

MORRIS COUNTY NEWS



October 2017



State Fair Exhibits

Congratulations to all of the 4-Hers who participated in the Kansas State Fair! Morris County was well represented and we are proud of your accomplishments. If you haven't already picked up your exhibits from the Extension Office, please come by and get them anytime Monday through Friday from 8 am - Noon and 1 - 5 pm.

Special Recognition at the Kansas State Fair

Congratulations to **Erin Jones, Michelle Patry, Rylee Powell, Treyser King, Brittley King, Daleyna King** as the photos they entered at the Kansas State Fair were selected by the Kansas 4-H Foundation to be used for promotional purposes. **Daleyna King's** photo was also selected to be featured by the Kansas Dean of Agriculture.

Featured Photo

The 3rd annual Featured Photo that was selected at the Morris County Fair to hang in the Extension Office was taken by Ella Kirk of the Neosho Valley 4-H Club.



4-H Enrollment

It is time to enroll for the new 4-H year! [4-H Online](https://ks.4honline.com) (<https://ks.4honline.com>) is available to **enroll** (for the first time) or to **reenroll** (if already a 4-H member) **starting October 2nd**. The system is accessible with a dial-up connection or with iPads, tablets, and smart phones. The Extension Office will be happy to provide help to families who do not have accessibility to the internet. Attached to this newsletter is a re-enrollment brochure with step by step instructions. For the new 4-H families, brochures will be available from the Club Leaders and the Extension Office. Participation forms will be done electronically on 4-H Online, the same as last year. The deadline for enrollment/reenrollment completion is **November 1st**.

REMINDER: Starting this year, there is a \$15 annual enrollment fee for 4-H. However, if this is your first year, the 4-H Foundation will cover your fee. If you are a returning 4-Her and you turn in your record books; the Foundation will also cover your fee.



Due October 5th...

Record Books, Club Officer Books,
Project Meeting Reports, Pin
Applications, 4-H Key Award
applications, Nominations for Friend of
4-H & Alumni



National 4-H Week

BRIEFLY: National 4-H Week is a great time (Sunday – Saturday) to spend promoting the 4-H program to your peers, followed by the 4-H Expo on Sunday afternoon to provide visuals and show non-members the great things 4-H has to offer! And what better way to end the week by having a picnic! The Appreciation Picnic is Sunday evening, immediately following the Expo.

National 4-H Week is Sunday, October 1st through Saturday, October 7th this year. Clubs are encouraged to inform their communities about the 4-H program during the week. 4-H members should be prepared to discuss contests, presentations, displays, and other ways to promote 4-H. If your club wants ideas for activities during National 4-H Week, contact the Extension Office for some great promotional materials! National 4-H Week is a great opportunity to share enthusiasm and promote the benefits of 4-H within our communities.

4-H Expo

Sunday, October 8th is the Morris County 4-H Expo from **3:30-5 pm**. Come learn more about 4-H, where 4-H can take you, see examples of record books; learn more about giving a project talk and much more.

What we need for the Expo:

-Past record books that placed in the top 3 of their respective categories (Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions).

-Each Club is invited and encouraged to have a booth. Ideas to have at your booth are Club Officer Books, tri-fold display of the club's activities, club t-shirt, and club banner.

-Doors will open at **1:30 pm** to **setup club and project booths**.

Appreciation Picnic

4-Hers, parents, and families are invited to attend the 3rd Annual *Friends of 4-H Appreciation Picnic* on **Sunday, October 8th at 5 pm**. A meal will be provided in the Community Building at the Morris County Fairgrounds (located just east of Council Grove). We appreciate all that parents and families do to support Morris County 4-Hers!

CLUB's Responsibilities:

- Each 4-H club is asked to **provide 5 bags of chips** for the picnic. Please **drop off** at the Extension Office **no later than Friday, October 6th**.
- 4-Hers and parents will need to **greet guests and serve food**.



Freezer Meals Class

Learn how to prepare meals you can freeze for breakfast, lunch, or dinner! Shandi Andres, our FACS Agent, is having a Freezer Meal Class on **Saturday, October 7th** at the Council Grove High School FACS Classroom. **Deadline to register is September 29th** by 5 pm. Come and prepare 5 entrees to take home with you. Cost is \$50 per person and includes lunch. (Please make checks payable to Flint Hills Extension District.) For questions, please contact Shandi at sdandres@ksu.edu, stop by or call the Extension Office at 620-767-5136.

Upcoming Project Meetings



Consider Enrolling in the Pet Project

Do you have a fish, hamster, turtle, guinea pig, or a bird? Or, perhaps you have a different type of amphibian or hand pet. If so, 4-Hers might want to consider enrolling in the pet project when completing their online 4-H enrollment this month. This project allows 4-Hers to learn more about household pets and how to care for them, feed them, and keep them healthy. If you have questions about the pet project, contact the Extension Office (620-767-5136) or project leader, Denise Ehrlich (785-466-1782).

Global Cat Day Celebration!

Everyone interested in the Cat project or the Pet project is invited to come celebrate *Global Cat Day* on **Monday, Oct. 16th** at **6:30 pm** in the Morris County Courthouse Meeting Room. The topic of the meeting is "stray cat vs. feral cat populations". We will also have some 'cat chow' and make plans for the upcoming year. Let Denise Ehrlich know if you can join in on the fun! (785-466-1782)

Fiber Arts Project Meeting

The first Fiber Arts meeting is being held on **Friday, October 21st** from 10 am - 2 pm at the First Baptist Church in Council Grove. It's a come-n-go. Bring a sack lunch. If you have a project, feel free to bring it or just come check it out. For questions or information contact Lizzy Buller at 620-767-2415 or by e-mail at lizzykaybuller@gmail.com.

Shooting Sports Safety Day

The Morris County Sharp Shooters will have their annual Rifle and Pistol Safety Day on **Sunday, November 5th**, at 1 pm in the classroom of the Armory Building in Council Grove. Participation in safety day is required for all 4-H youth who wish to participate in either discipline for the first time, or if youth did not participate in either discipline last year.



There are two projects offered under the rifle discipline: BB and Air Rifle. To participate in the BB project, youth must be a 4-H age of 8. For participation in the Air Rifle project, youth must have one year of the BB project and be a 4-H age of 12. For the Air Pistol discipline, 4-Hers must be a 4-H age of 12. If you have questions regarding the safety day, contact Tim King, shooting sports coordinator, at tim_king@live.com.

Other Important Dates

Record Book Judging

4-H record book judging will be held on **Wednesday, October 18th**, in the meeting room at the Morris County Courthouse. We will plan to judge books from 11 am to 7 pm. If you are planning to come in the evening, please call the Extension Office to make sure we still have books that need to be judged. We would like to have at least three representatives from each club to help with the judging. Please contact the Extension Office by **Monday, October 16th** to let us know who's representing your club.

4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council meeting will be held on **Monday, October 23rd** in the Morris County Courthouse Meeting Room at 7 pm.

Officer Training

Please note, the Morris County 4-H Officer Training will be a little different this year Training for *President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary* will be held on **Monday, November 6th at 6:30pm** in the Courthouse Meeting Room in Council Grove. We will have the opportunity to have the Collegiate 4-Hers from K-State to train our officers again this year.

All other offices (*Song & rec, historian, reporter, etc.*) will be held on **Wednesday, November 8th at 6:00pm**. This will be held in the Chase County Community Building at Swope Park on the fairgrounds. There will be a few spots available on a first come, first serve basis for any 4-Her wanting a ride to Cottonwood Falls. Please send as many officers and leaders from your club as possible. Officer books will be available for every office and leaders are encouraged to pick up books for officers who are unable to attend. We need to have club leaders RSVP to the Extension Office with the number of officers attending and their office by **October 27th**.

Achievement Banquet



The annual 4-H Achievement Banquet will be held on **Saturday, November 11th** in the community building at the fairgrounds.

Dinner is scheduled for 6 pm and the program will start at 7 pm.

Tickets. Tickets are \$4.25 each. Tickets are now available in the Extension office or will be available at the 4-H Council meeting on October 23rd for club leaders to pick up. Tickets can be purchased from the Extension Office or through your club leader. Ticket orders need to be submitted to the Extension Office by **Monday, October 30th**.

Club Assignments. Each club is assigned to a committee for the Achievement Banquet. ***Decorations, Tables, & Chairs - Dwight Sunflowers and Willing Workers***

Responsibilities include helping to set up tables, chairs, and decorations prior to the banquet on Friday evening, November 10th at 4:30 pm.

Programs & Tickets - Burdick Hustlers

Responsibilities include taking tickets on the evening of the banquet and handing out programs to attendees.

Trash & Clean-Up - Flint Hills and Neosho Valley

Responsibilities include putting away tables and chairs as well as cleaning up following the banquet.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLf)

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLf) will be held **November 17-19, 2017**, at Rock Springs Ranch 4-H Center. The forum is for youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2018. Participants will have the opportunity to build leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers, and more. In addition, the 2018 State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected at KYLF.

Registration is now open on the Kansas 4-H website. The early bird registration fee is \$215. However, with the support of the Morris County 4-H Foundation, Morris County 4-Hers can attend for \$129. **The early bird registration deadline is October 15th.** For more information or to register, go to <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/index.html>.



Scholarships!

Morris County Conservation District Senior High School Scholarship

The Morris County Conservation District is offering a Senior High School Scholarship for \$500 again this year. Applicants must be pursuing a degree in a natural resource field. A 500 word essay explaining why conservation and water quality are important to them and how the scholarship will benefit them personally and professionally is required, must submit a copy of their school transcript and provide two letters of recommendation that are not relatives. **Deadline is December 22nd**, and recipient will be presented a medal at January 27th annual meeting. The scholarship check will be presented in May at their school's awards assembly. The application is available in the Extension Office, or visit www.morriscountyconservationdistrict.com.



Low Interest Loans for Youth

The *Farm Service Agency* in Emporia is providing help to any youth that can benefit from a low interest loan to assist them in the funding of an agricultural project for FFA or 4-H.

These projects can vary from a steer that may be shown at the county fair, to providing input expenses to start a crop, or to a breeding swine/sheep project. To be qualified, the student must meet a minimum age of 10 or not yet reached their 21st birthday. The maximum amount that can be loaned under this program is \$5,000 at a present interest rate of 2.75%. Their project needs to be supervised by the FFA Advisor, 4-H agent or someone who has experience in that particular project. Additionally, their parent(s) or guardian must also agree with the project.

If it would help for any of our staff to come and visit with one of your Vo-Ag classes or one of your 4-H clubs to discuss the program in more detail, we are more than interested in helping in that effort. If you need additional applications, forms, or brochures, please feel free to contact our office in Emporia at 620-343-2813 or e-mail directly to eric.guenther@ks.usda.gov.

Fun Tournaments, Contests, and Events

Poland's Livestock Judging Contest

Annual Livestock Judging Contest on **Wednesday, October 11, 2017**, at 8:30 am, at Isabel, Kansas.

Please let Richard Poland at polandangus@havielandtelco.net know by October 6th if you are planning to attend with all the names of your team members. You can get more info at the Extension Office.

Topeka Gem & Mineral Show

If you are interested in geology, you don't want to miss this Geology Fair on **October 14-15, 2017**. The Show will be held in the Agricultural Hall, Kansas Expo Centre, 17th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka, Kansas.

"We look forward to having the 4-H Geology Project displays as a part of our annual Show each year and welcome all 4-H youth and their families. This year is our show theme is "Of Quartz It Is". We will have Woodies Rock Shop from Hamilton IL, - Stephen "Woodie" Woodruff will be bringing his extra-large geode cracker and giving a presentation each day. Just imagine seeing the inside of a geode for the very first time - anyone has ever seen it! The times have not been set for the presentations. There will also be demonstrations in lapidary arts, wire wrapping, sphere making, interesting and educational exhibits, as well as other activities for all. Please come to our show and check us out!" For more info contact the Extension Office.



Fall Fling Disc Golf Doubles Tournament

The Morris County 4-H Ambassadors are promoting this fundraiser and the funds raised will be used to promote the 4-H program to youth and families in Morris

County. The tournament is **Sunday, October 15th** at the Fairgrounds Park disc golf course. Check-in is from noon - 1 pm and start time is 1 pm. Please register by Thursday, October 5th at https://www.discgolfsce.com/tournaments/4_H_Fall_Fling_Doubles_Tournament_2017/register

MORRIS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

To recognize individuals who use photography to capture conservation images effectively and creatively, the Morris County Conservation District is sponsoring its Eighteenth Annual Photography Competition. Cash awards will be given, and winning entries will be exhibited at the District's Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 27, 2018.

The contest is open to amateur photographers (those who earn less than 80% of their income from photography) who are residents of or attend school in Morris County. Photos entered must have been taken in this calendar year in Morris County, and may be entered in the following categories:

***Conservation Practices** - Photos of volunteers planting trees or of district personnel advising a farmer could be entered in the category. Shots of erosion, a polluted stream or other conservation challenges are also appropriate.

***Opportunities in Conservation Education** - Entries in this category might show a workshop for local teachers or a farmer learning about wetlands. This is also the place to enter your best photos of children taking part in conservation activities.

***Wildlife** - In this category, you might show deer running through the woods or a bird nest in an urban neighborhood.

***Prairie Landscapes** - Sunsets, pastures, city parks and other impressive views are appropriate subjects for this category.

***Youth Only** - This category is designed for youths up to age 18. Photos may cover any of the above adult categories. All photos will be judged as one category.

Each participant may enter up to, but no more than, four photographs. The photographs will not be returned. They may be black and white or color, and will be judged together. Photos should be no larger than 8 X 10 inches and no smaller than 5 X 7 inches. Photographs should be placed in an 8 X 10 picture page envelope and they should not be matted.

A 3 X 5 notecard containing the following information must be attached to the back of each photo: photographer's name, address and phone number, and category entered. Negatives need to be enclosed in a protective jacket attached to the back of the picture at time of entry or e-mail a jpeg.

One First Place Photo: \$25.00 Cash Award
One Second Place Photo: \$15.00 Cash Award
One Third Place Photo: \$ 7.50 Cash Award
Five Honorable Mentions: Brag Books

Entries are due **Friday, November 3, 2017**, at the Morris County Conservation District Office. For more information call Jo Bea Titus - Hutchinson at 620-767-5111 Extension 101. Upon acceptance of Cash Awards, all rights and privilege of winning photos and negatives belong to the Morris County Conservation District. Further photos may be deemed Honorable Mention with appropriate awards given.



The Morris County Fair Board has announced the 2018 fair dates to be **July 21-30**. The detailed schedule will follow at a later date.

Mark Your Calendars

Sept. 25 - 4-H Ambassador Applications Due
Sept. 27 - 4-H Ambassador Interviews
Sept. 29 - Oct. 1 - KJLS
Sept. 29 - Deadline to register for Freezer Meal Class
Oct. 1-7 - National 4-H Week
Oct. 2 - Deadline for entering booth at 4-H Expo
Oct. 5 - Record Books, Pin Applications & Key Award Applications Due
Oct. 7 - Freezer Meal Class 9 am - 1 pm at CGHS FACS Classroom
Oct. 8 - 4-H Expo 3:30 - 5 pm
Oct. 8 - Friend of 4-H Appreciation Picnic at 5 pm at the Fairgrounds Community Bldg
Oct. 14-15 - Topeka Gem & Mineral Show
Oct. 16 - Deadline to register for KYLF
Oct. 16 - *Global Cat Day!* project meeting at 6:30 pm in the Morris County Courthouse Meeting Room
Oct. 18 - 4-H Council Meeting & Record Book Judging 11 am - 7 pm
Nov. 6 & 8 - Officer Training
Nov. 5 - *Shooting Sports Safety Day* at 1 pm at the Armory
Nov. 11 - Achievement Banquet
May 28-June 1 - Discovery Days
Jun 3-6 - Camp

Livestock Calendar

Oct. 11 - Poland's Livestock Judging Contest