Flint Hills District 4-H Newsletter

Chelsea Bartels email: chelse1@ksu.edu
Deb Andres email: dandres1@ksu.edu
Jessica Mayhew email: jrmayhew@ksu.edu

Beyond Ready

Tara Thomsen email: tlp7777@ksu.edu
Kelley Gawith email: kagawith@ksu.edu
Gianna Zimmerman email: gzimmerman@ksu.edu

November 2026

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Flint Hills District Offices

Chase County
205 Broadway; PO Box 100
Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845
620-273-6491

Morris County
315 W. Main, Ste. A
Council Grove, KS 66846
620-767-5136

www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h
Facebook: flinthillsdistrictkse

Kansas State University
Extension
Flint Hills District

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Kansas4-H.org

Record Book Changes

While record books are still fresh in everyone's minds, we want to share some changes for next year. Starting with the 2026-27 4-H year, the state 4-H office will no longer offer fillable PDF forms for Project Reports. All Project Reports must be completed using Z-Books. This change will affect record books turned in next year, not those already completed.

What does this change look like for the Flint Hills District?

- There is no change to the Personal Page and how that is filled out. There is a downloadable PDF for the Personal Page on the Z-Books dashboard.
- If you are currently using the fillable Permanent Record WORD document, you may continue to use this for your Permanent Record.
  - If you would like to make the switch to Z-Books for your Permanent Record, you do not have to re-enter information from previous years. Simply begin with the current year.
  - The fillable Permanent Record WORD document will not continue to be available for download.
- All new members or those that are completing a Record Book for the first time should begin their Permanent Record in Z-Books.
- **ALL Project Reports must be done using Z-Books.**
  - Z-Books project reports contain all the same information as the fillable PDF.

We will hold a district-wide Z-Books training at the Pendergraft 4-H Building in Chase County. The date and time will be announced soon. We encourage 4-H members and parents to attend. We will also offer record book workshops in both counties throughout the year to help families learn the new system.



Save the Dates for District and Regional Club Days

It will soon be time to start thinking about what events you want to compete in at Club Day! Our **District Club Day will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2027** and is hosted by Chase County this year at Chase County Junior/Senior High School in Cottonwood Falls. As a reminder, even years are hosted in Morris County and odd years are hosted in Chase County.

The entry form will be in a future newsletter, but it's not too early to start planning now. There are several options for events that will get your whole club involved, and early planning is the key to success.

Regional Club Day will be held on Saturday, March 27, 2027, in Madison, KS, at Madison High School.

District News

Shooting Sports Safety Day

Safety Day for first-year Shooting Sports participants will be **Sunday, November 1st at 1:00 p.m.** at the Morris County 4-H Community Building. If it is your first year participating in shooting sports, you must attend this meeting in order to participate. Be sure you are on the Morris-Chase Sharp Shooters Facebook page for updates. More information will be coming on future practice dates/times.

Setting Goals for the 4-H Year

One of the ways to prepare for a positive 4-H year is to use a goal setting page so you can plan for the year ahead and know how you want to learn and grow in your projects. You can find the Kansas 4-H goal setting worksheet here: https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/download/setting-4-h-project-goals_4H1100

Kansas 4-H Scholarships

The Kansas 4-H Scholarship program is open to graduating high school seniors, current college students, and graduate students who have been part of the 4-H experience. Each scholarship has its own criteria, and you may qualify for several. Many 4-H scholarships are available for college students beyond incoming freshmen. Please remind current college students who are 4-H alumni to apply each year.

The State 4-H Scholarships and the Vanier Family Scholarship Program (VFSP) now use a combined application. This makes it easier for students to apply for both scholarship programs.

Scholarship applications are typically due the first Monday in January by 11:59 p.m. CST.

For more information or questions regarding the scholarship application process, please contact Sarah Keatley at keatley@ksu.edu or 620-366-0035.
Visit the website for more information: https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html

4-H Enrollment for the New Year

It's time to enroll in the new 4-H year! **All 4-H members and volunteers, new or returning, must enroll in 4-H Online.** Enrollment opened October 1st, and we encourage you to complete your enrollment as soon as possible. If you have any questions about the enrollment process, please reach out to the Extension Office so that we can assist you. 4-H Online is best accessed via a computer rather than a phone browser. There is a $15 enrollment fee, and some clubs may reimburse this. In Morris County, the Morris County 4-H Foundation will cover the enrollment fee for youth who turn in a record book or are first-year 4-H members.

Families should review the years in each project as they make project selections. Please also review all personal information to make sure phone numbers, email addresses, and mailing addresses are all up to date. Please enroll in all projects you plan to take for the year as the enrollment list is what allows project leaders to plan the year and communicate about project meetings. **The final drop/add deadline for project selection is May 1st.**

Enroll at: https://4honline.com

Volunteer Enrollment

Volunteering with 4-H is a great way to set an example for youth and help build the program you want your kids to enjoy. We are looking for project leaders in both counties.
New Volunteers: New 4-H volunteers will need to contact the Extension Office to discuss what role they would like to volunteer in. They will then need to enroll in 4-H Online, complete Kansas 4-H Volunteer Orientation Training, and complete a background check. The Extension Office will gladly help walk you through the steps to become a 4-H volunteer.
Returning Volunteers: Returning volunteers simply need to re-enroll in 4-H Online.

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This institution is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the Flint Hills Extension District four weeks prior to the start of the event at 620-767-5136 or chelse1@ksu.edu. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

District 4-H Dates

November 2026

November 1 - Shooting Sports Safety Day
November 7 - Morris County Achievement Banquet
November 8 - Chase County 4-H Council Meeting
November 8 - Chase County Achievement Banquet
November 12 - Morris County Officer Training
November 21-22 - KYLF - Rock Springs Ranch
November 21-22 - Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers Forum - Rock Springs Ranch
November 26-27 - Extension Offices Closed - Thanksgiving

December 2026

December 24-31 - Extension Offices Closed - Christmas

Save the Date 2027

January 1, 2027 - Extension Offices Closed - New Year's Day
January 4, 2027 - Kansas 4-H Scholarship Applications Due
January 4, 2027 - Morris County 4-H Council Meeting
February 6, 2027 - Morris County 4-H Council Soup Supper Fundraiser
February 7-8, 2027 - Citizenship in Action - Topeka, KS
February 20-21, 2027 - Horse Panorama - Manhattan, KS
February 27, 2027 - District Club Day - Cottonwood Falls
March 6, 2027 - Jr. Swine Producer Day - Manhattan, KS
March 20, 2027 - Jr. Meat Goat Producer Day - Manhattan, KS
March 27, 2027 - Regional Club Day - Madison, KS
May 1, 2027 - Drop/Add Deadline for Projects
June 9-11, 2027 - Discovery Days - Manhattan, KS

Choosing Your 4-H Projects

One of the best parts of 4-H is choosing projects that match your interests! Whether you enjoy animals, photography, cooking, woodworking, gardening, robotics, or something else entirely, there is a 4-H project for you. Projects give members the chance to explore new interests, build skills, and discover talents through hands-on learning. With more than 35 project areas to choose from, there are plenty of opportunities to try something new or build on skills you've already learned.

When choosing projects, think about what you enjoy, what you want to learn, and how much time you have. Some projects may need extra space, equipment, or supplies. New members may want to start with one or two projects. Returning members might enjoy trying something new. Remember, the goal is to learn and grow through your experiences in 4-H.

If you haven't enrolled for the new 4-H year, please do so now! Try to choose your projects during enrollment so leaders can plan meetings and activities. The final deadline to add or drop projects is May 1st, so you have several months to explore your interests and make changes if needed. Take a look at the 4-H Project Selection Guide for ideas, and don't hesitate to contact the Extension Office if you have questions or need help choosing projects.

Kansas 4-H Projects

Animal Science
Beef
Dairy Cattle
Dairy Goats
Dog
Horse
Meat Goats
Pets
Poultry
Rabbits
Sheep
Swine
Veterinary Science

Communication & Expressive Arts
Communications
Interior Design & Architecture
Performing Arts
Photography
Visual Arts

Engineering & Technology
Aerospace/Rocketry
Ag Mechanics Welding
Astronomy
Building Block Engineering
Computer Science
Electric & Renewable Energy
Robotics
Small Engines
Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
Woodworking

Family & Consumer Sciences
Family Studies
Fiber Arts (includes 9 projects)
Foods & Nutrition
Health & Wellness
Sewing & Textile Design
Shopping in Style

Leadership & Personal Development
Civic Engagement
Entrepreneurship
Leadership
Reading Adventures
Self-Determined

Natural Resources
Environmental Science
Geology
Shooting Sports (includes 10 projects)
Wildlife

Plant Sciences
Agronomy
Entomology
Forestry
Horticulture & Landscape Design



August, 2025

K-STATE Research and Extension | Beyond Ready

CHASE COUNTY

Chase County Extension Office Location:
205 Broadway St., Cottonwood Falls, KS
Office Phone Number: 620-273-6491

4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council Meeting will be held prior to the Achievement Banquet at **4:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 8th** and will be at the Pendergraft Building. This will be the first meeting of the new 4-H year and will include 4-H Council officer elections. All Council Reps must attend this meeting to be elected to a Council officer position.

Chase County Achievement Banquet

The Chase County Achievement Banquet will be held on **Sunday, November 8th at 6:00 p.m.** at the Pendergraft Building in Cottonwood Falls. Setup for the banquet will begin at 5:00 p.m. on November 8th.

The banquet is free for 4-H members who turned in a record book, along with their parents and siblings. The cost for all other attendees, including 4-H members who did not turn in a record book, is $10 per person. The meal will be catered, so please **RSVP to the Extension Office with the number attending by Monday, November 2nd at 5:00 p.m.**

Officer Training

Officer training will be held **Tuesday, November 17th at 6:30 p.m.** at the Pendergraft Building in Cottonwood Falls. If you were elected to an office for the upcoming 4-H year, please make plans to attend. Everyone is welcome to come and participate even if you do not hold an office. It is a great way to learn about what the different officer positions do and how a 4-H meeting is run. Youth under the age of 10 must have an adult present. **Pizza will be served at 6:00 p.m. prior to Officer Training.**

State 4-H Events

4-H members who want to attend State 4-H Events are encouraged to visit with the Extension Office about scholarships available to assist with registration cost. 4-H Council voted to offset the cost associated with specific events.

Animal Ownership Deadlines

As you make plans for your livestock projects this 4-H year, here are some dates and deadlines to keep in mind.

Market Beef Tagging/Ownership Deadline:
Ownership Deadline: March 26, 2027
Tagging: March 26, 2027 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Mushrush Ranches

Small Market Livestock (Meat Goat, Sheep, Swine, and Bucket Calf) Tagging/Ownership Deadline:
Ownership Deadline: April 24, 2027
Tagging: Friday, April 23, 2027 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 24, 2027 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Chase County Fairgrounds

Ownership Deadline for ALL Breeding Livestock:
May 1, 2027

Ownership Deadline for Rabbits and Poultry:
May 1, 2027

Deadline for Horse ID Papers:
June 1, 2027

2027 Chase County Fair Updates

- The Horse Show at the Chase County Fair will be held on **SATURDAY, July 24, 2027**. It will be held at the Strong City Rodeo Grounds.
- Due to the Horse Show being held Saturday morning, Fair Cleanup and Setup will be held at a different time.
- There will be a new 4-H project showcase opportunity for the Pet Project at the 2027 Chase County Fair. **The fair will now include a show for Cats and Hand Pets so members of the Pet Project will have the opportunity to show their pets at the Chase County Fair.** The Cat and Hand Pet Show will be held in conjunction with the Dog Show. If you have any questions about this project, please reach out to the Extension Office.

2027 Fair Dates

Chase County Fair: July 23 - July 29, 2027

Kansas State Fair: September 9-19, 2027

Chase County November 2026



1 Shooting Sports Safety Day 1:00 p.m. Morris Co. Community Building	2 No School USD 284	3	4	5	6	7
8 4-H Council Meeting 4:30 p.m. Achievement Banquet 6:00 p.m. Pendergraft Building	9	10	 11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Officer Training 6:30 p.m. Pendergraft Building	18	19	20	21 KYLF Rock Springs Ranch
22 KYLF Rock Springs Ranch	23 No School USD 284	24	25	 26 Extension Office Closed	27	28
29	30					

MORRIS COUNTY

Morris County Extension Office Location:
315 W. Main St., Ste A, Council Grove, KS
Office Phone Number: 620-767-5136

Morris County Achievement Banquet

When: Saturday, November 7th at 6:00 p.m.
Where: Morris County 4-H Community Building
Cost: Tickets are $10 for adults and youth ages 14 and older, and $7 for youth ages 13 and younger.
Tickets must be paid for when ordered; there will be no late ticket sales or tickets available at the door.
Tickets will be sold through your 4-H club. Club leaders will be responsible for collecting money and placing the ticket order with the Extension Office no later than **November 2nd at 5:00 p.m**.
Setup: Saturday, November 7th at 10:00 a.m. by Willing Workers and Neosho Valley Clubs and 2025-26 4-H Council Achievement Banquet Committee Members.
Cleanup: Immediately following the Achievement Banquet on November 7th by Dwight Sunflowers and Flint Hills Clubs.

4-H Float for the Christmas Parade

Morris County 4-H'ers, we have been asked to have a 4-H float in the **Christmas Parade in Council Grove on December 12!** We are looking for a group of 4-H'ers and adult volunteers to make this happen. If you are interested in being a part of the Christmas Parade Float, please sign up at https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/KKGP6Ju9rV or using the QR code. There will be a planning meeting at the Extension Office on Tuesday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m. for those interested in helping.

Noteworthy Cards Fundraiser

Hopefully the Noteworthy Cards Fundraiser is going well! As a reminder, these notecards are printed locally from photographs taken by Morris County 4-H members, and all proceeds go to the Morris County 4-H Council where the money gets put right back into supporting our 4-H activities. At only **$5 per set**, these cards make great small gifts, stocking stuffers, or thank-you cards for after Christmas. There are a limited number of additional notecard sets in the office if you would like to sell more.

Please remember to return your money to your clubs by the deadline set by your club. This allows your club leaders to get the money and final counts of cards turned in to the Extension Office by the deadline of December 18th.

4-H Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for **January 4, 2027 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Morris County Community Building at the Morris County Fairgrounds.

Morris County Enrollment Fees

Once again the Morris County 4-H Foundation is sponsoring the enrollment fees for any Morris County 4-H'er who turned in a record book, as well as any first-year members. **The coupon code will be applied in the office for eligible members.**

Officer Training

Officer training will be held on **Thursday, November 12th at 6:30 p.m.** at the Morris County 4-H Community Building. If you were elected to an office for the upcoming 4-H year, please make plans to attend. This includes both club and 4-H Council officers. Everyone is welcome to come and participate even if you do not hold an office. It is a great way to learn about what the different officer positions do and how a 4-H meeting is run. Youth under the age of 10 must have an adult present. A light meal will be provided.

2027 Livestock Deadlines

As you make plans for your livestock projects this 4-H year, here are some dates and deadlines to keep in mind:

Market Beef Tagging/Ownership Deadline:
Ownership Deadline: March 16, 2027
Tagging: March 16, 2027 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Cynthia Schrader's place:
39924 Mormon Trail Rd, Alta Vista

Small Market Livestock (Meat Goat, Sheep, Swine, and Bucket Calf) Tagging/Ownership Deadline:
Ownership Deadline: May 1, 2027
Tagging: Wednesday, April 28, 2027 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 1, 2027 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Morris County Fairgrounds

Ownership Deadline for ALL Breeding Livestock:
May 1, 2027

Ownership Deadline for Rabbits and Poultry:
May 31, 2027

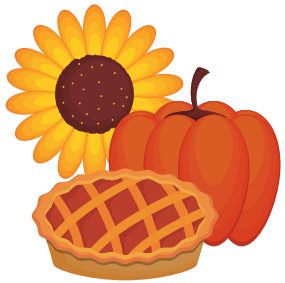
Deadline for Horse ID Papers:
June 1, 2027

2027 Fair Dates

Tri-County Fair: TBD
Morris County Fair: July 24 - August 2, 2027
Kansas State Fair: September 9-19, 2027

Morris County

November 2026



1 Shooting Sports Safety Day 1:00 p.m. Fairgrounds Community Building	2 No School USD 481	3	4	5	6	7 Achievement Banquet 6:00 p.m. Fairgrounds Community Building
8	9	10	11 	12 Officer Training 6:30 p.m. Fairgrounds Community Building	13 No School USD 417	14
15	16	17 Christmas Float Planning Meeting 6:00 p.m. Council Grove Extension Office	18 Late Start USD 481 & 417	19	20	21 KYLF Rock Springs Ranch
22 KYLF Rock Springs Ranch	23	24	25 No School USD 481 & 417	26  Extension Office Closed	27	28
29	30					

Flint Hills District 4-H News

Flint Hills Extension Office

Chelsea Bartels
District Director, Agriculture & 4-H Agent
Deb Andres
Family and Consumer Sciences Agent
Jessica Mayhew
4-H & Agriculture Agent
Tara Thomsen
Program Assistant
Gianna Zimmerman
Office Professional, CG Office
Kelley Gawith
Office Professional, CWF Office

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315 West Main St - Ste. A
Council Grove, KS 66846
620-767-5136