

# Flint Hills Extension District 4-H Newsletter

Council Grove Office: 620-767-5136  
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**Beyond  
Ready**

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## September 2025

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## To Due List:

\*Thank You  
Notes

\*State Fair

\*Record Books

\*New 4-H Year

## Kansas State Fair

The Kansas State Fair is held in Hutchinson on September 5th-14th. The schedule for 4-H events can be found at the link below:

Complete 4-H Schedule: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/fair-resources/kansas-state-fair/docs/2025/2025%20Kansas%20State%20Fair%204-H%20Schedule.pdf>

The full fair details can be found at: <https://www.kansasstatefair.com/>

## Office Staffing Update

Help us welcome Gianna Zimmerman as the new Council Grove Office Professional. Gianna started employment with the Flint Hills District on August 4th. We are excited to have her in our office!!

Ron Smith 4-H Agent has resigned from the District. Please direct all your 4-H questions to the appropriate County Extension Office. Moving forward Deb Andres will be taking the lead on all Morris County 4-H and Chelsea Bartels will be taking the lead on all Chase County 4-H. Deb and Chelsea will work together to make sure they are providing the best service that they can to our 4-H programs.

## Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)

**What:** Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2026 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 the meaning of leadership and the qualities of a leader.
- Practice leadership skills you can use in other situations, like your local club, school and community.
- Improve interpersonal communication skills.
- Gain confidence.

**When:** November 22-23, 2025

**Where:** Rock Springs 4-H Center

**Who:** Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2026

2025 Fees will be set in summer

2024 Fees: \$215 and additional optional \$55 for Friday overnight and breakfast.

**Registration Deadline:**

Deadline - Wednesday, October 15, 2025 by 11:59 p.m.

## Pin Application Forms

4-H Member Achievement pins are designed to recognize 4-H members as they reach milestones throughout their 4-H journey. The pins are awarded in a series. As a member's 4-H journey progresses, the achievement pin requirements expand to challenge individuals to explore and engage in more opportunities to develop life skills. The pin application forms have been updated at the State level and have been updated on the Flint Hills Extension Office website. Please print the form you are working towards in order to see the updates and changes that have been made. The new version was revised October 2023, so make sure the version you have is correct in order for it to be judged at record book judging. You can find the new pin applications here: <https://www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h/district-record-keeping/recordbooks.html>

## 4-H Enrollment for the New Year

It is almost time to enroll for 4-H again! The new 4-H year begins October 1st! You must enroll via 4-H Online, version 2. You must wait until after October 1st to enroll or it will not count for the 2025-2026 4-H year.

The link is <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>. We ask that you get your completed enrollment done by November 1st. This includes 4-H members and all volunteers. Please let us know if you have any questions as you complete the enrollment process. You can call our offices. Just a reminder that there is a \$15 enrollment fee, and some clubs will reimburse this. The Morris County 4-H Foundation takes care of this for youth who turned in a record book in Morris County or for new 4-H members. Families should review years in project as they make project selections and please review all personal information to make sure phone numbers, emails and mailing address are current. Please enroll in any projects that you plan to take this year. The enrollment list is what is given to project leaders so they can communicate about upcoming meetings. The final drop add deadline for project selection is May 1st.

## Volunteer Enrollment

Volunteering is a great way to show our 4-H youth how to get involved in 4-H. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for our 2025-2026 4-H year please reach out to the Extension Office to get signed up!

## National 4-H Conference Award Trip

The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development programs nationally and in their communities.

The event provides youth the opportunity to acquire practical knowledge and skills to reinforce the attitudes and motivation that will give them a heightened sense of responsibility and capacity to connect with others as active member of society. Youth will engage in educational activities to explore, practice and master civic engagement skills and personal development to make a difference in their community, country and world.

Any 4-H youth member program age 15-18 may apply for the opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C. area. The event is typically scheduled for April in Arlington, Virginia.

**Applications are due October 1, 2025.**

**Find the application here:** <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/national-4-h-conference/>

## State 4-H Dog Conference

Save the date! Dog conference this year is October 18-19, 2025. It will be held at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch. Be watching your email for registration and the October Newsletter for more details.

## 48 Hours of 4-H

**What:** Join us this fall in seeing just 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. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers and 4-H Alums, too! Find all the information here and start planning your projects. Please register your projects and then follow up with a report so we know about all the great things that happened across the state. 48 Hours of 4-H is the perfect compliment to #InspireKidstoDo. View our 484H Guide to learn more: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/docs/484H%20Guide%202019.pdf>

**When:** October 11-12, 2025

**Who:** 4-H Members, 4-H Clubs, Friends, Adult Volunteers, Parents, 4-H Alumni, Partnerships, Community Organizations, Potential 4-H Families

**4-H Enrollment, Re-Enrollment &  
Volunteer Renewals Begin  
Wednesday, October 1st**

# District 4-H Dates

## September

**September 1 - Extension Offices Closed-Labor Day**

**September 4 - Perishable Items to Office for State Fair**

**September 5-14 - Kansas State Fair**

**September 7 - State Photography Judging Contest**

**September 8 - Ambassador Applications Due**

**(Both Counties)**

**September 13 - State FCS Judging Contest**

**September 24 - Chase Co. Record Books, Key Award &  
Leaders Choice Award Applications Due**

**September 29 - Chase Co. Ambassador Interviews**

## October

**October 1 - 4-H Enrollment Opens**

**October 1 - Morris Co. Record Books, Club Summary,  
Friend of 4-H, and 4-H Alumni Award  
Nominations Due**

**October 3-5 - Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS)**

**October 4 - Morris Co. Community 4-H Carnival**

**October 5-11 - National 4-H Week**

**October 8 - Morris Co. Record Book Judging**

**October 11-12 - 48 Hours of 4-H**

**October 11-12 - State Shotgun Match Sedgwick/Augusta**

**October 14 - Morris Co. 4-H Council Meeting**

**October 15 - Chase Co. Record Book Judging**

**October 18-19 - State 4-H Dog Conference**

**October 27 - Chase Co. 4-H Council Meeting**

## Looking Ahead

**November 1 - 4-H & VIP Enrollment Deadline**

**November 2 - Morris Co. 4-H Achievement Banquet**

**November 8 - Chase Co. Health Fair**

**November 9 - Chase Co. 4-H Achievement Banquet**

**November 11 - Extension Offices Closed-Veterans Day**

**November 22-23 - Kansas Youth Leadership Forum**

**November 27-28 - Extension Offices Closed Thanksgiving**

## Kansas Youth Virtual Entrepreneurship Challenge

The Kansas Youth Virtual Entrepreneurship Challenge is a great starting point for young innovators to explore entrepreneurship, build confidence, gain experience pitching ideas—and win cash prizes! Participation in KYVEC also serves as excellent preparation for the Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge (YEC Summit). Click on the link below for more information and to register.

<https://www.campdestinationinnovation.com/kyvec>

**Who:** Open to elementary, middle, and high school students across Kansas.

**What:** A statewide virtual business pitch competition. Students submit a 3–5 minute video pitching their business idea for a chance to win cash prizes.

**Where:** Online (virtual submission & judging)

### **Dates to Remember:**

Sept. 1 – Registration Opens

Oct. 26 – Submission Deadline

Oct. 28–Nov. 4 – Judging

Nov. 6 – Winners Announced

### **Prizes:**

Elementary: 1st – \$300 | 2nd – \$150 | 3rd – \$100

Middle School: 1st – \$500 | 2nd – \$250 | 3rd – \$150

High School: 1st – \$1,000 | 2nd – \$350 | 3rd – \$250

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K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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 Extension Office two weeks prior to the start of the event at 620-767-5136. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.

# CHASE COUNTY

**Chase County Extension Office Location:** 205 Broadway St.

Cottonwood Falls, KS

**Office Phone Number:** 620-273-6491

## State Fair

State Fair entry items which include foods/horticulture/floriculture, must be dropped off September 4th from 7:30am-8:00am. **No Later!**

## Key Award

The Kansas Key Award is one of the highest honors awarded to 4-H members across Kansas. As a reminder, the basic requirements are:

- The 4-Her must have passed their 16th birthday by January 1 of the current year
- Completed four or more years of 4-H work
- Enrolled in 4-H Leadership for four or more years

They also must meet at least 9 of 11 optional requirements. If you are interested in applying for the Key Award, it is important you take a look at those requirements at least 4-5 years prior to applying.

**Due September 24th**

## Record Books

You will only need to complete one personal page and one copy of the permanent record. Each member will need to complete records for at least half of the projects that you are enrolled in (if half is not a whole number, round up). If you are enrolled in the Leadership project this must be one of the projects that you complete records for to complete this project for the year.

- Please find the Chase County 4-H Record Book Order of Assembly page here: <https://www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h/chase-county/Chase%20County%204-H%20Record%20Book%20Order%20of%20Assembly%208-31-22.pdf>
- **Leaders** will collect club record books but will not score them at the club level. Please check for completion and that all signature lines are signed. Leaders will need to set club due date.
- Record books and club officer books will be due to the Extension Office **by September 24th.**
- Books will be swapped with another County for scoring. This year Chase County will judge Morris County record books. Plan to have 3-4 volunteers from each Club assist with judging record books on **October 15th from 9am-7pm** at the Extension Office.

## 4-H Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for **October 27th at 6:30pm at the Pendergraft Building.** If the 4-H Council Rep is unable to attend from your club, please have the alternate attend. Officers will be elected at this meeting and final plans for Achievement Banquet will be discussed.

## Achievement Banquet

The date for the Achievement Banquet has been set for **Sunday, November 9th at 6pm** and will be held at the Pendergraft Building (new 4-H building). 4-H youth who turn in a record book are invited to attend the banquet. The meal is going to be catered and we ask that you RSVP how many are attending by **October 27th** to the Extension Office. No cost to the 4-H member, parents and siblings. Anyone extra will need to pay \$10.

## Ambassador Applications

Have you been wanting to help promote 4-H in your community and spread the word of how it has shaped you as an individual then you are the person we have been looking for! Applications are available for the Chase County Ambassador Program. They can be found on our website: <https://www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h/chase-county/Chase%20County%20Ambassador%20Application.docx>

**Application Deadline:** Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 5:00 pm.

### **Application Materials:**

- 1.) Completed Chase County 4-H Ambassador Application
- 2.) Two letters of reference. Reference letters must be in a seal-signed envelope and may not be from a relative.

**Application Submission:** Hand deliver or mail to Chase County Extension office (PO Box 100, Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845).

**Interviews:** Monday, September 29th, 2025 (If date conflicts, we will allow additional interviews October 1<sup>st</sup>) Candidates will sign up for a twenty-minute interview slot between the hours of 6:00 and 8:00 pm.

**Age Requirement:** Currently in 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade (4-H members between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1st, 2026, may apply).

**Term:** No term limits at this time

**Current Members:** Current members do not need to re-apply. Please let Kelly Glanville know if you plan to continue as an Ambassador.

# SEPTEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Extension Offices Closed Labor Day No School USD 284	2	3	4 State Fair Foods, Horticulture, and Floriculture Due to Extension Office 7:30 -8am	5	6 State FCS Judging
7 State Photography Judging	8 Ambassador Applications Due	9	10	11	12	
September 5-14 Kansas State Fair						
14	15 No School USD 284	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Record books, Key Award & Leaders Choice Award Applications Due	25	26	27
28	29 Ambassador Interviews	30				



## State Fair

State Fair entry items which include foods/horticulture/floriculture, must be dropped off September 4th from 7:00am-7:30am. **No Later!**

## Record Books

- Record books are due to the Extension Office from Community Leaders by **Tuesday, October 1st**. Please coordinate with your community leaders to get them fully signed by members, parents, and leaders.
- Books will be swapped with another County for scoring. This year Morris County will judge Marshall County record books. Plan to have 3-4 volunteers from each Club assist with judging record books on **October 8th from 9am-7pm** at the Extension Office.
- Record book pages can be found on our website: <https://www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h/district-record-keeping/recordbooks.html>

## Community 4-H Carnival

This year Morris County 4-H Council is offering a Community Carnival. Invite your friends and come have a good time!

**When:** Saturday, October 4th from 6-8pm

**Where:** Community Building, Morris County Fairgrounds

**What:** Free Carnival Games and Prizes

**Who:** For families interested or involved in 4-H with children ages 5-19, Volunteers are welcome too!

**Open to the public!**

## 4-H Member Movie Night

**When:** Saturday, October 4th following the carnival from 8:30-11pm

**Where:** Community Building, Morris County Fairgrounds

**What:** Free Movie and Pizza

**Who:** For current (2024-2025) 4-H members. Bring lawn chairs and/or bean bags for comfortable seating.

Watch Morris County Happenings FB page for more information

**Sponsored by the Morris County 4-H Council!**

## Important Dates

### Fair Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 2, 7 pm

### 4- H Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 14, 6:30 pm

## Ambassador Applications

Have you been wanting to help promote 4-H in your community and spread the word of how it has shaped you as an individual then you are the person we have been looking for! Applications are available for the Morris County Ambassador Program. They can be found on our website: <https://www.flinthills.k-state.edu/4-h/morris-county/ambassadors/2025-26%20MRCO%204-H%20Ambassador%20Application%20Fillable%20Form.pdf>

**Application Deadline:** Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 5:00 pm.

### Application Materials:

- 1) Completed Morris County 4-H Ambassador Application
- 2) Three letters of reference
  - Three letters of reference are required to be submitted with your application.
  - Reference letters must be in a seal-signed envelope and may not be from a relative.
  - One letter of reference must be from your 4-H Club Leader.

**Application Submission:** Hand deliver or mail to Morris County Extension Office (501 W. Main St. Council Grove, KS 66846).

**Interviews:** Interviews will be scheduled after the application deadline.

**Age Requirement:** Currently in 9th – 12th grade (4-H members between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1st, 2026, may apply).

**Term:** One- or two-year term of service.

## Cloverbuds

We are looking for new Cloverbud Leader(s) starting in October. If you are interested please contact the Extension office at 620-767-5136 and we can get you more information.

## Morris County Achievement Banquet

The date for the Achievement Banquet has been set for **Sunday, November 2nd** at the Morris County 4-H Building. More information about tickets will be coming.

# SEPTEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Extension Offices Closed Labor Day No School USD 417 & 481	2 Fair Board Meeting	3	4 State Fair Foods, Horticulture, and Floriculture Due to Extension Office 7-7:30am	5 <div>Kansas State Fair</div>	6 <div>Kansas State Fair</div>
7 State Photography Judging	8 Ambassador Applications Due	9	10 2-Hr Delay USD 481	11	12	13 State FCS Judging
September 5-14 Kansas State Fair						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 2-Hr Late Start USD 417	25	26 No School USD 417	27
28	29 No School USD 417	30				

# Flint Hills District 4-H News

## Flint Hills Extension Office

**Chelsea Bartels**  
District Director & Agriculture Agent

**Deb Andres**  
Family and Consumer Sciences Agent

**Gianna Zimmerman**  
Office Professional, CG Office

**Kelley Gawith**  
Office Professional, CWF Office

**Laura Canady**  
Program Assistant

## September 2025 Newsletter



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