
YQCA will provide \$30,000 in scholarships in 2025 to selected youth certified in YQCA. This scholarship program will be for youth who are current high school seniors or older, up to age 21, pursuing an agriculture degree or trade. Scholarship applications will open in January 2025 and close on February 17th. Recipients will be announced in May.

To stay informed about this scholarship opportunity, make sure you are subscribed to [the YQCA newsletter](#), where we will announce when scholarship applications are open. You can also visit the [YQCA website](#) in January for more information. Direct questions to help@yqcaprogram.org.

Beef Tagging & Weigh-In

Beef tagging and weigh-in will be held on February 2nd from 1-3 pm at the Gleason's. The address will be sent out to all youth enrolled in the beef project. The first educational meeting from the livestock committee will be held during weigh-in.

-Bucket calves will attend small animal weigh-in in April



Mark Your Calendars for YQCA

2025 YQCA sessions will be held at the following times:

- Tuesday, March 18 at 6 pm
- Wednesday, April 23 at 6 pm
- Saturday, May 17 at 9 am



Shawnee County 4-H Chatterbox

"To Make the Best Better!"

Scholarship Information

Shawnee County Scholarship Information NOW AVAILABLE

Shawnee County Extension Education Foundation and Langley Foster Scholarship applications are now available! Details are posted on the website: https://www.shawnee.k-state.edu/4-h/awards_and_recognition/scholarships/



Kansas 4-H Scholarships Now Open!

Applications are due **MARCH 1st, 2025!** Details for all Kansas 4-H scholarships are available at <https://kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>

Shawnee County Extension Education Foundation Scholarship




Eligibility

- Current member of a Shawnee County 4-H Club with enrollment totaling three (3) years or more
- 2.5 grade point average (unweighted)
- Graduating high school senior
- Enrolled for 12 or more college semester hours (check will be made out to college on behalf of the student)

OR

- Enrolled full-time in a technical institution (check will be made to student upon receipt of tuition/expenses)

Applications due Friday, March 28, 2025!



Langley Foster 4-H Scholarship



Eligibility

- Must have been a member of Shawnee County 4-H for three (3) years or more
- Full-time college student (sophomore, junior, senior) enrolled in 12 or more hours with a 3.0 grade point average (unweighted)
- Current Year state 4-H scholarship winners are excluded

Applications due April 30, 2025!



"To Make the Best Better!"

From the Fairboard

Fair Theme Contest

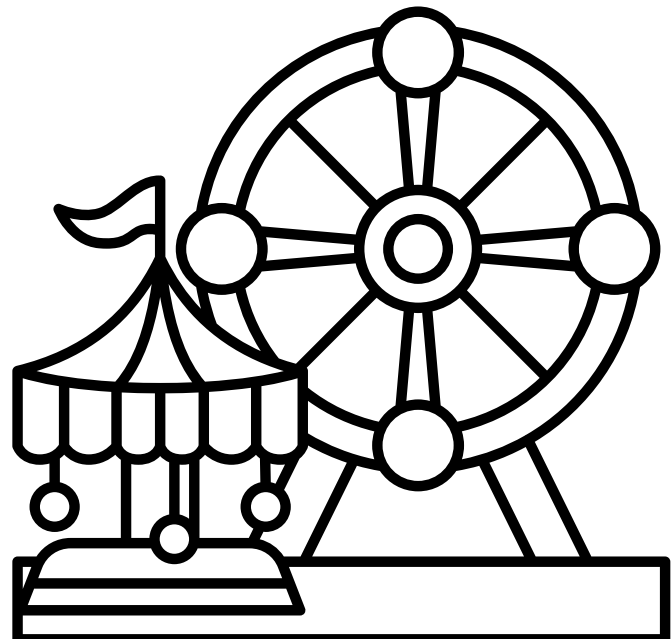
The fairboard wants to know your theme ideas for the 2025 Shawnee County Fair! Submit your ideas to the Extension office by 5 pm on January 28th in order to be considered.

Open Class Volunteers Needed

Fairboard is looking for volunteers to help with open class divisions at the fair! If you are interested in being a superintendent, or if you can help with checking projects in at the fair, please let us know!

Save the Date!

The next Snowflakes & Clovers Fairgrounds Fundraiser will be held on February 15, 2025. Be on the lookout for more details and ticket information coming soon!





"To Make the Best Better!"

State News

Citizenship in Action

Find registration and other details at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/citizenship-in-action/index.html>

K-STATE | Research and Extension

Citizenship In Action

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

- WHEN - February 16-17, 2025
- COST - \$225
- WHO - Youth ages 13-18
- WHERE - Hotel Topeka City Center, 1717 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka, KS 66612
- SPACE IS LIMITED SO GET OUT AND REGISTER!



CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS

- Kansas and Oklahoma will be traveling together
- WHEN: June 18 - 28th, 2025
- COST: \$2500
- Formal Sign-up will be out in early February - Spots are limited
- Email Kansas4H@ksu.edu with any questions



K-STATE | Research and Extension

Citizenship Washington Focus

More information is available at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/citizenship-washington-focus/index.html>

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Horse Panorama

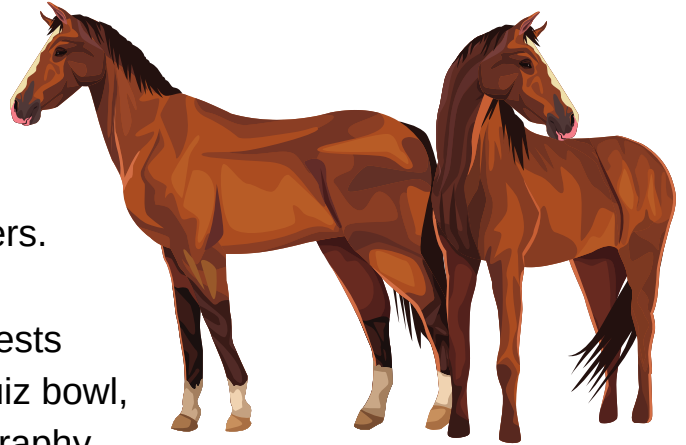
When: February 22-23, 2025

Registration: Upcoming

Contest Rules: Upcoming

Where: Rock Springs

Who: 4-H Members ages 9-18 and adult volunteers.



Horse Panorama is a compilation of various contests related to the Horse Project. Contests include: quiz bowl, hippology, public speaking presentations, photography and educational posters.

Watch <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/horse/horse-panorama.html> for more details!

2025 Willie and the Beanstalk Contest

The contest is to see who can grow the biggest soybean plant in a 40-day period. Judging will take place on April 12th, 2025. Entries can be judged in-person at the K-State Manhattan campus as part of the 2025 K-State Open House activities or advisers can choose remote judging. All contestants will receive a free T-shirt and there will be plaques and certificates for the winning teams.

Youth who can attend the 2025 Open House will be able to participate in the scoring of their plants and meet with Faculty and students in the Agronomy Department. However, we recognize that this is a busy time of year so we have an option for advisers and contestants to score the plants on their own and upload the results (which worked well last year).




Additional information is available on the contest web site at <http://beanstalk.agronomy.ksu.edu>


Shawnee County 4-H Chatterbox

"To Make the Best Better!"

K-State Junior Producer Days 2025




2025
K-State Junior Swine Producer Day



Join us on Saturday, March 1, 2025 for the biennial K-State Junior Swine Producer Day at the Stanley Stout Center in Manhattan. This educational event will be a fun-filled day in which youth, parents, agents, ag teachers, and swine project leaders can increase their knowledge of youth swine projects. Presentations will be provided by K-State faculty members, graduate students, former exhibitors, and guest speakers. All ages and skill levels are invited! Participants will receive a K-State Show Pig Guide, t-shirt, and complimentary lunch. Only those who register by February 5 will receive a t-shirt. The registration fee is \$20/person for those who sign up by the registration deadline, or \$25/person after that date. Registration is limited to 400 attendees, on a first come, first served basis. This is a family event! Anyone attending must register, including all youth and adults.

March 1




Tentative Schedule

8:00AM	Registration Opens
9:00AM	Welcome
9:15AM	Project Selection
10:00AM	Breakout Sessions
	-Nutrition, Meats, Facilities & Equipment, Breeds & Ear Notching
12:00PM	Lunch
12:45PM	Health
1:30PM	Breakout Sessions
	-Showmanship, Daily Care & Clipping, Show Day Prep, Resources
3:00PM	Wrap-up
3:30PM	YQCA Training (optional)


Location

Stanley Stout Center



Registration

- ☑ \$20/person by February 5
- ☑ \$25/person after February 5
- ☑ Late registrants will not receive a t-shirt.
- ☑ All attendees must register, including youth, parents, and adults.
- ☑ No refunds.
- ☑ Attendance is limited to the first 400 participants to register.



Questions?


Joel DeRouchey
jderouch@ksu.edu
785.532.2280

Lexie Hayes
adhayes@ksu.edu
785.532.1264

Register By

February 5

Limited Attendance



Scan Me!

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.

K-State Research and Extension and the Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, or their assignees, reserve the right to photograph, record the image and/or voice of participants for future research, educational, or promotional purposes. By attending, you provide consent to the above items and waive all rights to claims for payment or royalties in connection with any use of said images or recordings, unless you notify event organizers you withhold consent, in writing, prior to the event.

Registration is OPEN!

Find more information at
<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/ks-jr-producer/>



K-State Junior MEAT GOAT PRODUCER DAY

3.22.25



Event

Join us on Saturday, March 22, 2025 for the biennial K-State Junior Meat Goat Producer Day at the Stanley Stout Center north of the K-State campus in Manhattan. This educational program will be a fun-filled day in which youth, parents, agents, ag teachers, project leaders, and volunteers can increase their knowledge of youth meat goat projects. Presentations will be provided by K-State faculty members, graduate students, former exhibitors, and guest speakers. All ages and skill levels are invited! Participants will receive a K-State Meat Goat Show Guide, t-shirt, and complimentary lunch. Only those who register by the deadline on February 26 will receive a t-shirt. The registration fee is \$20/person before February 26 and \$25/person after the deadline. This is a family event! Anyone attending must register, including all youth, parents, and adults. Registration is limited to 400 participants, filled on a first come, first serve basis.

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Tentative Program

Friday, March 21

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

Saturday, March 22

8:00AM Check-in
9:00AM Welcome
9:15AM Selection
10:00AM Breakout Sessions

- Nutrition
- Facilities & Equipment
- Doe Management & Kidding

11:15AM Health & Wellness
12:00PM Lunch
1:00PM Breakout Sessions

- Showmanship
- Reproduction
- Clipping & Grooming

3:15PM Wrap-up
3:30PM YQCA Training (optional)
4:00-6:00PM *Optional Tour*
Sheep & Meat Goat Center

Registration

- ☑ \$20/person by February 26
- ☑ \$25/person after February 26
- ☑ Late registrants will not receive a t-shirt.
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- ☑ No refunds
- ☑ Attendance is limited to the first 400 participants to register.

Register Online

<https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASINO>

By February 26

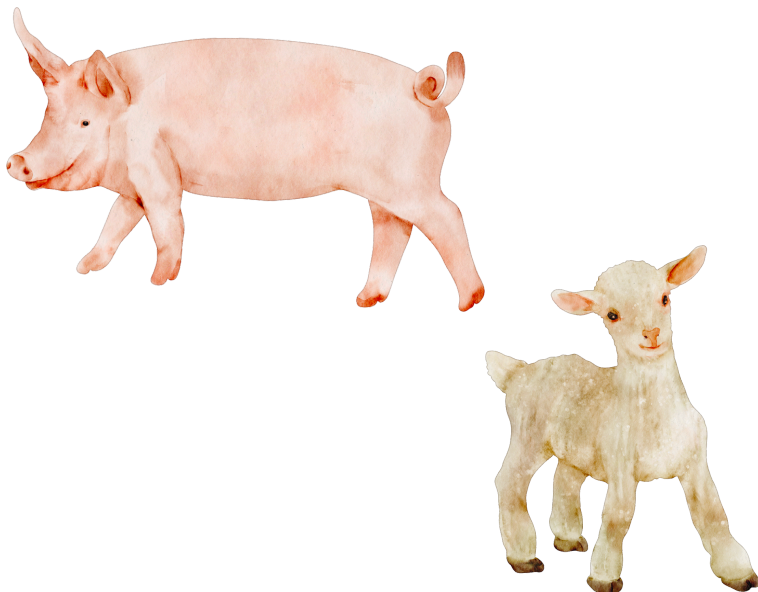
Questions?

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Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Club Chatter

Auburn

The Auburn 4-H club met at the SLI location in Topeka to carol for the December meeting. We had fun singing Christmas songs led by our song leaders and brightening the night with our festive holiday attire. We as a club prepared fruit baskets for all to enjoy at SLI. We loved having hot chocolate and cookies with the residents and staff then had our meeting by some outside heaters to finish out the night.

- Lilly Bayless



Riverside

The Riverside 4-H club participated in the SLI Festival of Trees on November 23rd at Fairlawn Plaza.

The Riverside 4-H club gathered on Monday, December 9th for our monthly meeting and had lots of fun decorating gingerbread houses together as a club.

-Hunter Inman

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Shawnee County 4-H Calendar

January 2025

- 1 Office Closed- New Year's Day**
- 2 Shooting Sports II, EMR, 6:30 pm
- 3 Bread Kit Assembly, EMR, 1 pm
- 6 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 8 Robotics/Coding Project Meeting, EMR, 6:30 pm
- 9 Regional Record Book Judging, Manhattan Air Pistol, EMR, 6 pm
- 11 January Jamboree, Countryside United Methodist Church, 10 am-12 pm
- 15 Livestock Committee Meeting, Conference Room, 7:15 pm
- 20 Office Closed- Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- 23 Horse Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 26 Chatterbox Submissions Due**
- 27 Paw Prints Dog Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 28 Shawnee County Fair Board, EMR, 7 pm
- 30 Air Pistol, EMR, 6 pm

February 2025

- 2 Beef Weigh-in & Tagging, Gleason's, 1-3 pm
- 3 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 6 Shooting Sports II, EMR, 6:30 pm
4-H Exchange, Farm Bureau Building, 7 pm
- 13 4-H Events Council, EMR, 7 pm
- 16-17 Citizenship In Action (CIA), Topeka
- 19 Livestock Committee Meeting, Conference Room, 7:15 pm
- 20 Air Pistol, EMR 6 pm
- 23 County Club Day, SHMS 2 pm-5 pm**
- 24 Paw Prints Dog Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 25 Shawnee County Fair Board, EMR, 7 pm
- 26 Chatterbox Submissions Due**
- 27 Horse Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm



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K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact (Grace Wiens) two weeks prior to the start of the event. You may make a request by calling 785-232-0062, ext. 120, or by e-mail at wiensg@ksu.edu. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.

All dates and activities are subject to change.