



Crawford County 4-H News

July 2026

Dear 4-H members, parents, leaders, and friends,

Fair season is here! We are busy planning and are excited to share new opportunities with you. We have many exciting events happening this month! Read the entire newsletter. There will not be an August newsletter because we will be at the fair. Hope to see you all there!

Sincerely,
Will Morris
4-H Youth Development
620-724-8233
willmorris@ksu.edu

Wildcat Extension District – Crawford County 4-H Website:
www.wildcatdistrict.k-state.edu/4-h/crawford/



**Find us on Facebook @ Wildcat Extension District &
@ Wildcat Extension District 4-H**

July 2	Area Livestock Contest
July 13	Fair Entry Help Deadline is the last time to get help with making entries before the deadline.
July 15	Fair Entry Deadline
July 21	Junior Leaders Ice Cream Making and Barnyard Olympics Prep 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM Ice Cream Stand Training 5:45 PM Pre-Fair Clean Up 6-9 PM
July 23	Foods and Food Preservation 4-7 PM
July 25	Clothing Construction, Buymanship, Fashion Revue
July 26	Visual Arts, Photography, Dog Show, Pre-Fair BBQ
July 28	Vet Check and Weigh In
July 29	Poultry Show, Rabbit Show, Indoor Exhibits, Barnyard Olympics, Sheep Show, Dairy Show
July 30	Horse Show, Swine Show, Meat Goat Show
July 31	Beef Show, Judging Contest, Corn Hole Market Animal Destinations Slips due at NOON
August 1	Round Robin, Livestock Sale
August 2	Post Fair Clean Up
August 3	State Fair Entry Deadline (See Tina during the fair to make your entries)
August 22-23	State Livestock Sweepstakes
August 24	Record Book Help Night 6 PM Junior Leaders 6:30 PM 4-H Council 7:30 PM
August 25	State Fair Drop off for all exhibits except foods, floral, and hort.
Sept 8	State Fair Exhibit Drop Off by NOON

Where is Will?

The warmer weather means more events and activities are happening. Please know you are always welcome to pop into the office any time. However, to make the most of your time and ensure I am not out at a program, I would encourage you to email or call the office before setting up a time with me. Email- willmorris@ksu.edu Phone- 620-724-8233

Paying Program Fee

If you selected pay by check at the time of enrollment, please mail your check along with your child(s) name and Wildcat District-Crawford County to the address below. **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ENTER IN THE FAIR UNTIL IT IS PAID.**

Kansas State 4-H Office

201 Umberger Hall
1612 Claflin Rd
Manhattan, KS 66506

Fair Entry Open

You can now go online and begin your entries for the fair! Please check out the website. Also, do not forget to reserve your spot for consultative judging. The deadline to enter is **July 15th**. In FairEntry, the questions about how many animals you are bringing are for the stall reservation, not the class entry. Do not hit submit until you have entered everything. If you need help, call the office. **IF YOU FEEL YOU MAY NEED HELP OR FEAR YOU WILL NEED HELP BEFORE THE DEADLINE, YOU MUST REACH OUT BEFORE JULY 13 AT 4:30 PM. (This is only if you need help entering) AFTER THAT, NEITHER TINA NOR I WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU BEFORE THE JULY 15 DEADLINE.**

Pre-Fair Clean-Up

The annual pre-fair cleanup will be **on Tuesday, July 21, from 6-9 pm** at the fairgrounds. The Fair Board is so appreciative of the time and work that you put in! Please bring weed eaters, shovels, wheelbarrows, rakes, brooms, staple guns, gloves, and whatever else you may need to lend a helping hand! If you are unsure what to do or do not have a task, please do not hesitate to ask a Fair Board Member, me, or the Club Leader.

Post-Fair Clean Up

As 4-H members, it is important that we leave things better than we found them. On Sunday, **August 2**, be sure to clean your pens, pick up your projects, clean your camping area, and clean the area your club is responsible for. **Any exhibitor who does not clean his/her stall will forfeit all premium money, and will be charged \$50 per stall paid to the CCFA, and will not be allowed to show in that department the next year.**

Junior Leaders

The Junior Leaders' next meeting will be held on Monday, August 24, at 6:30 p.m. We will also be making ice cream on July 21, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm.

4-H Council

The Next 4-H Council meeting will be held on Monday, August 24, at 7:30 p.m. Please note that each club must send two council representatives, one president, and two adult leaders to attend. If one cannot participate, they need to find an alternate to attend that meeting. This is also the last meeting to make fair proposals.

Wildcat District Livestock Judging Team

- 7/2 7/14 - 7/16 OSU Big 3 Field Days Stillwater, Ok
- 7/24 Labette County Contest, 10 am, Oswego
- 7/26 Montgomery County Contest, 10 am, Independence
- 7/31 Crawford County Contest, Noon, Girard
- 8/14 ISF Contest, Coffeyville
- 8/22 State 4H Contest, Manhattan

Rabbit Project Meeting

At the small animal barn(fairgrounds)-9am **7/18-** (last-minute questions/things for fair, tattoo rabbits)

Dog Project

Meetings will be held on the following dates at 6:30-7:30 PM at the Crawford County Fairgrounds. Please have the Kansas 4-H Dog Show

Immunization record completed prior to attending meetings. Dates include July 9th, July 16th, and July 24th. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Heuer or Johanna Walker at k_heuer@mail.com

Plan for the Fair!

Crawford County 2026 Fair Book!

Below is the link to the website where you will find the 2026 Crawford County Fair Book. In the online version, all updates are in **RED**. Please pay close attention to the schedule and location of events, as some may have changed this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. **It is your responsibility to make sure you have read all sections of the fair book.**

Fair Entry will open on May 15 and will close on **July 15th**

Fair Proposals

The September meeting of the Fair Board was the last time proposals for changes were submitted for the 2026 Crawford County Fair. Any future proposals made at the 4-H Council or Fair Board will be considered for Fair 2027.

Pre-Fair BBQ Tickets

Each member is required to sell five tickets. There are prizes for the top 4 ticket sellers. To be considered for the top seller, you must turn in the ticket count by July 23. The BBQ is on Sunday, July 26, 5:30-7:00 PM at the Fairgrounds



Annual Pre-Fair BBQ

Pre-Fair BBQ will be held July 26 in the Marvin Green Building at the fairgrounds.

Each family is asked to sell 5 tickets per child.

Purchasing tickets for 4-H supporters, leaders, award sponsors, or livestock buyers is a great way to say thank you! There will be awards for the 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-place sellers (unless a winner sold fewer than 25 tickets). Money raised from our BBQ pays for judges at club days, gas money to 4-H camps, fair supplies, the awards banquet, and meals, etc.

Pre-Fair and Indoor Judging Information

We hope you are starting to think about your indoor projects for the Fair. **Please be sure to note dates and times this year** on the 2026 Fair Schedule!

Michelle Broxterman, FCS Agent, has highlighted some of the major reminders below:

- **Consultation Sign Up is Open** for Arts & Crafts (Visual Arts), Foods, Food Preservation, and Photography
Please go to <http://bit.ly/CRJudging> to select your consultation time. You may drop off exhibits to be judged without consultation if you so desire. **Please note** that Foods and Clothing will be held at the Beulah Community Church Activity Building, just off of K-7 South of Girard. North of Beulah Community Church, Clark St, Girard, KS 66743.
- **For Buymanship (Shopping in Style) and Style Revue**
 - Clothing Construction will start at 8:00 am.
 - ***New this year*** Buymanship Fashion Revue and style revue for constructed garments will both begin at 8:30 am. Judges will be aware of whether 4-Hers are modeling for buymanship or a constructed garment based on the paperwork they are given.
 - A script for both buymanship and style revue should be provided at pre-entry. Here are recommendations:
Scripts should be 4-6 sentences in length. Write it exactly as you want it to be read during the judging. Include the member's name and 4-H club somewhere in the first sentence. Some descriptors may include fabric, colors, patterns, where you will wear the outfit, what you like best, etc. Feel free to include hobbies and other information about yourself.
 - The following forms are required to be completed for the day of judging and are located on the CR County Fair website. Here is a shortcut:
<https://bit.ly/CRclothing>
 - a. Cost Per Wear
 - b. Evaluation Score Sheet
- **For Foods/Food Preservation Judging**

- Food Preservation will be judged at the same time as Foods at the Beulah Community Center.
- Plan to arrive 5 minutes prior to the scheduled time (food must be ready for display; there will not be time to prep) to take a photo and fill out your Fair Display Sheet.

Please Note Approximate Judging Times for Indoor Exhibits on Wednesday, July 29, at 11:00 am and 11:30 am; the full list is in the 2026 Fair Schedule.

Setting the Stage for a Great Fair!

Some of these you may feel do not apply to you, but they are important reminders for us all. It will also help ensure we keep each other accountable and, hopefully, provide a fun, safe, and positive experience for youth. Parents, please share this with your spouse to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Attitudes-Positivity! This is what I expect from everyone this year, as we prepare for Fair activities. Some of you do an amazing job, but others may need a reminder. 4-H is a Positive Youth Development organization, and sadly, on many occasions, some parents, volunteers, fair board members, etc., seem to lose sight of that. What has happened in the past is in the past, and everyone is expected to do their best moving forward. As they prepare to enter any 4-H event, I expect everyone to check their attitude at the door.

Relationships- Personal relationships are just that personal. There is no room for personal hatred, conflict, or rivalry at any 4-H event/activity. Your relationships are yours alone and have no business infecting the attitudes and experiences of those around you.

Grace and Understanding - It is also expected that everyone shows a little grace and understanding. NO ONE is perfect, and NO ONE is going to do things perfectly. Not everything will be done or addressed when and how you would like. Not every rule or policy will be agreed with or liked by everyone. However, it is expected that everyone shows a little grace and understanding, in that everyone is doing their best to do right by all youth.

Criticism vs. Clarification- There is a huge difference between the two, starting with your approach. Myself, superintendents, leaders, volunteers, and fair board members are ALWAYS open to clarifying questions. Those putting on 4-H

events/activities do not deserve nor will tolerate unnecessary criticism/complaining. If you want change, we have a fair proposal process, and you better be ready to step up and volunteer.

Respect- You don't have to like what/how things are done, other families, rules/procedures, etc., but you must RESPECT them. You are expected to show respect to everyone, even if you disagree. You are not owed or guaranteed an explanation/justification for every decision/rule made. Still, you must trust that thought and reason went into every decision to help keep a positive, safe environment for all youth. You must respect the fact that sometimes things need to be addressed or changed immediately, and that time does not always allow for a seamless transition.

Conflict- With anything, there is likely to be conflict at times, but the difference comes in how you handle it. Remember to always respond and not react. Allow yourself and others time to process what is happening and address conflict calmly, coolly, and collectedly. Don't forget that wherever you are, a young person is likely watching and learning from you, so be sure to be a positive role model.

What's your why? - Not every family has the same goals and values when it comes to participating in the fair. Some may want to help their child learn to care for and raise livestock. Some may want to win a grand champion ribbon and be the top seller at the livestock sale. Regardless of your family's why, it is important to remember that what other families choose as their "why" is out of anyone's control. As a parent, this may be hard to explain or rationalize to your youth, but it teaches them to focus on themselves and their own knowledge and skill development rather than others.

Fun- Let's all remember to have fun! There is so much time, energy, money, and resources that go into 4-H events/activities that if we all are not having fun, we need to figure out something that is. These are the memories youth will carry for a lifetime, so it is our job to make sure they are positive ones.

Open Door- Remember that my door is always open. If you have questions or want to learn more, you will get a lot further and receive more accurate information from me rather than secondhand sources. So, if we need to chat, just call the office or email me, and we can set up a time to chat.

Record Books

Now is the time to begin thinking about record books. This year, you will be able to do those online! Resources for the forms can be found here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ProjectRecognition.html>. Recourses for our online zbooks record keeping can be found here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ZBooks.html>

Fair Stall Reservation

This is done through the fair entry process when you enter. Each exhibitor will only be allotted stalls based on the number of animals present at check-in. Entering extra animals that you do not bring in order to get extra stall space will not be tolerated. If it is determined that you have excess space, then you will be required to move to make room for other exhibitors. This is due July 15, the same time as entries.

Crawford County Fair July 29- August 1, 2026

All animals must pass through a vet check. Market Animals must have state ear tags – Breeding Animals should have ear tags from you or the seller.

ALL ANIMALS MUST BE CASTRATED!

BEEF: Ear Tags & Vet Check

SWINE: Ear Tags & Vet Check

GOATS: Meat & Dairy - Ear Tags, Vet Check, & scrapie identification tags

SHEEP: Ear Tags, Vet Check, & scrapie identification tags

HORSES: Vet Check, and a Negative Coggins paper must be shown to the superintendent

POULTRY: Vet check and health will be assessed by the superintendent.

RABBITS: No health papers. Vet check and Health will be assessed by the superintendent. Must have an ear tattoo.

DOG: Must have a dog immunization record signed by a vet and a signed note from the vet saying the dog is flea-free.

A timeline has been established for bringing animals to the fair for inspection. The south gate of the fairgrounds will be locked. All trailers must enter from the north gate. Trailers will be stopped at the horse area for their health to be assessed by a veterinarian. Pay attention to signs; there will be ONE-WAY traffic around the barns. No animals

will be allowed to come onto the fairgrounds outside of these hours:

Tuesday, July 28 – 3:00- 7:30 p.m.

4-H Weigh-in **Tuesday, July 28**

No reweighs allowed. All market animals must weigh! Scales open at 3:00 p.m.

All market animals, bucket calves, feeder steers, and Class 2 & 3 Breeding Doe Meat Goats will be weighed. The scales will be open on **Tuesday, July 28, during fair week, from 3:00 pm-7:30 pm for weighing** Market and Feeder Steers, Bucket Calves, Lambs, and Goats. All species are allowed to weigh in during that time, except swine. Weigh-in for swine begins at 8 p.m. The alleyway will be set up from 8-9 p.m. on **July 28** for weigh-ins. Once the alleyway is set up, no other species will be allowed to weigh in. Please be ready to bring your animals to the scales during this time. No re-weighs will be allowed.

Animal Destination Form

If you bring a market animal to the fair, we need to know what you plan to do with that animal. Please fill out a destination form indicating whether the animal is going home, sold on a base bid truck, or going through the livestock sale. Destination forms can be found at the weigh-in table, at the announcer's stand during shows, or in the fair office. We understand you may need to wait until after the shows to determine which animal to sell, but please have these forms filled out and turned in by **FRIDAY AT NOON**. Turn in to the superintendent, Will, or the fair office.

Vet Check

A reminder that when passing through the vet check process on **Tuesday, July 28, from 3:00-7:30 PM**, it is the family's responsibility to assist the vet. If the 4-H member is old enough, they are expected to help handle the animal during inspection. Parents, please assist as needed to help keep the line moving as efficiently as possible. **DO NOT HAVE ANY BLANKETS, LEG WRAPS, COVERINGS, etc. at the time of weigh-in.** These should **ALL** be removed before getting in line for the vet check.

Animal Health

Now is the time that you really focus on getting them ready for the fair and making sure they are happy and healthy. **MAKE SURE THEY ARE CASTRATED!**

Fair Camping

Each year, previous campers will be notified by mail of the procedure for reserving camping spots and the payment method by CCFA. After July 6, any campsites not reserved will be open and can be reserved by contacting the CCFA.

Camping fees for the 2026 Crawford County Fair: \$200 for all campers and trailers paid prior to noon on July 26, 2026, \$10 for primitive camping (no access to electricity)

Campers who have reserved their location and paid the fees may enter the Fairgrounds after 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, July 25, 2026, and set up their campers. Electricity will be turned on Sunday, July 26, 2026. Contact Mike Reese to reserve your spot.

Hall of Champions at Fair

This year, there will be a new photographer to gather as many photos of Grand and Reserve Champions as possible. Full details to be announced at a later date. However, in the event you miss getting your photo taken for the Hall of Champions, please do the following.

1. Snap a photo of the youth and the project.
2. Email it to toehme@ksu.edu
3. Include name, award received, club, and age division.
4. Pick up your photo on the Sunday of the Fair.

Fair Proposals

The last opportunities to submit proposals for the 2027 fair are the August 4-H Council meeting and the September Fair Board Meeting. The proposals made at the 4-H Council or Fair Board will be considered for Fair 2027.

Food Opportunities at Fair

Thanks to the generosity of Farm Bureau of Girard, Frontier Farm Credit, GNBANK, and Heartland Electric, there will be options for exhibitors to ensure they are fueled up and ready to present their projects at the Fair. Be sure to show your appreciation for their support.

Tuesday, July 28- The American Legion will be opening early for families during livestock check-in.

Wednesday, July 29- Frontier Farm Credit will be set up outside the Marvin Green Building with doughnuts and refreshments.

Wednesday, July 29- Farm Bureau of Girard will be providing hot dogs and popsicles at the Barnyard Olympics. Located at the livestock show arena.

Thursday, July 30- Farm Bureau of Girard will have its usual drink refreshments, and Heartland will provide breakfast at the livestock show arena. GN Bank will be providing popsicles during the morning show.

Friday, July 31- The Farm Bureau of Girard will have its usual refreshments and doughnuts at the livestock show arena. GNBANK will be providing popsicles during the morning show.

Saturday, August 1- The Farm Bureau of Girard will have its usual refreshments and doughnuts at the livestock show arena. GNBANK will have a Watermelon Feed during the Livestock Sale.

State Livestock Nomination Information

Kansas State Fair Grand Drive Entry Deadline is July 15. The Kansas Junior Livestock Show Entry Deadline is August 15.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum

Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers, and more. In addition, the 2027 State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected, and up to six National 4-H Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF.

Objectives:

Broaden your understanding of leadership and the qualities of a leader.

Practice leadership skills you can apply in other settings, such as your local club, school, and community.

Improve interpersonal communication skills.

Gain confidence.

When: November 21-22, 2026

Where: Rock Springs 4-H Ranch

Who: Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2027?

Registration deadline: October 15, 2026

Save the date now! We will open workshop

proposals in the next 6 weeks, and registration will open late this summer. Applications for the 2027

Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council will open before Discovery Days and be due October 1, 2026.

48 Hours of 4-H

Join us this fall to see how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend after National 4-H Week is the perfect opportunity to set up a service project for the Kansas 4-H Service Challenge, 48 Hours of 4-H. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers, and 4-H Alums too!

When: October 10-11, 2026

Who: 4-H Members, 4-H Clubs, Friends, Adult Volunteers, Parents, 4-H Alumni

Get this on your radar now! 48 Hours of 4-H Webpage

Project registration will open this summer!

Wanted! Farm or Ranch Family to Host Taiwan Teen in July

Kansas 4-H has been asked to host an enthusiastic 18-year-old boy who is eager to learn about agriculture as part of our exchange with Taiwan 4-H. “Diego” has been working throughout his high school years to prepare for a career in agriculture or veterinary science. He’s requested a farm or ranch family for his exchange here and says he’ll be happy to work alongside his host family while he gains experience and an international perspective. His background is in a rural family where his grandparents are farmers and camps and an internship in veterinary medicine has prepared him for “learning by doing” in Kansas.

To host Diego, a family needs to have an older teen boy to serve as his host sibling. His delegation will arrive in Kansas City on June 30 and stay with the family until their departure on July 26, 2026. His host family will be able to share family and community Independence Day activities, and at many county fairs, there are easy opportunities to give exchange visitors special memories. The family members will learn about agriculture, 4-H, and life in Taiwan. Diego loves tennis and the outdoors.

If you can help us locate potential host families for Diego in eastern Kansas, please contact Mary Kay Munson at 785-375-3189 or mkm2@ksu.edu. Other members of the Taiwan 4-H delegation have been placed with families in Miami, Brown, and Saline Counties. We will be seeking two-week hosts for a chaperone once we know who will be coming with

the 4-H members from Taiwan. Single persons or families with no 4-H teens are eligible to host a chaperone. Notify Mary Kay of interest.



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