



February



4-H NEWSLETTER

Blue and Gold Fundraising

It's time for our annual Blue & Gold fundraiser! **Sales begin on February 1st.** Order forms are available at the office, by email (lesliedenise@ksu.edu), or at https://www.meade.k-state.edu/4-h/26_newsletters/BG%20Order%20Form.pdf

IMPORTANT:

Orders *and payments* are due to the office on **March 11th by 4:00pm.** Delivery is **March 26th.** Please make sure that you have someone available to pick up your orders. We do not have enough freezer space at the office to store orders. We will not know the delivery time until the day of delivery. Please remember that money (cash or check) must accompany the order forms. Checks should be made out to **Meade County 4-H Council.**

Note: Selling Blue & Gold is not required, but it is one of the optional requirements on your auction eligibility for the county fair. Funds raised help 4-H Council put on events and activities, contribute towards registrations, and pay your 4-H Online enrollment fee.

Product Information

Sausage: Available in 2.5-pound packages; \$10.00

Bacon: Available in 3-pound packages; \$19.00

Chicken Breast Tender Fritters: Available in 5-pound bags containing approximately 25-30 pieces; \$26.00

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Sunday, February 8th

There are several important 4-H events happening on this day! Please plan to attend the activities that apply to your 4-H role. County Club Day is at First Baptist Church, 510 E Rainbelt in Meade. The meetings and record book party will be at the extension office.



County Club Day (for those registered): 2:30 PM
Ambassador & 4-H Council Meeting: 5:00 PM
Record Book Party: 7:00 PM



Note: To attend the Record Book Party, 4-H members must have turned in a Record Book at the end of 2025.



NEWS & EVENTS

Weigh-Ins for County Fair

NOTICE: If you cannot attend the scheduled weigh-ins, please make arrangements with agents PRIOR to these dates.

Beef Weigh-In: March 23rd at 5:00pm

Small Animal Weigh-In: April 27th at 5:00pm

New Fair Board Rule

For 4-H'ers to receive add-on money for the 2026 fair, they **MUST** attend at least 3 club meetings.

This is required to receive ANY add-on money. Beginning October 2026, members must meet the same qualifications as Auction Eligibility to receive add-on money.

Questions? Contact the Meade County Fair Association via their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/meadecofair/>



4-H'ers planning to enter any animals in the 2026 Meade County Fair *must* complete YQCA training. There will be two 1-hour sessions offered at 10:00am OR 1:00pm on **March 17th** at the Fairgrounds. The fee is \$3. Snacks will be provided. Members have the option to complete this online, but the fee is greater.

Visit the [Youth for the Quality Care of Animals website](#) to learn more.

ZSuites Record Book Training

Join us for Record Book Training on **March 17th** from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the office! Learn what a Record Book is, why it's important, and how to use the ZSuites program to make the process much easier!

Dinner will be provided—don't miss out!



Interested in Selling at the Meade County Fair Auction?

Whether you're planning to participate in the Cake and Pie Auction or the Livestock Auction, please review the Auction Eligibility Form for important requirements.

The form can be found on our website, or by clicking here: [Auction Eligibility](#)

To qualify for the auction, 4-H members must:

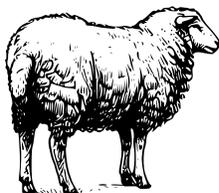
- Complete at least three (3) activities listed on the eligibility form during the 4-H year
- Attend a minimum of five (5) club meetings between August and July
- Submit the completed form to the Extension Office by **July 15th**, prior to county fair

Note: Not submitting the form does not prevent you from entering items in the fair – it only affects your eligibility to participate in the auction itself.

State Livestock Events

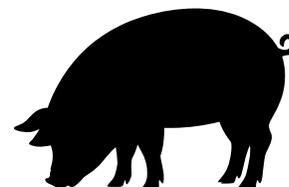


- **Youth Meat Judging Contest**
 - March 1
 - Meat Lab, Weber Hall, K-State University
 - Register at <https://www.judgingcard.com/Registration/Info.aspx?ID=24341>
- **Junior Beef Producer Days**
 - March 7th (Registration Deadline Feb 13)
 - \$20 per person
 - Info and Registration: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/ks-jr-producer/>
- **Junior Sheep Producer Days**
 - April 11th (Registration Deadline Mar 20)
 - \$20 per person
 - Info an Registration: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/events/ks-jr-producer/>
- **Livestock Nomination Deadlines**
 - Market Beef: May 1st
 - Small Livestock: June 15th
 - More Information: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/>



For Sale

The Fair Board has a small animal livestock scale available. If interested, please call the office.
This scale size can be used for sheep, hogs, or goats.



Scholarships Opportunities

There are two scholarship opportunities we would like to bring to the attention of our senior 4-H members! Please read each one carefully to see if they are a good fit.

Not a senior yet? No problem! It's never too early to explore future options. These scholarships are offered every year, so looking over the requirements now can help you prepare for your turn!



YQCA Scholarship Program

To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must be in the age range of a high school senior to 21 years of age. Applicants must have experience with an animal project in one of the species covered by YQCA (beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, or rabbits). All applicants must show a commitment to pursuing a career path in agriculture, livestock, or food systems.

For more information, visit:

<https://yqcaprogram.org/local/2026-scholarship-program.php>

Deadline to enter is February 15 at 11:59pm.



Sunflower Livestock Showdown Scholarship Program

The Finney County Youth Livestock Committee, along with generous sponsors, are pleased to provide high school seniors or college freshmen (still eligible to show livestock through 4-H) the opportunity to apply for a Sunflower Livestock Showdown \$500 scholarship. Eligible students who plan to further their education full-time in an agriculture related field are encouraged to apply. Areas of study include agricultural education, communications, production, research, engineering, or other areas involved with the agriculture industry. The scholarship program hopes to identify talented students who may emerge as leaders in the agriculture industry. Up to five eligible students will be selected to receive awards during the 2026 Sunflower Livestock Showdown livestock show.

For an application and information on the essay required for the scholarship, email:

sunflowershowdown@gmail.com

Deadline to enter is April 1.

Meade County 4-H CLOVERBUDS

3:40pm-4:40pm

MEADE

~~November 10~~

~~December 9~~

~~January 6~~

February 3

March 3

April 7

PLAINS

~~November 18~~

~~December 16~~

~~January 12~~

February 10

March 10

April 14

Cloverbuds, Heads Up!

We're down to our last three sessions to learn something fun and discover new skills with our Extension agents! Every meeting is a chance to explore, create, and try something new — we hope you'll join us for all the hands-on adventures we have left this year.

If you'll be aging out of Cloverbuds soon, CONGRATULATIONS! 🎉 You're just about ready to take the next big step and join the 4-H program. We can't wait to see what you accomplish there! If you'll be sticking with us, we're already excited to welcome you back when our Cloverbud year begins again in November. Thank you for spending your time learning and growing with us — we've loved having you as part of our group!

Summer Camp, Already?!

We can hardly believe it either — it's time to start thinking about summer camp!

If you're 7 to 12 years old, join us for a few exciting days at Wildhorse Camp at Silver Maple Campgrounds in Kingman. It's the perfect chance to explore nature, make new friends, try new activities, and create unforgettable memories.

Even better? You don't have to be in 4-H to attend! So invite a friend (or two!) and make it a summer adventure you'll all share.

If you're 14 or older, we'd love to have you on board as a camp counselor. It's a fun and rewarding leadership opportunity — and as a bonus, it looks fantastic on future scholarship and job applications!

(Note: registration is less for 4-H members; some clubs pay for part or of the fee.)

WILDHORSE 4-H CAMP

United We Grow

JUNE 9-11, 2026

SILVER MAPLE CAMP IN KINGMAN COUNTY

Cost is \$135 - Includes All Meals, Activities and Lodging

CAMPERS AGES 7-12

COUNSELORS ARE NEEDED TOO!

Archery, Crafts, Fishing, Robots, Nature, Snacks and Dancing!

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service
K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

CALENDAR

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Blue and Gold Sales Begin !!	2 4LC Mtg	3 Meade Cloverbuds	4	5	6	7
8 3 C's Mtg Club Day Ambassador & Council Mtg Rec. Book Party	9	10 Plains Cloverbuds	11	12 PLW Mtg	13	14
15 YQCA Scholarship Deadline	16 T&C Mtg	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>Note: each club has different ways of informing members of meeting times. Dates/times listed here are current to our knowledge, but sometimes plans change. If you're ever unsure of a time or date, please check with your club to confirm, or we can help!</p>						

Monthly Club Meetings

Club	Date	Time	Location
4-Leaf Clover	2nd	6:30pm	Extension Office (date tentative)
3 C's	8th	5:00pm	Fowler Friends Church
Town and Country	16th	tbd	Building B, Lone Tree
Plains Livewires	12th	6:30pm	Plains Methodist Church

YEAR AT A GLANCE

February

- 8:** County Club Day, First Baptist Church, Meade
- 8:** 4-H Council and Ambassadors Meeting
- 8:** Record Book Party
- 15:** YQCA Scholarship Deadline
- 15-16:** Citizenship in Action (CIA), Topeka
- 21-22:** 4-H Horse Panorama, Rock Springs

March

- 7:** K-State Junior Beef Producer Day, Manhattan (*registration deadline, Feb 13*)
- 7:** Regional Club Day, Dodge City
- 11: Blue and Gold orders/payments due to office by 4pm**
- 17:** YQCA Classes (10am or 1pm), Fairgrounds
- 17:** ZSuites Training, Extension Office
- 23:** Beef Weigh-In, Fairgrounds
- 26: Blue and Gold Delivery at Extension Office, please make arrangements**

April

- TBD:** Shutterbug Photography Event
- 1:** Sunflower Livestock Showdown Scholarship Deadline
- 10-15:** National 4-H Conference, Arlington, VA
- 11:** K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day, Manhattan (*registration deadline, Mar 20*)
- 18:** Spring State Shooting Sports Match – BB, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Great Bend
- 25:** Spring into Volunteering
- 27:** Small Animal Weigh-In
- 28-29:** Youth Entrepreneurship Contest (YEC), Manhattan

- May 1:** Deadline to Add 4-H Projects
Market Beef Nomination Deadline

June

- Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Summer Camp sessions begin
- 3-5:** Discovery Days, Manhattan
- 9-11:** Wildhorse 4-H Camp, Kingman
- 12-14:** State 4-H Geology Field Trip, location TBD
- 15:** Small Livestock Nomination Deadline
- 19-20:** Insect Spectacular, Yates Center

July

- Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Summer Camp sessions continue
- 15:** Auction Eligibility Form Deadline, 4pm
- 20-24:** Meade County Fair