

4-H Focus

MARCH 2025



Livestock Spring Show Season

Nothing says spring like the start of spring show season. Spring shows are a great way to get a little practice in before the fair season is here. Success during spring show season may sometimes be as simple as just getting your animal into the show ring and having it under control so that it doesn't get away from you. Small accomplishments lead up to bigger and better successes. It also gives your animals a chance to experience people, noises, loading and unloading from the trailer and everything else that goes with being away from the farm. Please keep in mind that animals who usually show at spring shows are young. Biosecurity should be on your minds all year long but especially during spring livestock shows. Do your research and talk to your vet to get the best plan to help keep your animals healthy. Remember that you wouldn't want another family to bring their animals to a spring show if they were sick, so please show them the same courtesy. Continuing to be good stewards of production agriculture means you make good decisions when it comes to your animals. Spring shows are advertised in many places. Facebook and other social media outlets have become very popular over the last few years as a great avenue to advertise spring shows. The youth livestock page on our State Extension website is also another great resource for locating upcoming spring shows. We have two spring clinics/shows coming up in Leavenworth County. The Leavenworth County Livestock Committee will be hosting their annual spring small animal livestock show at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds on May 18, 2025. Reno Bobwhites 4-H Club is hosting a Bucket Calf Clinic again this year at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds on June 22nd. Please look for a email with the registration flyer soon.

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Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Annual Training

All 4-H youth, ages 7 to 18 who are enrolled in swine, beef cattle, dairy cattle, bucket calf, sheep, all goats, rabbits, and poultry are required to take YQCA training each year. You will not be able to show at our Leavenworth County Fair or any state events without this annual certification.

What is YQCA you ask? Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a multi-species livestock quality assurance program for youth ages 7-18.

There are two option to take the course:

Option A:

Taking the course through one of our three face-to-face sessions. The course takes approximately one hour and will cost \$3 for each youth participant.

Option B:

Taking the course online through YQCA. This option is \$12 per youth participant. This option is not available for 7 year olds. They must take it in-person. All 4-H youth, ages 7-18, will need to register online through yqcaprogram.org before taking the class.

When you register, please click the 4honline box and register with your 4honline username and password.

Face-to-face trainings for 2025

All county face-to-face trainings will be held at the Leavenworth County Extension Office. All trainings will start at 6pm with registration/sign-in starting at 5:30pm.

Training 1: March 31st

Training 2: April 17th

Training 3: April 28th



Photo Boards

Before we know it, it will be time to purchase photo boards for all those beautiful photos your 4-Her has been taking. Price for photo boards will increase this year. The price for each board will move to \$1.25. Just a reminder, the Extension Office does not make money on these boards. We simply pass the cost on. Boards are available anytime at the Extension Office.

Small Animal Tagging

Goat, Sheep and Swine

Small Animal Tagging is scheduled for Sunday, May 4th. All swine, goats and sheep are required to attend this event. If you are not available this day, you must make arrangements with someone else to bring your animals. More information along with letters for each species will be coming in Late March/Early April. Please save the date!!

Attention 4-Hers in the Fiber Arts, Sewing & Textile Design and Shopping In Style projects

Peruvian Connection Tour

Join us for a unique opportunity to tour Peruvian Connection, a luxury artisan-made clothing designer, manufacturer and international retailer based in Tonganoxie (<https://www.peruvianconnection.com/>). We'll tour the design and tech design departments and learn how the company creates their women's clothing, accessories and home collections. 4-Hers in the Fiber Arts, Sewing & Textile Design and Shopping In Style projects (and anyone else interested in fashion) won't want to miss this!

What: Peruvian Connection Tour

When: Tuesday, March 18, at 11 a.m.

Where: 24535 McClouth Rd., Tonganoxie (Look for the Canaan Farms sign, then follow the driveway to the warehouse building behind the two office buildings. Park where the driveway ends. Ring the doorbell by the loading dock.)

RSVP: Anne Brockhoff, abrockhoff913@gmail.com or 913-645-4125



4-H Summer Camp at Rock Springs Ranch

Every year, thousands of kids come to 4-H Camp at Rock Springs Ranch. They unplug, explore, play and learn the kinds of lessons that can last a lifetime. Campers grow socially, emotionally, physically and cognitively. Many make friends for life. It's also just plain FUN!

The values of 4-H are at the core of Rock Springs Ranch and they guide all of our programming. We believe the lessons learned here can create a foundation for success that will last far beyond their visit. **But you don't have to be a 4-H member to come to camp at Rock Springs! Everyone is welcome, regardless of 4-H membership!**

Visit [Rock Springs Ranch](#) if you'd like to learn more about sessions, dates, rates and the 4-H Camp experience!



Quarterly Cloverbud Meeting

Kansas State Research and Extension and 4-H Youth Development offers an educational program specifically designed for youth ages 5 and 6 called Cloverbuds. Children of this age have distinctive learning characteristics and developmental needs that are different from older youth who participate in 4-H. That is why the 4-H Cloverbuds program is designed with specific educational objectives and policies focused to benefit 5- and 6-year-old children.

4-H Cloverbuds may not participate in any competitive 4-H events, but they may showcase their exhibits at county fair and public events. 4-H Cloverbuds are allowed to showcase a pet from the approved list in accordance with 4-H Cloverbuds pet policies. 4-H Cloverbuds may not own and/or show *4-H* livestock.

Most of our community clubs in Leavenworth County have youth this age who are enrolled members of that club. Some clubs have separate activities for Cloverbud youth while others have them engage during their regular monthly meetings. Leavenworth County 4-H also offers a countywide Cloverbud meeting every quarter.

The next Countywide Cloverbud meeting will be hosted by Happy Helpers 4-H Club and held in April 6th at 3pm. More information will be coming so please check your email.

Upcoming Summer Events - Save the Date!!

4-H Discovery Days

We would like to invite youth to K-State to develop college and career readiness skills which prepare participants academically and socially for a successful transition to college and life as an adult through our educational sessions during 2025 4-H Discovery Days. We have numerous campus partners that will be offering sessions. These sessions will open the door to possibilities for youth to learn new ideas, techniques, and skills they can use personally and in their 4-H clubs, groups, and communities. Youth will stay in the dorms, meet new friends from all over the state and make their way throughout campus to different classes and activities. Discovery Days will be held June 4th - 6th and is open to youth 4-H age 13-18. More information regarding cost and registration will be coming soon.



Leavenworth County 4-H Camp Out

Youth Leaders will be hosting an overnight camp at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds. This will replace the traditional Leadership Day Camp that Youth Leaders have hosted. The camp will take place June 12th and 13th. The camp is open to 4-hers 7-12 years of age (4-H age). During camp, campers will have the opportunity for some project learning, fun and games, enjoy a campfire, swim at the Tonganoxie pool and much more. More information and registration details coming soon.



Wellness Workshop - Save the Date

We will be offering a "Wellness Workshop" on Sunday, April 27th from 2:30pm-4pm at the 4-H building on the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds ([405 W 4th St, Tonganoxie, KS 66086](#)). Registration and more information will be released soon.

Topics:

Hydration- Learn how to stay hydrated while getting to choose from our "hydration station" that will be set up.

Skin Protection- Learn more about proper sunscreen application and the importance of skin protection. Activity provided.

Yoga & Mindfulness- This will be an interactive session where 4-Hers will learn some simple stretches and positions to get up and moving. The session will be taught by a certified yoga instructor.

Record Books

Record keeping and Project Reporting are valuable skills taught to members of the Kansas 4-H program. Members are encouraged to keep a permanent record of all 4-H and non-4-H experiences and are encouraged to summarize their project experiences on the Kansas 4-H Project Report Form for project recognition.

You now have two options to keep track of your records.

You can:

- A. Use the PDF form fillable Project Report Forms and Permanent Record Forms
- B. Use the new ZBook online platform.



You might be thinking, Tell me more about this ZBook.

ZBook is a web-based platform to help track all your 4-H and non 4-H activities. The cool thing about this new platform is that when it comes time to turn in record books and project report forms, all you have to do is tell ZBook what information to send to these forms and Bam, permanent records and report forms are done.

We will be holding information sessions in the near future regarding ZBook but in the mean time, take a look at the resources on the state website <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ZBooks.html> and check out ZBook for yourself. It is an extremely user friendly platform that I think you are going to love!!

Congratulations to County Club Day Participants

This year's County Club Day was a success. I want to give a special shout out to our office staff, to County Council and all the youth and adult volunteers outside of council that helped make this event go smoothly. Congratulations to all who participated and a special congratulation to those who qualified to represent Leavenworth County at Regional Club Day on March 22nd!!



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HELPING YOUTH
THRIVE

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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 (Sonya Murphy) two weeks prior to the start of the event at (913-364-5700). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.

