












# OCTOBER 2025

## Highlights:

-  October 5-11: National 4-H Week
-  October 9: 4-H Events Council Meeting
-  October 11-12: 48 Hours of 4-H
-  November 15: Achievement Night

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# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

## Dates to Remember:

- October 1: 4-H Enrollment Opens
- October 5-11: National 4-H Week
- October 9: Events Council Meeting
- October 11-12: 48 Hours of 4-H
- November 15: Achievement Night

**Please send Chatterbox submissions to Lisa and Grace by October 26**

**Visit us on the Web:**  
[www.shawnee.ksu.edu](http://www.shawnee.ksu.edu)

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## A Word From Your Agent...

Happy 4-H New Year! I hope that your 4-H year has started off well and that you are enrolled. We will send the Chatterbox out to everyone through November and then will switch over to the 2025-2026 mailing list, so be sure to enroll soon so you don't miss anything!

As you enroll, be aware that the names of some of the projects are different than what we use for county fair divisions. The division with the most significant difference is Construction Zone. In 4-H Online, it is listed as Building Block Engineering: Construction Zone, so if you want to take Legos to the fair, be sure to select that one!

You will want to mark you calendars for Achievement Night on November 15th! Achievement Night postcards with more details will be going in the mail soon, so keep an eye out!

4-Hers who will be 14-18 years old before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 and want to learn more about leadership and statewide 4-H should check out the KYLF information on page 5! We are able to provide attendees with \$100 scholarships again this year, as long as the 4-Her is enrolled before KYLF starts!

## Changes to 4-H Online Messaging

The 4-H Online broadcast system will no longer allow us to send text message notifications when we send emails. If you would like to be signed up for text messages about county events and activities, please join our county-wide GroupMe here:

[https://groupme.com/join\\_group/102815469/5JDLS55L](https://groupme.com/join_group/102815469/5JDLS55L)

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## County Notes

### Promotional Materials Available

If your club is having a table or display at an upcoming event or during National 4-H Week and you would like flyers promoting Shawnee County 4-H, please reach out to Grace or Lisa! We do need a few days notice, so please keep that in mind. Enrollment for the new 4-H year opens October 1<sup>st</sup> so now is a great time to recruit new members and volunteers!

### Congratulations Judging Contest Participants!

Crops: Shawnee County 4-H'ers competed in the Crops Identification Contest the first weekend of the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. Team members study and identify 100 crop, weed, and seed samples that are common to Kansas. Overall, the Senior Team placed 4<sup>th</sup> and the Intermediate Team placed 2<sup>nd</sup>. Individual placings in the Senior Division were; Kaiden Thomas, 1<sup>st</sup>; Holden Wolf, 9<sup>th</sup>; and Chance Nolte, 18<sup>th</sup>. Dylan Bahner and Daniel Biggs also contributed to the team. Individual placings in the Intermediate Division were; Tyler Thomas, 1<sup>st</sup>; Clint Wolf, 7<sup>th</sup>, and Macy Nolte, 10<sup>th</sup>. Those interested in being part of next year's team, please inquire at the Extension Office.

-John Kabus, coach

#### Ag Challenge of Champions

Kaiden Thomas

#### Livestock Judging

Austin Weber

Lilly Bayless

Mary Leigh Myers

Sheldon Weber

#### Photography Judging Contest

Miles Burgess

#### Horticulture Judging Contest

Intermediate Team, 4<sup>th</sup> place    Senior Team, 6<sup>th</sup> place

#### Wheat Expo

Harley Brossard  
1<sup>st</sup> place Yeast Rolls

Cooper Mengarelli  
Grayson Kuckelman (top 10)  
Keaton Mengarelli

Caden Kuckelman  
Elvira High  
Shelby Showalter

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## Shawnee County 4-H Exchange

The Shawnee County 4-H Interstate Exchange Program is accepting applications from 4-H members age 13 (must be 14 by mid-June) to 18 years old for our 2026-27 rotation. If you love to travel, meet new people, and learn about 4-H in other states than this program is for you. The Exchange group currently meets on the 1st Thursday of the month. Next Meeting is October 2nd at 7 pm in the Extension Office downstairs meeting room.

Applications are due to the Extension Office or Twyla Hernandez by October 24, 2025. The application is available at [https://www.shawnee.k-state.edu/4-h/current\\_events/](https://www.shawnee.k-state.edu/4-h/current_events/).

## Livestock Corner

October 3-5: Kansas Junior Livestock Show



## Livestock Educational Sessions

Attendance of at least 2 of 3 educational meetings hosted by the 4-H Livestock Committee is required to sell animals at the Shawnee County Fair Livestock Sale. Meetings will be recorded this year in the event that a 4-Her needs to make up the session.

October 15: Extension Meeting Room, 6-7 pm

February 25: Extension Meeting Room, 6-7 pm

May 20: Extension Meeting Room, 6-7 pm

## Livestock Judging Practices

If you are interested in improving your livestock judging skills, please join Rick Blush in the downstairs conference room of the extension office for any of our upcoming practices! This is a great way to learn about livestock selection, better understand class rankings, and prepare for the county judging contest! Bonus, participating in a county judging contest is an activity option on many of the pin applications!

October 13<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm

October 27<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm

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## State News

### National 4-H Week is October 5-11

Join us in celebrating National 4-H Week!

Set up a display in your yard, at your school, or where your club meets! Wear your green and show everyone you are a proud member of 4-H!

October 6: Go Green Day (wear your green!)

October 9: 4-H for Good Day

October 11 & 12: 48 Hours of 4-H



## Beyond Ready

### 48 Hours of 4-H

It's time to make plans for your club to participate in 48 Hours of 4-H!

Registration for is open on the website! Visit <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/> to register your project!

When: October 11-12, 2025

Who: 4-H Members, 4-H Clubs, Friends, Adult Volunteers, Parents, 4-H Alumni



### 48 Hours of 4-H at Rock Springs Ranch State 4-H Center

4-H families and volunteers have the opportunity to help at a Volunteer Workday at Rock Springs Ranch on Saturday, October 11! There are options for indoor or outdoor and high intensity or low intensity projects. RSVP at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9\\_oJM76ebvy-MwpArAPA3IIBYx\\_ogZLA4RhWZSGogNGg1kw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9_oJM76ebvy-MwpArAPA3IIBYx_ogZLA4RhWZSGogNGg1kw/viewform) by OCTOBER 1!

# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## **Kansas 4-H Leadership Weekend- Registration Open!**

Date: November 22-23

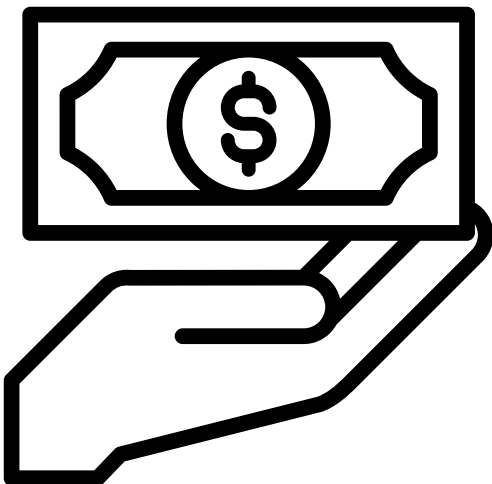
Location: Rock Springs Ranch

The Kansas 4-H Leadership Weekend consists of the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum and the Kansas Volunteer Leader Forum.

KYLF is for youth ages 14-18 before January 1, 2026, and KVF is for all Kansas 4-H Volunteers. KYLF will feature leadership workshops, Youth Council Elections, and opportunities to learn and have fun. The Kansas 4-H Volunteer Leader Forum will feature workshops and information to help volunteers be more effective and learn from each other. This Forum for adults is organized by the Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers.

Registration is open now! Again, this year, participants in both forums will register through the same system. Registration deadline is October 15, 2025, for both events. There will also be an option for coming in on Friday evening and having breakfast Saturday morning for those coming from a distance.

More information and the registration link are available at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/>



 **County Scholarships**   
**Available!**

Shawnee County 4-H has \$100 scholarships for ALL our members attending KYLF!

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## Best Practices for 4-H Publicity: What Families and Volunteers Need to Know

As we begin the 2025–2026 4-H year, it's important to understand how publicity permissions are handled and how we, as Extension professionals, can responsibly share the stories and successes of you, our 4-H members.

### What Is the Publicity Release?

When families enroll in 4-H Online, they are asked to agree (or not agree) to a **publicity release**. This release gives permission for the use of a member's name, image, and likeness by:

- Local Extension Units
- Kansas State University (including the State 4-H Office)
- The Kansas 4-H Foundation

This includes use in photos, videos, social media, websites, press releases, and more. If a family selects "**I Do Not Agree**," their child's name and image **cannot** be used. Some examples include:

- Kansas State Fair & County Fair entry cards, schedules, or results
- Local or state contests
- Social media posts
- News articles or promotional materials

### Additional Consent Questions

To provide more clarity, families are asked to give specific permission for:

- First and last name
- Extension unit
- 4-H club or town name
- Media (photos, video, audio, etc.)
- Print-only media
- Social media
- County fair-related publicity

These responses **override** the general publicity release and help guide what can or cannot be shared publicly.

These practices help protect youth privacy while still celebrating their achievements.

To view the complete best practices document, please go [here](#). If you have questions about publicity permissions or how to apply these best practices, please contact your local Extension Office.



# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Club Chatter

### Deer Trail

The Deer Trail 4-H meeting on September 8th was a potluck! The food was great. One of our group members made a slideshow.

-Arlo Odgers



### Rossville Rustlers

The Rossville Rustlers 4-H Club met September 14, 2025, at the Citizen Potawatomi Community Building. The Club held the office elections for the new year. The officers are;

President - Kelton Lacock

Vice President - Chloe Clayton

Secretary - Sarah Wood

Treasurer - Mason Geiger

Reporter - Valencia Crawford

Historian - Calvin Heusi

Council Rep - shared by all of the above

Recreation/Song leader - Emma Crawford

Jr. President - Natalie Geiger

Jr. Vice President - Judah Wood



They also recognized Melissa Thompson for service to the Club. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2025, and will be at Gary's Berries Pumpkin Patch from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

-Valencia Crawford



# Shawnee County 4-H Chatterbox

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## Silver Lake

Silver Lake 4-H club held their meeting at the Silver Lake United Methodist Church. The club had a hayrack ride after the meeting, and several members brought their animals to participate in the Silver Lake Homecoming parade. The next meeting is October 12th, 2025 at the Silver Lake United Methodist Church.

-Clara Thomas



Our members on our fall fest hayride

## Horse Club

The Shawnee County 4-H Horse Club was well represented at the Kansas State Fair. We had riders placing in all categories with Paige Chockley in ranch classes, Alexis Chockley and one of our first time State Fair competitors, Lyla Boland, in the performance classes, and Lakyn Stoneking and our other first time State Fair competitor, Abbigale Capes, in the racing events. We also had Lakyn Stoneking compete in the Wild Horse Youth Challenge for the first time. She placed third overall in her age group.

-Alexis Chockley

## Grove

On September 26, the Grove 4-H Club participated in the Silver Lake Homecoming parade. The theme of Homecoming was road trip. The club won 3rd Place in the Community category for their float Youth Under Construction/Send The Bears on a Detour.



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## Shawnee County 4-H Calendar

### October 2025

- 1 Beginning of 4-H Year
- 2 Shooting Sports II, EMR, 6:30 pm  
4-H Exchange, Downstairs Conference Room, 7 pm
- 3-5 Kansas Junior Livestock Show
- 5-11 National 4-H Week
- 6 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 9 4-H Events Council Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 11-12 48 Hours of 4-H
- 13 Livestock Judging Practice, Downstairs Conference Room, 7 pm
- 15 Livestock Educational Session, EMR, Livestock Committee Meeting, Downstairs Conference Room, 7:15 pm
- 18-19 Kansas 4-H Dog Conference, Rock Springs
- 23 Horse Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 26 Chatterbox Submissions Due**
- 27 Paw Prints Dog Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm  
Livestock Judging Practice, Downstairs Conference Room, 7 pm
- 28 Shawnee County Fair Board, EMR, 7 pm

EMR= Extension Meeting Room  
at Extension Office

### November 2025

- 3 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 6 Shooting Sports II, EMR, 6:30 pm  
4-H Exchange, Downstairs Conference Room, 7 pm
- 11 Office Closed- Veteran's Day
- 14 Office Closed- staff working remote
- 15 Achievement Night, Berryton United Methodist Church, 6 pm**
- 19 Livestock Committee Meeting, Downstairs Conference Room, 7:15 pm
- 22-23 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, Rock Springs
- 24 Paw Prints Dog Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 25 Shawnee County Fair Board, EMR, 7 pm
- 26 Chatterbox Submissions Due**
- 27-28 Office Closed- Thanksgiving**



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All dates and activities are subject to change.