Happy October, 4-H Families!!!  Welcome to the New 4-H Year!  #findyourspark

As always, October 1 begins 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.

National 4-H Week is October 3-9; be sure to wear a 4-H t-shirt on Tuesday, Oct 5 to promote 4-H! Hopefully your club has planned other ways to promote 4-H! The office will send out promotion material in the grade schools in the county.
We have prepared locker signs that will be taken to the school and yard signs for each 4-H families’ yard. Help to spread the good word to Join 4-H!!!

4-H Council will be Monday October 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lewis School Cafeteria. Please make sure your club is represented. We will be nominating 4-H Alumni, Friend of 4-H, and 4-H Family of the Year; and voting for alumni and friend.

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.

Kansas State Fair Results We are super proud of these 4-H’ers for going the extra mile to send their project exhibits to the Kansas State Fair. The results are: Photography – Amiliana Holguin, blue; Kali Hansel, Purple; Levi Taylor, blue; Luke Taylor, Blue Beau Schaller, Red; Rylee Peterson, Red; Taylor Arensman, Purple. Foods – Joshua Stuckey, Blue; Laci Taylor, Blue; Morgan Sebes, Red; Carmen, Red; Caitlen Gleason, Blue. Cassidy Ary received a blue ribbon on her food gift basket. Fine Arts – Caitlen Gleason, Red; Kali Hansel, Purple. Jewelry – Courtney Arensman, blue. Crafts – Bethany Palmer, Blue; Joshua Stuckey, Red; Laci Taylor, Red. Woods – Kali Hansel, White. Congratulations to these 4-H’ers!

Edwards County 4-H Achievement Night will be Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fair Building. Mark your calendar. More details to follow at a later date.

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.

The Kansas 4-H Dog Conference and Quiz Bowl will be October 23-24 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. It is open to all Kansas 4-H members, accompanying parents, volunteer 4-H leaders and KSRE staff. The theme is “Survivin’ and Thrivin’ with 4-H K9s”. Register at https://web.event.com/event/4ffdf41c-182f-4180-9fa6-8ba09bae107d/summary.
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.

**2021 Shutterbug Workshops** Shutterbug events are photography workshops put on across the state by the Kansas State 4-H Photography Action Team. Workshops are typically scheduled as a morning session and concentrate on a variety aspects of composition. Examples of sessions include: Portfolio, I have a camera-now what?, Panning, Close-ups, Aperture Settings & Kaleidoscopes/Reflections.
Shutterbugs at Big Creek Where: Agricultural Research Center, Hays, KS When: Oct. 30, 2021

**48 Hours of 4-H** October 9-10, 2021 - Join us this fall in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The weekend at the end of National 4-H Week is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers, local service organizations and past 4-H’ers too! Go to www.Kansas4-H.org/484H to register and get more information.

**Kansas Youth Leadership Forum** The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF) is planned for November 20-21, 2021 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. KYLF is for youth ages 14-18 before January 1, 2022. KYLF will feature leadership workshops, Youth Council Elections, and opportunities to learn and have fun. Registration deadline is October 15, 2021 at an early bird rate or before November 1 at the regular rate.

**4-H Officer Training**: Officer training this year will take place on two different days and will take place with the officers from Stafford County. We decided to split it up this year so we could spend some quality time going over the officer duties in a more in-depth training.

**Presidents & Vice Presidents** - Sunday, October 17, Edwards County Extension Office from 3:00-5:00 pm. Some clubs may have parliamentarians and they are welcome to come to this training date.

**Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter and Historians** – Sunday, October 24 in Stafford County from 3:00-5:00 pm.
Marty will be taking the county expedition over to St. John. Meet at the Kinsley Extension Office at 2 pm for a ride. If you will be driving yourself, please let the office know. We will go over, in depth, what each of these club officers need to know to be successful at these officer positions. Again, parents and leaders are welcome to attend.
Song Leaders & Recreation Leaders will be receiving their materials through their 4-H Leader at the November meeting.

**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.

Kansas 4-H Council is selling Kansas 4-H t-shirts again. We suggest your club order as a whole. The link to the shirt order is: https://www.kansas4-h.org/ And go to News & Updates box on the right-hand side of the screen, and click on the link.

ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY NOV. 24TH.

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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