November means falling leave & 4-H Achievement Night!  

Dear 4-H Families,
You are invited to the Edwards County 4-H Achievement Night on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fairbuilding in Kinsley. The evening will begin with a chicken fried steak meal catered by Wheatland Café. Cost per meal is $12.00. Please RSVP to your club leaders by 5 p.m. on Friday, November 12th. Also be sure to invite project leaders, club leaders, grandparents, and anyone else that has been supportive to your 4-H career. This is a celebration of your 4-H year! Edwards County 4-H Foundation members are also invited and encouraged to attend; as the Foundation will hold their Annual Meeting in conjunction with Achievement Night. Those outside of 4-H clubs may RSVP to the Extension Office.

Holiday Food Boxes  Once again 4-H’ers will be helping with the Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes for Edwards County. Families in need will turn in applications to the Edwards County Health Department. Dates to remember are: Thanksgiving Food Boxes: Nov. 22 4:00 – 6:00 pm (Food box pickup – Older 4-H’ers are needed due to heavy boxes). Christmas Food Boxes & Gifts: Dec. 20 4:00 – 6:00 pm (Food box & gift pickup – Older 4-H’ers & EXTRA help due to heavy boxes & gifts).

YAC (Youth Activity Committee) Trip Update The YAC committee will meet on Monday, November 29th @ 4:30 pm at the Extension Office. A YAC trip is a day for younger 4-H’ers (grades 1-6) to take an education field trip. In the past we’ve traveled to museums and waterparks. They are always lots of FUN!!! The committee will update 4-H’ers on time and place for a YAC trip once it’s decided.

EYE Trip Update The EYE trip participants are planning a fun trip to San Antonio, Texas the week of July 24th 2022. In the meantime, you will see them hosting various fundraisers to fund this trip. On Saturday, December 4, 2021 the participants will be serving breakfast and lunch at the fair building during Christmas Fantasy. Be sure to help support our EYE participants!

Find Your Spark T-Shirts  The "Find Your Spark" t-shirts sold at the Kansas State Fair are available through an online order system with our business partner. They need to be ordered online by November 24, 2021 and they will be delivered in mid-December. Take the order form to your club meeting and save on shipping with a group order. Perfect for holiday gifts. Plan now for matching shirts for your 4-H Day participants. The proceeds of these sales benefit Kansas Youth Leadership Council. Go to https://www.companycasuals.com/4h2021/start.jsp to order shirts.

Enroll in 4-H  As always, October 1 began the New 4-H Year. Go to: https://v2.4honline.com to re-enroll your 4-H’ers. If you need help, contact the Extension Office. There is a Family & Sponsor Resources webpage at https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-online/index.html  We ask that you have your enrollment done by Dec 1st. If you don’t remember your password, the site will send you a link to retrieve it. If you are needing help selecting projects, go to: https://www.edwards.k-state.edu/4-h/project-resources.html and look at the Project Selection Guide. The Project Selection Guide is also attached to this newsletter.

Volunteers and 4HOnline We encourage parents, project leaders and club leaders to also sign up on 4HOnline. We are available to help you complete the process and would be willing to attend your next 4-H meeting to help get families entered. If you want our assistance, please contact the Extension Office.
If you are a new family to 4-H, please go to: https://www.edwards.k-state.edu/4-h/ or feel free to contact your community club leaders or the Extension Office staff.

We want to remind you that we have a closed Edwards County 4-H page on Facebook for only 4-H members. Families have been invited to join this page. Be sure to check this Facebook page regularly to keep up on what’s happening! If you have not been added, please contact the Extension Office.
**FSA Youth Loans** The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Call the FSA county office in Kinsley for additional information: 620-659-3142.

We are in desperate need of **Project Leaders!!** You don’t have to be an expert to be a project leader, just interested. The Extension Office has lot of materials to help you get started as a project leader. If you are interested or know of someone who would be able to help, please contact the Extension Office. Our most popular projects in need of leaders are: Beef & Bucket Calf, Buymanship (Clothing/Fashion), Foods, Photography, Swine and Visual Arts (Crafts). Some other projects than have growing interest are: Meat Goats, Leadership, Sheep, Rocketry, and Woods.

**4-H Project Selection Guide** is attached to this newsletter. This guide explains all 37 4-H projects offered. When a family enrolls in 4-H, this guide is especially helpful. Here are a few projects I wanted to bring to your attention because they are some that aren’t well known in Edwards County, but are a good fit for extracurricular family activities that some families participate but don’t realize they fit right in with a 4-H project.

**Communications** - A great project to enroll in each year for kids 12 and up. In 4-H, we consistently encourage public speaking, teaching others and leadership. Every time you speak in front of others, write a social media post or give a presentation - you are communicating. You can make a poster, notebook or Educational Display for the County Fair. This is also a great project record form to complete at the end of the year and take on to area or state judging.

**Home Environment** - This is a much-overlooked project that is actually a lot of fun for both boys and girls! This project allows you to be as creative as you want with just about any area in your home. You can enter projects in 3 different areas: Notebook (explaining the steps of a project), project board (floor plan with materials), or an item you’ve made. Here is just a sample of some of the projects that have been entered: Flea Market Flip (an old end table converted into a pet bed); refurbished porch swing; designing an outdoor patio with firepit; remodeling a bedroom; making outdoor Christmas decorations; antler lamps; rope bowls; curtains for a room; truck tailgate bench; barn quilts; flower bed design.... Amy Collins, 21 Central District Director would be happy to serve as a project leader for this project if anyone is interested!

**Self Determined** - This is a project area for a hobby that may not have its own dedicated project. This is great for things like bee keeping, competitive cheerleading, sports, etc.

**Wildlife** - Do you like to hunt, fish or trap? Observe habitats? In this project you’ll learn about wildlife behavior, habitat requirements, how wildlife species fit into nature’s scheme, how they are managed and how they relate to humans. A poster, notebook or educational display can be entered at fair.

**Health & Wellness, Outdoor Recreation** - If you like to hike, camp, fish, find & create shelter, backpack and generally like to be outside - this is the project for you. Learn more about these fun activities in the Health & Wellness project.

**4-H Shout Out!!** On Saturday, November 6th, Cassidy Ary hosted a day making sugar cookies!! Morgan Sebes assisted Cassidy and those that participated were: Carmen & McKenna Holguin, Blain Ibarra, Amiliana & Elena Holguin, Joey & Naomi Prieto, and Callie & Macy Anderson. It was a fun day learning how to mix dough, cut out cookies and frost them. Great job, Cassidy!!

As always, if you have questions or need more information, please don’t hesitate to contact the Edwards County Extension Office, 620-659-2149. We are here to help!

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