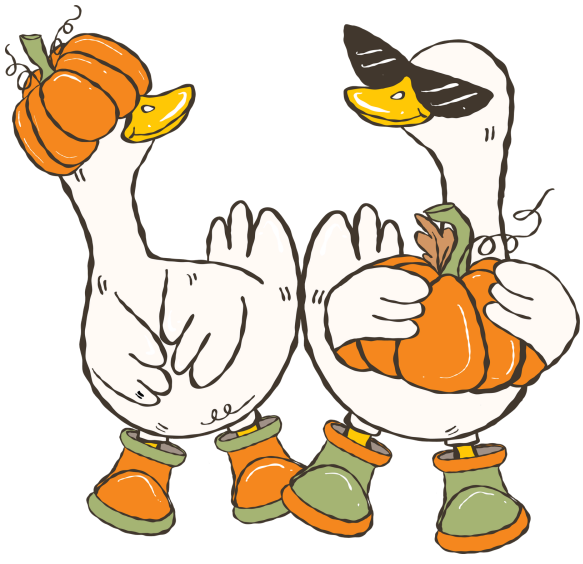
NOVEMBER 2026

Highlights:

- **November 7**: Achievement Night
- **November 11**: Office Closed - Veterans Day
- **November 17**: Office Closed - Staff at Professional Development
- **November 26-27**: Office Closed- Thanksgiving Holiday

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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Dates to Remember:

- November 7: Achievement Night
- November 11: Office Closed - Veterans Day
- November 17: Office Closed - Staff at Professional Development
- November 26-27: Office Closed- Thanksgiving

Please send Chatterbox submissions to Malorie by November 23.

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

Candis Stiles
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Malorie Facile
Communications Coordinator
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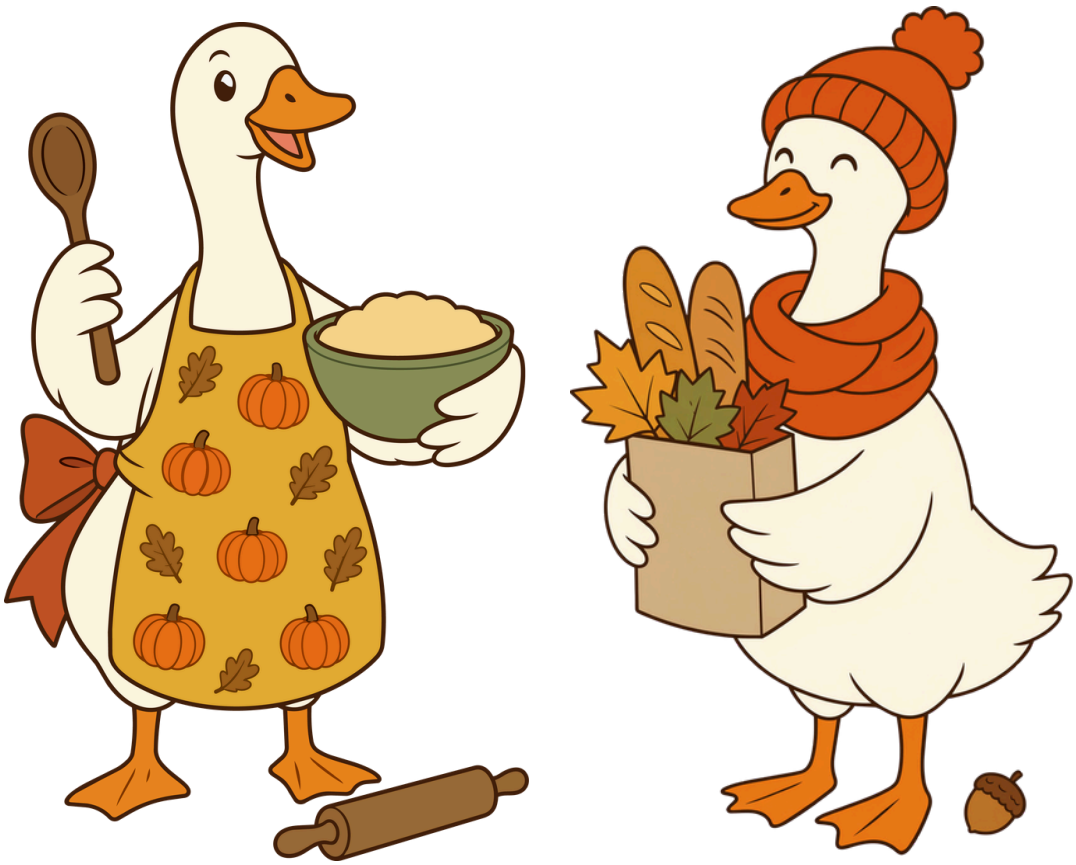
A Word From Your Agent...

Hello 4-H Families! I hope your 4-H year is off to a good start and that you are enrolled. This will be the last Chatterbox you receive via email if you have not yet enrolled in 4-H Online for the 2026-2027 year.

We are excited to see you at Achievement Night on the 7th at Berryton United Methodist Church! Doors open at 6 and the program starts at 6:30. There will be door prizes and snacks!

I also wanted to share that I have accepted another position and will be leaving the Extension Office on November 10th. It has been wonderful to serve you all and the Shawnee County 4-H program, and I look forward to continuing to volunteer at activities and to cheering you all on! While the Extension Board works to hire a new 4-H Agent, articles for the Chatterbox will go directly to Malorie, and all other 4-H questions will be directed to Candis.

Have a great November and Thanksgiving season!
-Grace



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

County Notes

Achievement Night 2026

Stars, Stripes, and Excellence

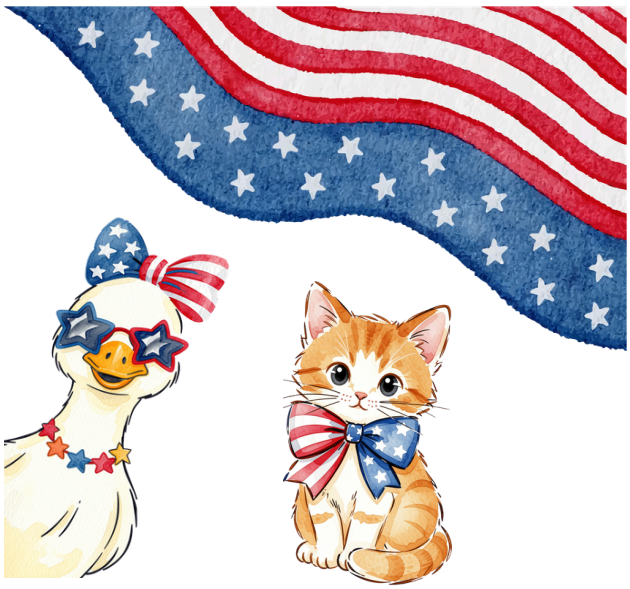
November 7, 2026

Berryton United Methodist Church

Doors open 6 pm

Program starts 6:30 pm

All 4-H families are invited to attend! Attire to match the theme is welcome!





Officer Training

Officer Training will take place **Sunday, November 15** at **6pm** at the **National Guard Museum**

Register here by November 12th: https://forms.gle/rApYR1YD26i4Kd217.

Wheat Kit Assembly

Assembling wheat science kits for our School Enrichment program will take place on ***Monday, January 4th*** starting at **1 pm** in the Extension Meeting Room (EMR) upstairs. If you want to help, please let Mal know by December 28!



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

2027 Fishing & Archery Dates

Sign Up And Info Meeting for 4H Archery and Fishing: March 11, 2027 - 6pm to 7pm

Fishing - 6pm to 8pm Unless otherwise noted at Shawnee Lake
April 6
April 13
April 20
May 11
May 18

Archery - 6pm to 8pm Unless otherwise noted at Domer Livestock Arena
April 15
April 29
May 13
May 27
June 24
Fair July 23rd

From the Fair Board

2026 Fair Theme Contest

We are starting the fair prep early this year! Over the next couple of months, think about your best fair theme ideas. Consider things like decorating potential, snappy taglines, and potential cover art inspiration! The Fair Board will be voting on the theme at their November meeting, so submissions will be due to Candis (candism@ksu.edu) by Monday, November 23rd.



Kansas State University | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Fair Board Seeking New Members

The Shawnee County Fair Board is seeking new members to join and help plan the fair! This is a great opportunity to bring your ideas to the fair and help make it a great event for our 4-Hers and the community. If you are interested, they meet at 7:00 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month in the upstairs meeting room at the Extension Office. You may also reach out by email to shawneecofairboard@gmail.com with any questions.

Livestock Corner

K-State Junior Producer Days

These are one-day, educational events for families to learn about the selection and management of youth livestock projects. Both events will be held at the brand new Bilbrey Family Event Center in Manhattan!

Registration information will be released in the next few weeks. Once released, updates will be posted on the youth livestock program Facebook page, as well as at https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/ks-jr-producer/.



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

State News

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

As we begin the 2026–2027 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 K-State Extension and Kansas 4-H)
- 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:

- Name and Location (First Name, Last Name, Extension unit, and Name of 4-H Club)
- Media (recording of participation and appearance using video, audio, photo, writing, print, social media, electronic means, website, and/or any other medium)

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

Best Practices for Sharing Youth Information for Extension Professionals

Even when full permission is granted, it is a *best practice* to:

- Use **first names only** in social media posts.
- If no consent is given, refer to youth as:
- "A 4-H member from [Club Name]"
- Or use initials, e.g., "C.C., participant from Cloverville 4-H Club"

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

To view the complete best practices document, please go to kansas4-h.org/resources/policy-guide/docs/BMP%20for%204-H%20Publicity%2009.2026.pdf. If you have questions about publicity permissions or how to apply these best practices, please contact your local Extension Office.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

State News

Cool Careers Video Production Contest

This was our second year for the Cool Careers Student Edition Video Series. This is a partnership between Kansas 4-H Youth Development and Hirepaths. Hirepaths first launched in 2021 as a Kansas-based marketing campaign to introduce children and families to high-demand careers. This partnership helps Kansas 4-H bring career exploration, a Beyond Ready component, to each 4-H project!

In 2026, we held a class at Discovery Days instructing youth on how Cool Careers Videos can be designed and implemented with technology they already have – a cell phone, camera, or tablet. We also have a website full of helpful resources, graphics, and music they can use, along with several video examples. We opened it up to both 4-H and non-4-H members because we know kids like working with their friends. This also helps us reach another Beyond Ready goal that every kid (4-H or non-4-H) will have a 4-H experience in their youth. We created two age categories, Intermediate and Seniors, and cash prizes were awarded for the top videos in each age division. An awards ceremony was held at the Kansas State Fair during the KSF Public Fashion Revues.

If your 4-H members want to take their project to a new level, talking with a professional in that project area helps them learn about career opportunities. It looks great in their project record forms; it's a form of leadership to connect with other youth, organize and plan a video, research careers, and explore project opportunities. Participants in Cool Careers Contest are encouraged to work with adults (teachers or media experts) who can guide them on video production. The start of the new 4-H year is a great time to plan ahead for a Cool Career Student Edition video!

Start Strong with 4-H Record Keeping and ZBooks

As another successful 4-H year comes to a close, now is the perfect time for members and families to begin organizing records and preparing their 4-H record books. Waiting until the last minute can make the process overwhelming, but keeping records updated throughout the year makes completing project reports and award applications much easier.

Record keeping is an important part of the 4-H experience. It helps youth track their progress, document goals and accomplishments, record financial information, and reflect on the life skills they have developed through project work, leadership, and community service. Strong records also provide valuable information when applying for project awards, scholarships, leadership opportunities, and recognition programs.

There is an important update to the way record books will be completed in 2027: Project Report Forms (competitive record books) will be fully switching to ZBooks next year. This is a state-wide change, and the PDF forms that are posted on the Shawnee County website and the Kansas 4-H Website will no longer be available following the completion of regional record book judging in January. More information on ZBooks, along with information on how to set up an account for your family can be found here: https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/LocalRecordKeeping.html

Good records tell the story of your 4-H journey. They showcase growth, learning, and the impact 4-H has had on your life and community. Whether you are a first-year member or preparing for senior-level recognition and scholarships, taking time now to organize your records will pay off in the future.
Don't wait until record book deadlines approach. Log in to ZBooks today, review your projects, and start documenting your 4-H successes one activity at a time!

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Club Chatter

Riverside

September Meeting | October Chatter

The Riverside 4-H Club held its monthly meeting on Sep. 14 2026 at Berryton United Methodist Church. Kyndal Lynch (parliamentarian) led an activity where members practiced how to make a motion by adding different ingredients to a trail mix. We also talked about possible fundraising ideas. 48 Hours of 4-H is Oct.10-11. Some of the older members will work on cutting back overgrown trees by a Riverside road sign, and we'll see about setting up a display at Berryton Elementary School. Mary Beth installed the new officers. The club presented Mary Beth with a thank you gift for her many years of leadership and volunteering. We will miss her greatly! Achievement Night will be November 7 at BUMC. We also need ideas from our club for fair theme. Weston Smith, Caden Kuckleman, and Hunter Inman did project talks. Our next meeting is Oct.12 at 7:00pm at Berryton United Methodist Church.

- Willa Tucker

October Meeting | November Chatter

The Riverside 4-H Club met at Berryton United Methodist Church on October 12, 2026. Jonathan and Lily did a parliamentarian report on officers, saying who they are and what they do. For our fundraising, we are going to have a flour sale (the flour is made by K-State Milling Science students). We set up a display at the Berryton Elementary School for National 4-H Week. Many club members helped serve at a soup supper for 48 Hours of 4-H. Families are encouraged to attend Achievement Night and sign up for club committees. Bring ideas for fair themes next month. Willa Tucker and Cora Tucker did their readings from 4-H Day. For recreation, we colored pictures to take to the VA. Our next meeting is November 9 at 7pm at BUMC.

- Coralee Tucker







KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Topeka Trailblazers

Trailblazers Begin the Year with Service Project

The Topeka Trailblazers volunteered to clean at the Kansas Children's Discovery Center to start the new 4-H year. Club members worked together to clean the floors, windows and high traffic areas of the building. The club also received a tour of the building and finished the afternoon with some time outdoors. The club also installed new officers in October and are looking forward to the new year!

- Addison Thompson, Club Reporter



Grove

The regular monthly meeting of the Grove 4-H Club was held on October 18th, 2026 at a member's pasture. At the meeting the new officers were installed into the club. After the meeting the members enjoyed a campfire with hotdogs and s'mores and plenty of sides. Our next meeting will be on Sunday November 15 at 2:00 pm.

- Jennifer Thomas





Kansas State University | Extension Shawnee County

Shawnee County 4-H *Chatterbox*

"To Make the Best Better!"

Shawnee County 4-H Calendar

November 2026

2 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
7 Achievement Night, Berryton United Methodist Church, 6 pm
11 Office Closed- Veterans Day
17 Office Closed - Staff at Professional Development
18 Livestock Committee Meeting, Downstairs Conference Room, 7:15 pm
21-22 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, Rock Springs
23 Paw Prints Dog Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
24 Shawnee County Fair Board, EMR, 7 pm
23 Chatterbox Submissions Due
26-27 Office Closed - Thanksgiving

December 2026

7 Bunny Bunch Club Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
10 4-H Events Council Meeting, EMR, 7 pm
16 Livestock Committee Meeting, Downstairs Conference Room, 7:15 pm
21 Chatterbox Submissions Due
22 Shawnee County Fair Board, 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.

Beyond Ready