



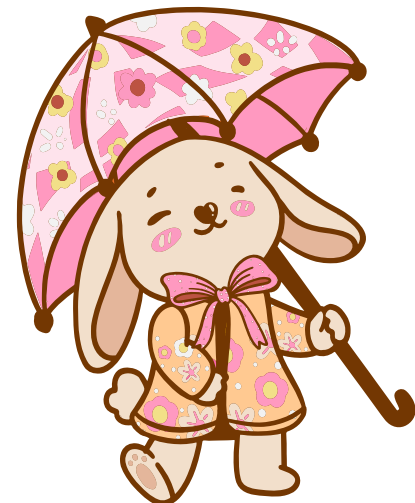
# APRIL 2026

## Highlights:

- 💧 April 9: Events Council Meeting
- 💧 April 11: K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day
- 💧 April 18: YQCA Session
- 💧 April 26: Small Animal Weigh-In and Tagging

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# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

## Dates to Remember:

- April 9: Events Council Meeting
- April 11: K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day
- April 18: YQCA Session
- April 26: Small Animal Weigh-In and Tagging

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

Search for Shawnee County 4-H



Please send Chatterbox submissions to Lisa and Grace by April 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 Spring! With the weather warming up and the 4-H programming gearing up, this is a very exciting time of year!

Remember, May 1 is still our 4-H enrollment deadline. With the program fee, please do not wait until May 1st to enroll or check your projects. We are not able to add a 4-H project or accept an enrollment on May 2nd. If you do not have your enrollment submitted by May 1st, you will not be able to exhibit at the County Fair. If you need to add a project, you will need to contact the Extension office and have us add it for you.

You only get Chatterbox if you are enrolled in 4-H Online. The projects you are enrolled in on May 1st are the only projects you can participate in for the county fair. GOING TO PROJECT MEETINGS DOES NOT ENROLL YOU IN THAT PROJECT. GOING TO 4-H MEETINGS DOES NOT

ENROLL YOU IN 4-H. If you have any questions, please let me know. 4-H'ers can join a club after May 1st but they cannot participate in 4-H divisions of the 2026 Shawnee County Fair.

There are \$100 scholarships available for Discovery Days again this year! If you are an enrolled Shawnee County 4-Her, we will apply the amount directly to your balance before invoicing you. Registration can be found here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/discovery-days/>

## Ambassador Information

Ambassador meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of even months, at 6 pm before Events Council. If you'd like to join, we'll see you on April 9<sup>th</sup> in the upstairs meeting room!

We are updating our email list for Ambassadors! 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.office.com/r/42n2ayuTaC>



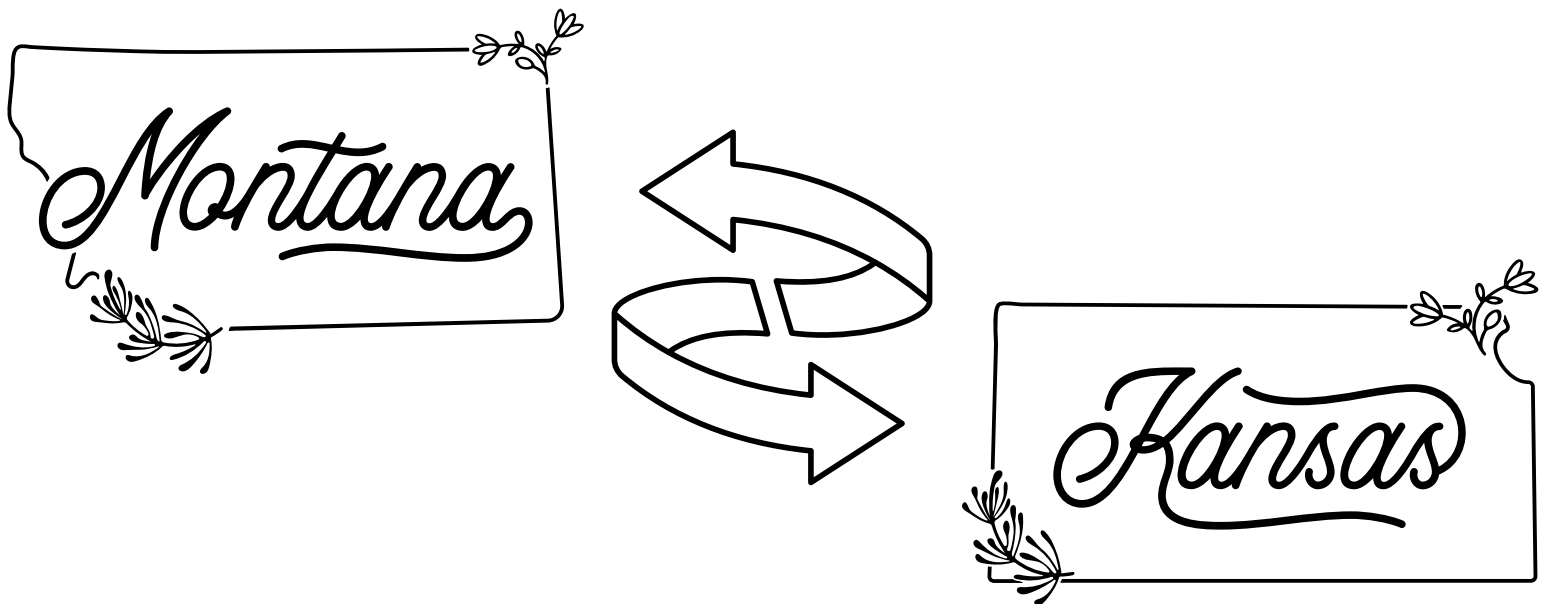
# Shawnee County 4-H Chatterbox

"To Make the Best Better!"

## County Notes

### Shawnee County 4-H Exchange

The Shawnee County 4-H Exchange group is looking for one more girl age 13-17 who would like to join the 26-27 rotation. It is a two year commitment. We will be hosting a group from Montana this summer and will travel next summer. If interested please contact Twyla Hernandez by email at [twylah78@gmail.com](mailto:twylah78@gmail.com).



### Volunteer Appreciation Month

April is National Volunteer Month! We want to give a giant **THANK YOU** to all our volunteers for everything you do to help our program make the best better!

Keep an eye on the Shawnee County K-State Extension page to see daily volunteer features from our office all month!



-Grace

-Lisa

# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## King & Queen Contest

If you are a 4-H member who wants to be a part of growing your leadership skills as well as promote Shawnee County 4-H, we have an opportunity for you. We are accepting nominations now until April 15th for the next Shawnee County 4-H King and Queen. 4-Hers that are 14 and older and have been a member of 4-H for at least 3 years can apply. This is a scholarship program as well as a program that will enrich life skills. Your club leader has the nomination form, so reach out to them if interested in representing your club. Once nominations have closed, we will send out applications and those applications will be due June 5th at 4:59 pm. Interviews and speeches will be presented the morning of June 20th and the crowning ceremony will be Sunday afternoon, July 26th.

We also want to encourage all 4-H youth who are 9-13 years of age to apply to be next year's Shawnee County 4-H Prince and Princess. This opportunity also allows youth to gain valuable experiences as they learn to fill out an application and talk to a judge. Club leaders have this nomination form also, so reach out to them if interested in being your club's representative. Once nominations have closed, we will send out applications and those applications will be due June 5th at 4:59 pm. Interviews will be presented the morning of June 20th and the crowning ceremony will be Sunday afternoon, July 26th.

Please reach out with any questions.

Kelsey Louderback and Austin Weber



# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Livestock Corner

### 2026 Weigh-In and Tagging Dates

Please note, all county fair animals must be tagged by the Friday following their species tagging date. Any 4-Her wishing to participate in the Rate of Gain contest must have their animal present at the tagging date for official weigh-in. Animals that are only going to State Fair or KJLS have a later deadline. Arrangements must be made with Grace for tagging state animals.

### Small Animal (Bucket Calf, Meat Goat, Sheep, Swine)

Sunday, April 26, 1-4 pm at Blythe Farms  
(Address will be sent to project members)

### 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.

May 20: Extension office, 6-7 pm

### 2026 YQCA Dates- Shawnee County

Saturday, April 18 at 9 am  
Thursday, May 28 at 6 pm

Reach out to the office if you  
have any questions!



"To Make the Best Better!"

## 2026 Spring Show

This year's event information including the show flyer and rules & regulations document are on our website at [https://www.shawnee.k-state.edu/4-h/4-h\\_livestock/spring\\_show/](https://www.shawnee.k-state.edu/4-h/4-h_livestock/spring_show/).



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## State News

### IPM Insect Art Contest

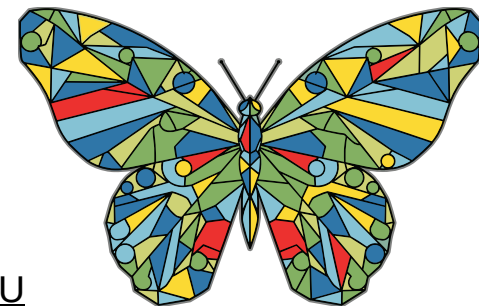
The K-State Extension Pesticide Safety and IPM Program is hosting its annual insect-themed art contest, open to all ages and skill levels in Kansas! This year's theme is "Metamorphosis Magic." The goal is to explore insects that undergo complete and incomplete metamorphosis, then create artwork that fits the contest theme. Artwork may include drawings or paintings, digital art, or a 3-D piece such as sculpture, stained glass, or other creative media.

Awards will be given for 1st-3rd place in each of the following age categories:

- Kindergarten - 2nd grade
- 3rd grade - 5th grade
- 6th grade - 8th grade
- High school
- Adult

Entries must be received or postmarked before April 15, 2026.

Full contest rules and details are available at: <https://bit.ly/3NHuIEU>



### Spring Into Volunteering

This is for anyone serving as a 4-H Volunteer or considering it! The goal is for volunteers to go home recharged, excited, and ready to try new things in their volunteer roles.

Registration is available at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/volunteers/volunteer-continuing-education/>!

Registration closes April 15!



**Spring Into Volunteering**  
Saturday, April 25, 2026

The Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers  
**Join us for a day of collaborative learning, skill enhancement, and fun!**

**Featured Sessions:**

- Beyond Ready strategies for today's youth
- Artificial Intelligence tools for 4-H Volunteers
- Engaging older youth
- Grab and go engagement ideas

**To register:**  
Scan the QR code  
or visit <https://bit.ly/4sgaGeW>  
Registration deadline is April 15, 2026  
Registration Fee: \$25.00

**Beyond Ready**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
K-State Salina Aerospace and Technology Campus  
Salina, Ks.



# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Discovery Days

**LEAD WITH HEART, THINK WITH  
COURAGE, ACT WITH WISDOM**

When: June 3-5th, 2026

Where: Kansas State University

Who: Youth ages 13-18 before January 1,  
2026 are invited to register

Cost: \$245

Registration Closes: May 8th

Find details and the link for registration at  
<https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/discovery-days/>



## Upcoming State Events

Keep an eye out for more information coming soon for events this spring and summer!

- June 12-14, State Geology Field Trip
- June 19-20, Insect Spectacular, Yates Center

**SAVE THE DATE**

# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Club Chatter

### Auburn

The Auburn 4-H Club held their monthly meeting on March 9th. 4-H Club day participants were recognized and presented their ribbons. In new business the club voted to participate in the Master Gardener bake sale fundraiser in May. Kelsey Louderback gave a presentation on how to make pipe cleaner flowers. Jack Louderback showed us how to make a Euro Deer head mount. Lily Bayless did a presentation on how to make a full body turkey frame. Our next monthly meeting will be held on April 13th.

-Harley Brossard

### Deer Trail

The Deer Trail 4H club met on March 9th, 2026 at the extension office meeting room for our monthly meeting. We discussed project sign up for the fair, had a fun activity "egg on a spoon race" and one of our members did a project talk.

-Arlo Odgers



# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Riverside

Riverside 4-H Club had our March meeting at Berryton United Methodist Church. We had a project talk by Kyndal Lynch. Congratulations to Brooklyn Powell for her art being selected for the county fairbook. Mary Beth handed out ribbons from County 4-H Day. After the meeting, we practiced our skit for Regional 4-H Day on March 21st in Baldwin City. Our next meeting will be on April 13 at 7:00pm at BUMC.

-Willa Tucker

## Rossville Rustlers

The Rossville Rustlers 4-H club held their monthly meeting at the Citizen Potawatomi Community Building March 25, 2026. The members reviewed meeting agenda items with special focus on the club fundraiser. The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, April 20, 2026.

-Valencia Crawford



# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Topeka Trailblazers



We had our meeting. The King showed up. The 4-H agent played games with us. We made a habitat. Mine was a bear in hibernation. My cat, Dot, came to the meeting and I spoke about her.

-Max Diehl

## Silver Lake

The Junior Leaders led the Silver Lake 4-H Community Club at the last meeting, and Mary Leigh Myers and John Henry Myers gave great project talks. Congratulations to Hanna Myers for qualifying for Regional 4-H days in Career Exploration and Digital Media. Join the fun at the next Silver Lake 4-H Community Club meeting on April 19th at 4 pm at Silver Lake United Methodist Church.

- Clara Thomas



Hanna Myers  
 Royal Valley FCCLA Chapter  
 Royal Valley High School  
 Hoyt, Kansas  
**CAREER INVESTIGATION, Level 2**  
 for Military Dentist

# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Grove



Grove 4-H members are getting ready for a busy Spring and Summer. Over Spring Break, some members started fair projects. Many in the club are also welcoming their new animals they will show in the fair. At the March meeting, older and younger members were paired up to practice making motions and details in a motion for a meeting.

-Chance Nolte

## Bunny Bunch

Febuary we made valentine cards for the retirement center in Topeka and delivered them. We also brought rabbits for the residents to visit with. Everyone had a great time This month we discussed our county fair and learned about royalty record book keeping. Our next meeting is April 6th at 7pm at the extension office and May 4th.

-Brooklynn Powell



# Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

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## Shawnee County 4-H Calendar

### April 2026

- 1 Sportfishing, EMR, 6pm
- 2 4-H Exchange, EMR, 7 pm
- 6 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 8 Sportfishing, EMR, 6pm
- 9 4-H Events Council Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 11 K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day, Manhattan
- 15 From Farm To You, Domer Arena, **office closed 9 am-2 pm**
  - Sportfishing, EMR, 6 pm
  - Livestock Committee Meeting, Downstairs Conference Room, 7:15 pm
- 16 Shooting Sports II, EMR, 6 pm
  - Archery Practice, Domer Arena, 6 pm
- 18 YQCA session, EMR, 9 am
- 21 Geology, TSCPL-Marvin B, 7 pm
- 22 Sportfishing, EMR, 6 pm
- 23 Horse Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 26 Small Animal Tagging, 1-4 pm
  - Chatterbox Submissions Due**
- 27 Paw Prints Dog Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 28 Shawnee County Fair Board, EMR, 7 pm
- 29 Sportfishing, EMR, 6 pm

### May 2026

#### **1 LAST DAY TO ENROLL**

- 4 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 7 4-H Exchange, EMR, 7 pm
- 9 Shawnee County Livestock Spring Show, Holton
- 14 Archery Practice, Domer Arena, 6 pm
- 19 Geology, TSCPL- Marvin B, 7 pm
- 21 Shooting Sports II, EMR, 6 pm
- 25 Paw Prints Dog Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
- 26 Shawnee County Fair Board, EMR, 7 pm
  - Chatterbox Submissions Due**
- 28 Archery Practice, Domer Arena, 6 pm
  - YQCA session, Downstairs Conference Room, 6 pm
  - Horse Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm

### **EMR= Extension Meeting Room at Extension Office**

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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.

