

# 4-H UPDATE

4-H Grows  
Here

## Midway District 4-H Newsletter

MIDWAY DISTRICT 4-H PROGRAM represents  
ELLSWORTH AND RUSSELL AREA 4-H CLUBS

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210 N. Kansas Ave.  
Ellsworth, KS 67439  
(785) 472-4442

RUSSELL OFFICE  
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Russell, KS 67665  
(785) 483-3157

## Midway District Staff



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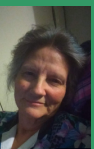
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### Diane Johnson

Office Professional-Russell

Kansas 4-H youth development specialist, Beth Hinshaw knows how important meaningful family time is during the holidays, and how it may be a challenge to come up with ideas on how to spend that precious time together. That's one of the very reasons why the national 4-H program has published a holiday activity guide.

"[The Holiday Activity Guide](#) has great ways to spend quality time with people, and we can learn so much from our family when we see them at the holidays," Hinshaw said. The Holiday Guide, she said, "contains an array of fun activities, such as making ornaments, family story time, visual art projects, and many food recipes."

Within the Holiday Guide there is a "cookie book" - listing more than 20 sweet holiday recipes to make together. "In the holiday guide, there are several activities that are STEM and math-focused, but as you read through and think about it, they're fun as well," Hinshaw said. "That's one of the things we pride ourselves on in 4-H -- to have those experiential, fun learning activities."

Food and STEM are both project areas 4-Hers may already be involved in, and the activity guide includes an additional area important during the holidays: service. "It shares how you might put together a winter coat drive for your community," Hinshaw said. "Or how you might make fleece scarves by hand for the homeless."

Click on the link above to begin one of the many fun and educational projects offered by 4-H.

*Karrie Van Winkle*





# Russell Report



## 2024-2025 RS County 4-H Council Officers

President  
Teagen Pfeifer

Vice President  
Katelyn Haddock

Secretary  
Emma Schneider

Treasurer  
Payton Maske

Reporter  
Janessa Miller

\*\*\*\*\*

4-H Council Meeting  
January 27 at 7:00pm

Be prepared for these  
meetings with officer and  
committee reports!

\*\*\*\*\*

Russell Fair Board Meeting  
December 9 at 7:00pm

\*\*\*\*\*

4-H Junior Leaders  
January 27 at 6:00pm

### Friend of 4-H

At the Achievement Banquet in late October, we were happy to announce the winner of the Friend of 4-H award goes to Tammy Cline. We appreciate all of the work she has done as a volunteer for the Poultry and Rabbit barn at the Russell County Fair and so much more!



### Junior Leaders

Enrolled 4-Hers must be 12 years of age and older or sixth through twelve grade. Youth also need to be enrolled in the Leadership project. Be sure to contact Junior Leaders advisor, Sarah Maske for more information!

*Jr. Leaders are planning a retreat on March 8th for members only.*



# Ellsworth Events



## 2024-2025 EW County 4-H Council Officers

President  
Hannah Vague

Vice President  
Brelyn Zier

Secretary  
Brooklyn Thielen

Treasurer  
Leah Howard

Reporter  
John Barta

\*\*\*\*\*

4-H Council Meeting  
February 24 at 6:30pm

Be prepared for these  
meetings with officer and  
committee reports!

\*\*\*\*\*

Fair Association Meeting  
December 2 at 6:30pm

\*\*\*\*\*

EW Junior Leaders Meeting  
January 6 at TBA

This year we celebrated National 4-H Week October 6th- 12th. Prior to that week, each club set up a window display around the county!

The theme's that were showcased were:

Ash Creek – 4-H... Blooming with Possibilities

County Liners – In My 4-H Era

Elkhorn – Explore Adventures with 4-H

Trying Tommies – Oh! The places you'll go in 4-H

Wilson Winners – Join the Party with 4-H!

The Club's displays promoted 4-H in a positive manner and encouraged the public to consider joining their club. The judges loved the ideas.

The Grand Champion Window Display goes to Ash Creek 4-H Club.

Our new 4-H theme for 2024-25 is:

**4-H... Blooming with Possibilities**

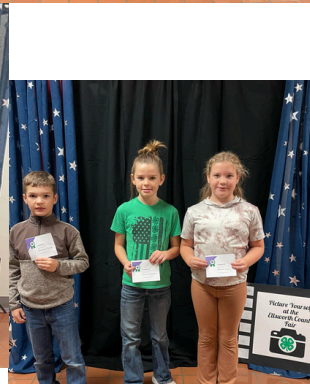


## Junior Leaders

Enrolled 4-Hers must be 12 years of age and older or sixth through twelve grade. Youth also need to be enrolled in the Leadership project. Be sure to contact Junior Leaders advisors, Tobina Norris and Paula Svaty-Gray for more information!



# Ellsworth Events





# Family Resource Page



**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!**

## What is the Favorite Foods Show?

The Favorite Foods show combines planning an event with learning about nutritional value and setting a table. The Extension Office has a handbook that can provide additional information. This can be found [HERE](#).

- Pick a dish that is your favorite! It can represent any course of a meal. You will need to have the recipe turned in by January 8th.
- Pick a theme and create an event based off of your recipe.
- Plan your place setting (card table-sized) to tie into your theme.
- Plan your menu around your theme and particular favorite recipe.
- On January 19th, you will set up your place setting, include your menu, and prepare your selected recipe. During a consultative judging, you will have the opportunity to share your idea, recipe, and place setting with a judge for constructive feedback.



**Favorite Foods Show coming January 19!**

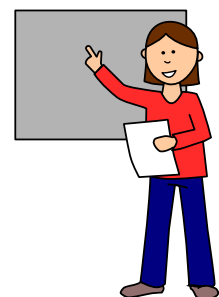


## What is Club Day?

Club Day is an opportunity for 4-H members to demonstrate their talents in several different areas in front of judges and other 4-H members and families. Club Day will be held Sunday, February 23. Members must be enrolled in 4-H Online by December 1 to participate in Club Day. Club Day entries are due to the extension office by Wednesday, January 22. There is also a handbook for this available at the Extension office and on our website [HERE](#).

Categories include:

- Project Talk
- Show and Tell
- Demonstration
- Illustrated Talk
- Public Speaking
- Talent (dancing, skits, magic tricks, etc.)
- Singing
- Instrumental Skills
- Reading
- Resume/Interview
- Model Meetings





# Learning Center



## 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

Volunteers are key to the 4-H program. They enable the 4-H program to grow and thrive. These individuals donate their time, efforts and skills so that the Midway District 4-H program can excel. Staff and parents trust these volunteers to have the best interests of young people at heart.

Safety of young people is shared responsibility between volunteers, Extension staff, K-State Research and Extension, and the state. We need to do our best to protect young people through the implementation of a youth protection system. In Kansas, the youth protection system is the Kansas 4-H Volunteer Screening process.

The first step should be completing a profile on 4-H online. If your family uses the Kansas 4-H Online system at <https://v2.4honline.com>, you already have a family account. Login to your family and add yourself as a new family member if you don't already have an adult profile. If your family has never used 4-H Online, you will need to create a new family account before creating an adult profile for yourself. The following resource may assist you: New Adult Volunteer Enrollment

Complete the Kansas 4-H Volunteer Orientation available through Kansas 4-H Online or in person through your local Extension office.

After completing the Kansas 4-H Volunteer Orientation, notify the Extension office about completing the training, schedule an interview appointment, and get started on the required Criminal background check.

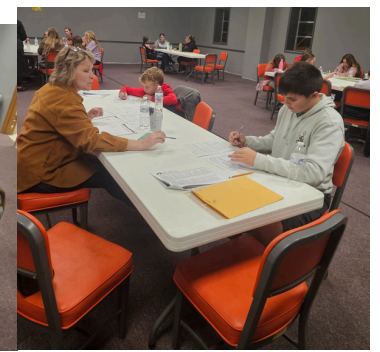
Once all these steps are complete and no problems or concerns are found, your name will be presented to the local Extension Board for approval and appointment as a 4-H volunteer for our program.



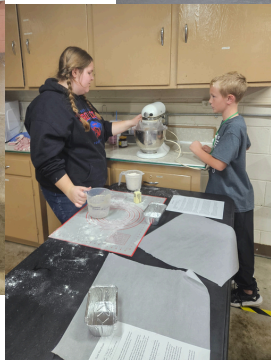
# 4-H in the News



Beyond Ready 4-H Officer Training was held on Friday, November 15 at Great Bend. 4-H members from Midway District, Cottonwood District (Barton and Ellis Counties), and Hodgeman County attended. We had volunteers lead officer sessions. This event allows members to learn more information about their elected office and parents get a chance to discuss. They will take back what they learned to their clubs. 4-Hers are now "Beyond Ready" to successfully do their elected office and help teach others.



Russell County 4-H Jr. Leaders held a Project Fair Day Camp on Sunday, November 3, 2024 at the Russell 4-H building. 26 kids attended the Project Fair. The Jr. Leaders offered 7 different sessions for the kids to pick from. Which included, Fiber Arts, Style Revue, Foods and Nutrition, Small Engines, Poster/ Displays, Woodworking, and Cloverbuds. Thank you to the Dane G. Hansen Day Camp Grant for sponsoring this event. Save the date for Sunday, November 2 for next years Project Fair!





# 4-H Happenings



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## FAVORITE FOOD SHOW

January 19, 2025 at 2:00PM

Russell 4-H Building  
702 Fairway Dr, Russell, KS 67665

For more information visit:  
[Favorite Foods Show Handbook](#)

Recipes are due to the Extension Office  
by January 8th at 11:59pm

Use the link or QR code  
to submit your recipe  
[https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1ROEIh5WPcsGLRQ](https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1ROEIh5WPcsGLRQ)



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 Karrie Van Winkle, Ambassadors at the State of Livestock, 785-483-3157 and 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.

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## YQCA YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS

### 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 THESE FOLLOWING DATES AND TIMES:

**THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025 6:00-7:30PM**

Russell County 4-H Fair Building (702 Fairway Dr, Russell, KS 67665)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025 6:00-7:30PM**

Ellsworth Recreation Center (221 W Douglas Ave, Ellsworth, KS 67439)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025 1:00-2:30PM**

Wilson United Methodist Church (2404 Ave F, Wilson, KS 67490)

We will meet in the education center behind the church.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21 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/>

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NW KS 4-H AG AMBASSADORS PRESENT THE

## AG & STEM YOUTH DAY CAMP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4TH, 2025

1-4:30 PM

Watch for more info!  
exact location TBD,  
HAYS, KS

- RECOMMENDED FOR AGES 7-13
- OPEN TO ANY YOUTH!
- FUN GROUP ACTIVITIES
- HANDS-ON, AMBASSADOR-LED STATIONS INCLUDE:
  - LIVESTOCK DIGESTIVE SYSTEMS
  - FOOD SAFETY 101
  - GERMINATION STATION
  - FARM SAFETY
  - TASTY MILK SCIENCE
- SNACK SERVED!



**\$15/YOUTH**  
Pay at the door.  
Register by Dec. 20!

Scan me to register,  
or visit:  
[https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3dAlusZyCt7qCu](https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3dAlusZyCt7qCu)



For questions, contact:  
Twin Creeks Extension District-Graham County  
785.421.3411 or jenileem@ksu.edu

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DANE G. HANSEN  
FOUNDATION

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 Jenilee Godsey two weeks prior to the start of the event, January 4, 2025 at jenileegodsey@ksu.edu or 785-421-3411. 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.

# SAVE

## 2024-2025 BEEF WEIGH IN

ELLSWORTH  
ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
FEBRUARY 15TH  
FROM  
8:00AM-11:00AM

# THE

# DATE

RUSSELL  
VETERINARY SERVICE  
FEBRUARY 16TH  
FROM  
2:00PM TO 5:00PM





# Upcoming Events



## December 1

4-H Online Enrollment Due  
to do District Club Day

## Dec. 24 - Jan. 1

Offices are Closed for Holidays

## January 8

Favorite Food Show entries due

## January 10

Regional Record Books Due

## January 19

Favorite Food Show

## January 20

Offices Closed - Martin Luther  
Jr. Day

## January 22

District Club Day Entries Due

Upcoming Events: Be sure to  
regularly check the Midway  
District website for upcoming  
events.

[https://www.midway.k-  
state.edu/events/](https://www.midway.k-state.edu/events/)



[www.facebook.com/Midway4H](http://www.facebook.com/Midway4H)  
[www.facebook.com/MidwayKSRE](http://www.facebook.com/MidwayKSRE)



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@ksre\_midway

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.

### **Karrie will be working in the Ellsworth Office**

December 5    December 10

December 17    January 8

January 14

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## December 2024

AC-Ash Creek, BC-Big Creek, CL-County Liners, EH-Elkhorn,  
LS-Lonestar, SF-Sunflower, SS-Shooting Sports,  
TT-Trying Tommies, WW-Wilson Winners, WCV-Wolf Creek Valley

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Club Meetings: BC	2 Club Meetings: ECFA Meeting	3	4	5	6 4-H ONLINE ENTRY DEADLINE FOR CLUB DAYS	7
8	9 Club Meetings: RS Fairboard	10	11	12 Extension Board Meeting - EW	13	14
15 Club Meetings: AC/WW/LS/SF/CL	16	17	18 Club Meeting: WCV	19	20	21
22 EW Jr. Leaders Club Meetings: EH/TT	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve				

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## January 2025

AC-Ash Creek, BC-Big Creek, CL-County Liners, EH-Elkhorn,  
LS-Lonestar, SF-Sunflower, SS-Shooting Sports,  
TT-Trying Tommies, WW-Wilson Winners, WCV-Wolf Creek Valley

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 OFFICE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY	2	3	4
5 Club Meetings: BC	6 Club Meetings: ECFA Meeting EW Jr. Leaders	7	8 FAVORITE FOODS RECIPE/ENTRY	9 Extension Board Meeting - RS	10	11
12	13 ML King Day OFFICES CLOSED Club Meetings: RS Fairboard	14	15 Club Meetings: WCV	16	17	18
19 FAVORITE FOODS SHOW Club Meetings: AC/WW/LS/SF/CL	20 Club Meetings: RS Council	21	22 Club Day Entries Due	23	24	25
26 Club Meetings: TT/EH	27 Club Meetings: RS Council RS Jr. Leaders	28	29	30	31	