National Volunteer Week - Celebrate Service!  April 19th – 25th
National Volunteer Week is fast approaching. This special week offers opportunities to thank some of America’s most valuable assets — our volunteers — and to recognize the myriad of ways they improve our communities. National Volunteer Week reflects the power that volunteers have to "inspire by example" — volunteers both encourage those they help and motivate others to serve! Ways to celebrate may be found at: https://ww2.pointsoflight.org/nvw. Thank you to our Dickinson County 4-H volunteers!

4-H Basketball
The 72nd Annual Dickinson County 4-H Basketball Tournament was held March 7th at the Chapman District Gym. Congratulations to all who participated in this fun event! The girls’ division champs were Fragrant Hilltoppers with Lyons Creek (Geary County) taking second place. In the boys’/coed division, Fragrant Hilltoppers beat out the Detroit Ramblers to take the championship. Congratulations also to Willowdale’s boys/coed team that was awarded the sportsmanship award. Dickinson County 4-Hers should be proud of the county committee that did an awesome job running a smooth tournament!

4-H Alumni Basketball Game
Funds were raised for the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation through the nomination process for the alumni basketball game. A huge thank you to those 4-H alumni and parents that played, Aunt Sandy and Jaryth Barten for their skills as referees, and the 4-H Leadership SQUAD for their work!

CKFF Clean-up
The CKFF grounds look great thanks to the 4-Hers, parents, and volunteers who helped on March 8th! Thank you to everyone who participated with special appreciation to our heavy equipment operators!

4-H Day
Thank you to everyone who helped make 4-H Day a success, those who participated and served as room monitors as well as the committee that set-up, tore down, and kept everything running smoothly. Results can be found on the Dickinson County 4-H website: https://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/ and linked to our Facebook page – K-State Research & Extension – Dickinson County.

4-H Council:
Next meeting will be on Monday, March 23rd in the County Annex Meeting Room. Officers will meet at 6:45 p.m. with full council beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Regional 4-H Day:  Those participants that received Top Purple (and Alternate Purple in speaking events) at County 4-H Day are eligible to represent Dickinson County at Regional 4-H Day on Saturday, March 28th in Clay Center. If you are attending, please let us know if you are willing to serve as a room monitor for part of the morning – help is needed!

County Committee Meetings
* Spring Beef Show – Thursday, March 25, 5:30 p.m. for beef weigh-in set-up, CKFF grounds
* Spring Sheep, Swine, Meat Goat Show – Wednesday, March 24, 6:30 p.m., County Annex Meeting Room

Drop/Add – May 1
Please login to 4HOnline and make sure your listed projects are correct before May 1st. Keep in mind that market livestock projects with tagging dates prior to May 1st (such as beef) cannot be added after the tagging date because of fair rules specifying a minimum number of days of care/feeding required.
4HOnline Enrollment

4HOnline is our 4-H enrollment database. Both 4-H members and adult volunteers should be enrolled at ks.4honline.com and re-enrolled each year. If you haven't yet activated your memberships for the new 4-H year, please do it today! **If friends or club members tell you they didn’t receive this newsletter, please let them know that it’s because they have not yet enrolled/reenrolled in 4HOnline.

Remember in the "Groups" section to enroll in activities you'd like to participate in such as: Brown's Busy Beekeepers SPIN Club, 4-H Leadership SQUAD, DK Clovers Interstate Exchange, horse judging/horse quiz bowl/hippology, horticulture judging, and livestock judging. Project changes may be done until **May 1** (except for certain market livestock projects) and contact information or health/participation form changes may be done anytime. Contact Jill or Debbie with questions at 785-263-2001.

The Spring Beef Show will be held **April 4th**; this show will be open to all counties and have Dickinson County classes. Entry forms may be picked up at the Extension Office or found on the 4-H page at www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/.

Spring Beef Weigh-in

County-wide beef weigh-in will be on **March 29th, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** at the CKFF fairgrounds.
- Cattle must have halters ON.
- All commercial (crossbred) heifers must be tagged at the county beef weigh-in. Exception: if fall born heifers are purchased after beef weigh-in, they must be tagged by superintendent and/or county agent by **May 1st**.
- Second year bucket calves that were tagged at the end of the 2019 Central Kansas Free Fair must be present at this weigh-in.

Market Lamb and Market Goat Weigh-in

When: **Friday, May 8th, 5-7:00 p.m.**
Where: **Central Kansas Free Fairgrounds**

Dickinson County Spring Sheep, Swine, and Market Goat Show

When: **Saturday, May 9th**
Where: **Central Kansas Free Fairgrounds**

State Livestock Nominations

Updated information on nominating livestock for the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show is available at:  [http://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/](http://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/).

Swine Tagging

All market barrows must be at the fairgrounds for the ONLY tagging date – **Sunday, April 26th, 2-5 p.m. ONLY**. Swine will be tagged on the trailer with ear notches recorded. To address disease concerns, families will be encouraged to tag their own animals, plastic boot covers will be worn, and taggers will be disinfected and dried between trailers to prevent cross-contamination. Those with farrowing operations will receive more information in the mailed tagging letter. Contact our office with questions.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (Formerly Livestock Quality Assurance)

***REQUIRED for ALL market livestock exhibitors***

All youth exhibiting market livestock – beef, sheep, swine, and meat goats - at the Central Kansas Free Fair AND all youth exhibiting livestock at the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show are required to be certified in Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA.) This training will be held in conjunction with a livestock nutrition workshop on Thursday, April 2nd at Sterl Hall starting at 5:30 p.m. A YQCA-only training will be held on **Monday, March 30, 6:30 p.m. at the Herington fairgrounds**.
**Bucket Calf Meeting**
Jamie Rock will host a county-wide bucket calf meeting on **Saturday, March 14th from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.** at the County Annex Meeting Room next door to our office. Contact Jamie with questions at jmrock144@gmail.com.

**Horse Happenings**
The Eisenhower Marathon is **April 4th**. If you would like to be an “outrider” carrying a cell phone to alert medical personnel in case of an injured runner, please call Linda Bankes, 263-8481.

Bankes Barrel Team try-outs for the 2020 Wild Bill Hickok Rodeo are scheduled for **June 27th at 7:00 p.m.**. To sign up or for more information, call Linda Bankes (263-8481) or Angela at Auburn Pharmacy (263-4330).

**Club Community Service Grants**
The Dickinson County 4-H Foundation will again be offering clubs the opportunity to apply for community service grants. Approximately $1500 will be available to clubs for special community service projects. Applications are due **April 10** and may be found at: [http://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms_and_applications/](http://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms_and_applications/) or in your club box. Help your club make a bigger impact by applying!

**College Scholarship Opportunities**
Local school counselors have information packets and applications available for 4-H scholarships. Applications are also available in the Extension Office and online at [www.dickinson.ksu.edu](http://www.dickinson.ksu.edu) on the 4-H Forms, Applications, and Recordkeeping page. Call the office if you have any questions. County scholarship applications are due **April 1st**!

**Dog Project Meetings**
Dog project meetings are scheduled on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings in March for showmanship and obedience training. Members enrolled in the dog project have been emailed directly. If you are interested in joining the dog project, please contact dog leader Leann Johnson (785) 280-2684 for more information and add the project in 4HOnline.

**Kansas 4-H Dog Conference Theme Logo Design Contest**
The Kansas 4-H Dog Action Team is seeking ideas for the 2020 Kansas 4-H Dog Conference Theme and T-Shirt Design. The 4-H member who creates the winning design idea will receive a free Dog Conference registration for the 2020 event. The 2019 winner was Josslyn DePew from Dickinson County with the “Rock Star 4-H Dogs” theme. Please submit your ideas to Shane Potter – potters@ksu.edu by **April 15, 2020**.

Please include:
- Name
- Local Extension Unit
- Address
- Email
- Theme idea for 2020 Dog Conference – Please include the text idea as well as a sketch for the conference graphic

**Project Learning Lab Kits**
Learning lab kits are a fantastic resource for project meetings, providing lots of interactive visuals. Several of these kits are available to be loaned from the Northeast Area Office. If you have a project meeting scheduled and would like to use one of the kits, call us at the Extension Office. Kits are available in the following projects: dog, goat, poultry, sheep, beef, dairy, plant identification, horse, and swine.

**Find us on Facebook – Instagram – Twitter!**
Like K-State Research & Extension – Dickinson County on Facebook, follow Dickinson_ksre on Instagram and @Dickinson_KSRE on Twitter for office updates and news.
**Purple Power Pack 4-H Camp**  
Purple Power Pack 4-H Camp will be held at Rock Springs Ranch this summer, **June 10th – 13th**. Counselors will arrive on **June 9th**. Registration information will be available in March. Camp costs will remain the same as last year. Scholarships will continue to be available from the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation. Please make sure your club decides scholarship amounts for members soon and let our office know that amount. Registration forms and applications, as they become available, will be found on the 4-H and Youth > 4-H Camp Information at: [http://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/camp/index.html](http://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/camp/index.html).

**Camp Scholarships**  
The Dickinson County 4-H Foundation will have scholarships available to Dickinson County 4-H youth attending Purple Power Pack 4-H camp at Rock Springs Ranch. A $75 scholarship has been included in the price for Dickinson County 4-H members. The Dickinson County 4-H Council is additionally providing $15 scholarships for those 4-Hers attending camp for the first time. If your club is providing a scholarship for campers or counselors, please let us know!

**Needed – Camp Counselors**  
The Purple Power Pack Camp Group is looking for camp counselors! Any 4-Her who is 14 years and older by the first day of camp may apply to be a counselor. If interested, please pick-up an application or print it from the 4-H and Youth < 4-H Camp Information page at [http://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/camp/index.html](http://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/camp/index.html) and return it to the Extension Office by **May 8**. Counselors will report to camp on **June 9th**.

**Volunteer Screening Process**  
Any person that works with 4-H youth needs to complete the volunteer screening process. This includes, but is not limited to, organizational leaders and project leaders. Anyone over the age of 14 that is a junior project leader or works with 4-H youth should complete the process including application, short interview, and orientation. An online background check is required for those all volunteers over the age of 18. Beginning in the 2019-2020 4-H program year, the 4-H Volunteer process has been streamlined. When 4-H Volunteers enroll through 4HOnline, the process will take the place of what once was the volunteer application and then reenrollment forms. Once volunteers enter their information in the system, they will simply have to reenroll each year, the same way youth currently do through 4HOnline. Instructions for enrolling as a volunteer may be found here: [https://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/](https://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/4-h/)

**KSU All University Open House**  
Enjoy food, fun and plenty of purple at this year's Open House. Explore 250-plus majors and options, 475-plus student organizations, and the family atmosphere that makes K-State stand out. Watch your future unfold at K-State! **Saturday, April 18th, Manhattan 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
Open House at K-State Polytechnic in Salina will be on **Saturday, March 28, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.**  
More information at: [http://www.k-state.edu/openhouse/](http://www.k-state.edu/openhouse/)

**4-H Discovery Days**  
Discovery Days Registration opens **March 16** at [www.kansas4h.org](http://www.kansas4h.org). Discovery Days is a mini college experience **May 27-May 29** designed for youth who are 13-18 years of age before January 1. The primary purpose of 4-H Discovery Days is to gain new ideas and expand your 4-H experience through action-oriented learning activities, fun tours, and great evening social events. You will meet new people, build leadership skills and grow as a person. Be sure and register SOON as classes fill up fast!

**JOANN & 4-H are empowering more kids in Kansas to learn by doing, creating and making**  
Current & lifetime 4-H members, parents of members, volunteers, and 4-H staff can save 15% off total in-store and online purchases at JOANN Fabrics every day with 4-H Rewards. JOANN will give a minimum of 2.5% of every eligible transaction to 4-H!
K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy
The Kansas State University Animal Sciences Leadership Academy is an intensive four-day educational experience designed to enhance the leadership skills and animal science knowledge of students in 9th through 12th grades. Hosted by the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry and sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council, the academy’s goal is to develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field. The academy is scheduled for June 24-27 in Manhattan. Details for this program can also be found on the Youth Livestock Program website using the following link: http://www.asi.k-state.edu/students-and-programs/youth-programs/k-state-animal-science-leadership-academy/. Applications due: April 15.

Livestock Judging Camp
A three-day, intense judging camp designed for 4-H and FFA members (ages 14-18) who are seriously interested in enhancing their livestock judging and oral communication skills. Prior livestock judging experience is necessary for this camp. The dates for 2020 are June 2-4, June 5-7, and June 14-16. More information can be found at https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/judging-camps.html.

Campference 2020!
4-H Campference is for youth ages 12-14 (before January 1, 2020), and will be held June 22-25 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Participants will experience the feel of a conference, while enjoying the ‘camp’ activities Rock Springs 4-H Center has to offer. This is a great transitional opportunity, as these tweens go from being a camper to attending educational conferences. 4-H Campference will feature workshops about opportunities in the 4-H program and how to better interact with others. Participants will meet other youth from around the state of Kansas.

Registration and detailed information will be the State 4-H Website in March Register early as the space will fill on a first come basis, and Campference was full the last 6 years! Register online by May 15 (or earlier, it will close when it is full).

Shutterbugs at Auburn (Auburn Community Center)– April 14
Judging 11:30-12:45 ($2 fee), Workshop 1:00-4:15 ($5 fee). Prizes for Top Score, Junior, Intermediate, Senior. NEW this year: Keynote Kick-off, Youth Facilitated, Stations to experiment within classes. Register by April 1 At https://goo.gl/forms/WRAsiOcYZ6GocndsZ. Event flyer can be found at https://www.shawnee.k-state.edu/4-h/event-fliers/PhotoWkshpFlyer2019.pdf

SPIN Club Opportunity:
- Brown’s Busy Beekeepers – study up during a few winter sessions to help manage two hives on the grounds of Brown Memorial Home. Open to all interested in honey bees. Sign up through 4HOnline or contact Lisa Tokach (ltokach@aahpa.com.)

College Scholarship Opportunities:
Scholarships for graduating seniors have an April 1st deadline.

More information and applications may be found online at www.dickinson.ksu.edu on the 4-H and Youth > Forms and Applications page.

Sand Springs 4-H Scholarship: The Sand Springs 4-H Scholarship is available for former members or children and/or grandchildren of former members of the Sand Springs Rustlers 4-H Club.

Donate Dickinson County Day – will be held March 20th. The purpose of Donate Day is to help area nonprofits raise monies for their endowment funds. The Community Foundation will match up to $10K per agency/organization that is participating. All donations make to the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation endowment with the Community Foundation on March 20 will be matched. Watch our social media pages for your easy link to donate on Dickinson County Donate Day.
The Seven Steps to a Great Thank-You Note

Why should you write a thank-you note?
» To show appreciation for someone supporting you
» To acknowledge a gift, donation or service
» To provide recognition to someone who has done a good deed

When should you write a thank-you note?
» After receiving any type of gift
» After attending a job interview
» After someone donates to a cause in your name
» After someone goes above and beyond the expected
» After someone writes a letter of recommendation for you
» After someone helps you with a project or endeavor
» If you want to make a good impression
» If you are unsure of whether or not to write a thank-you note (Write one!)

How should you write a thank-you note?
A good thank-you note has seven main components:

1. A greeting to the thank-you note recipient (Dear . . . )
2. The specific reason you are thanking them (Mention what they bought, gave or did. This is always important to do first.)
3. The reason why you appreciate them (They supported you, were thoughtful and gave a gift, went out of their way to help you out or other reasons.)
4. How you plan to use the gift or why the gift or act of service was important to you (You will use it to save for college; you really enjoy playing the game; you can't wait to go shopping with the gift card; you know you have a great chance at the scholarship because of the letter of recommendation — or other ways.)
5. A comment or detail about yourself, an update on your life or a positive comment (This is a great time to share news on your life or to add a positive remark about the recipient.)
6. A repeat of your thank-you (You may leave this out if you sign “with thanks” at your closing.)
7. A closing and signature of your name (With thanks, Name or Sincerely, Name)

Dear Aunt Sara,

Thank you for the wonderful sweater you sent me for Christmas. I appreciate your thinking of me at the holidays. I look forward to wearing the sweater this winter as it always gets cold here in Michigan. I am having a great 8th grade year and am playing on the basketball team this spring. I am looking forward to that! Thanks again for thinking of me!

Love,
Katie
The Seven Steps to a Great Thank-You Note

More Thank-You Note Examples...

Dear Mrs. Jones,

Thank you for attending my spring band concert. It was great to see you in the audience! I am so glad to have such nice neighbors who support my school events. I really enjoy being in band and love playing my clarinet. I hope to go to band camp this summer.

Thank you,

Nick

Dear Reader,

Thank you for reading this informational handout. I appreciate your taking the time to read about the importance of thank-you notes and how to write a good one. I hope you learned something new.

Thank-you notes are an important part of good communication and relationship building. I am sure having this skill will benefit you throughout your life. Thanks again for your time and all the best to you in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Laurie

Your note should be:

» Hand written in blue or black ink
» Neat and legible
» On a note card or good quality paper (Lined paper or index cards are not a good choice.)
» Personalized to the situation

TIP: In the case of a job interview, you may send a thank-you note in email form if the employer will be reaching a decision quickly. The key is to make it personal.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
Created by: Laurie Rivetto, 4-H Educator, MSU Extension Wayne County 4-H, 2013
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Notes
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