



RENO COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

January 2026



4-H COUNCIL DATE

January 26, 2026 @ 7pm

**Executive Team will meet at 6:30 pm before council starts
Reno County Extension Office
west meeting room**

Attention in the barns

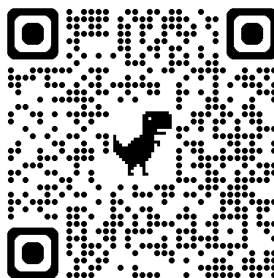
Household nominations are due February 27, 2026 to the Extension Office. If you are a family with more than 1 child in a species you will need to fill one of these out. You will only need to mark what the species you will be showing then Donna will fill in the tag numbers. This is so when you tag your animals you do not need to specify which animal is with which child at the time of tagging. If you have any questions please contact Donna at dp96929@ksu.edu Forms are at the end of the newsletter or on the website.

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**Leathercraft Meeting
January 16th from 6
to 8pm in the west
meeting room of the
Extension Office.
Please contact Clint if
you will be attending
at 620-276-9824 by
January 14th.**

4-H Day Sign Up

Get your project talks, demonstrations, speeches, and par-law teams ready!
February 21, 2026
Reno County Extension Office



Sign up by February 13, 2026
Slots are available through the
SignUpGenius:
<https://tinyurl.com/ynfs5d6c> or
by scanning the QR code:

All presentations are scheduled to take place at the Reno County Extension Office. Sign-up size is based on involvement from previous years. Additional slots may be added, as needed.



Project Leader Training

If you're interested in being a project leader for your club or county-wide, please email Katherine at ksundgren@ksu.edu. We would like to host some project leader trainings to help you get started!

Join the Reno 4-H GroupMe

Scan the QR code or go to
https://groupme.com/join_group/99562040/YXRq7els



Public Speaking Workshop

Join Katherine on January 8, 2026 at 6 PM for a public speaking workshop! We'll be meeting at the Extension Office in the West Meeting Room. This is for 4-H'ers of all ages who'd like to learn more about public speaking and get ready for 4-H Days in February. If you plan to attend, please sign up by January 6, 2026, by calling in to the office, emailing Katherine at ksundgren@ksu.edu or signing up at <https://forms.gle/keyUNG5YNnatzexh7>.



County-wide Project Leaders



If you have any questions about the dog project please contact Melaney Dick at (620) 728-9743 or renoco4hdogclub@gmail.com



If you have any questions about shooting sports, please call Ray Bartholomew at (620) 200-8253



If you have any questions about photography, contact Carolyn Kellogg Howey at (620) 664-0008



If you have any questions about the clothing project, contact Kathy Zongker

If you have questions about Ambassadors contact
Carolyn Howey at 620-664-0008 or Meghan Miller at 620-200-2544.

If you have any questions about Junior Leaders contact:
Kim Griffith at : 620-899-9453
kimberlygriffith27@yahoo.com



If you have an questions about rabbits, contact Vicki Myers at (620) 727-3980.

If you have any questions about Leathercraft, contact Clint Lanning 620-276-9824.

If you have any questions about electrics or robotics, contact Victor Martinez at 620-665-3487 or martinezv@hutchcc.edu.

2025-2026 4-H Calendar

View this year's calendar at <https://tinyurl.com/mr3mmspu>. Some dates are subject to change depending on weather, availability, etc. Make sure to keep up to date with the newsletter, GroupMe, and social media.

Attention Seniors Scholarship Information

The Reno County Livestock Sale Scholarship Details are listed on the form that you can find on the Reno County Extension Website. Forms are due to the Extension office by March 20, 2026.

If you have always wanted to be a Reno County ambassador now is your chance. The ambassadors are taking applications now. Just go to this link

https://www.reno.k-state.edu/4-h/forms_scholarships/ fill out the application and return it to the Extension office by January 30th. If you have any question please contact Carolyn Howey or Meghan Miller their numbers are listed in the county-wide project leader list.



On Saturday, December 6th, 2025, the community came together once again to help those in need. The Buhler Mennonite Church kindly hosted this event, and local volunteers gathered to help provide meals to fight food insecurity. We had a goal of packing 50,000 meals and worked tirelessly to achieve this goal. All of the meals packaged went towards Reno, Harvey, and McPherson county residents in need this year. This is a great example of what can be accomplished when a community comes together for a cause. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved, we reached our goal of 50,000 meals and will help many families this year. Article by Ella Gillespie





Union Valley 4-Her's went Christmas Caroling at a nursing home.



Sunday December 7th 4-Her's met at the Extension office to assemble bags for kids to take home over the Christmas break so that they had meals they could make during the Christmas break. The youth made enough bags to help in 3 different school districts (Fairfield, Pretty Prairie & Haven). Thank you to everyone that came out and helped.



The 4-H Ambassadors thank the Haven, Nickerson, Thomadora, and Western Reno County 4-H clubs for partnering with them on the Teen Christmas Service project. Thanks to this cooperation \$800 in gifts were donated by Reno County 4-H to First Call for Help for the 2025 Teen Christmas campaign. The Ambassadors will be providing a pizza party for the Haven Club for making the largest donation.



Caption for pictures:

Ambassadors Emma Mathes, Kora Zongker, Tagan Metzger, and Payton Thompson shop for Teen Christmas.



Citizenship In Action



REGISTRATION IS
NOW OPEN!

- WHEN - February 15-16, 2026
- COST - \$225
- WHO - Youth ages 13-18
- WHERE - Hotel Topeka City Center,
1717 SW Topeka Blvd,
Topeka, KS 66612
- SPACE IS LIMITED SO GET OUT AND
REGISTER!



K-STATE
Research and Extension



The Mitchell 4-H club met at 3:30pm on Dec 14th at Mitchell Chapel. We introduced new members and discussed what 4-H is all about and went over the 4-H pledge with them and the meaning behind the 4 H's. We held our monthly meeting and then after it was adjourned we listened to music and made Christmas cards for our friends and families while eating cookies.



Citizenship Washington Focus Trip

Road trip across the USA stopping to see Philadelphia, Gettysburg, the Liberty Bell and more! Meet, learn, share and tour with youth from other states and respected resource people. Walk among places that have made history and places that are making news today. Visit Capitol Hill, government departments, historic sites, and memorials. Get a close-up view of the political process through visits to Capitol Hill. Meet with the Kansas Congressional and Senate delegations to discuss legislative issues. Participate in workshops and assembly groups to learn life skills and discuss possible solutions to domestic and international problems. Interact with 4-H members from other states, learning and sharing about 4-H and other interests and issues. This trip has filled up quickly in the last few years, make sure that you do not delay in signing up to attend!

The trip will be in conjunction with Oklahoma and Missouri 4-H from June 13-23, 2026.

Cost: \$2500 - not required when registering, but arrangements will be made after February 16th for payment.

Register [Here](#) --- Registration will be collected by February 5th and spaces will be limited! Youth must be 15 by June 1, 2026. Kansas has 10 youth slots and 1 adult chaperone slot to fill. The adult chaperone has to be a registered 4-H Volunteer.

See the Kansas 4-H Webpage for all the information.

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/citizenship-washington-focus/>

4-H Day

Get your project talks, demonstrations, speeches, and par-law teams ready!

February 21, 2026

Reno County Extension Office (Specific Times by Sign Up)

Sign up by February 13, 2026

Slots are available through the SignUpGenius: <https://tinyurl.com/ynfs5d6c>

All presentations are scheduled to take place at the Reno County Extension Office. Par-Law and Project Talks/Demonstrations will both take place in the West Meeting Room (basement). Sign up size is based on involvement from previous years. Additional slots may be added, as needed.

Please be aware, if sign up ends and we have a significant time gap for a room, we may reach out to you to consider changing so that we make the best use of our volunteer judges. To that end, if you sign up, please make sure you come for your specific time. If you know you are sick or will not be able to make it, please let us know as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please email Katherine at ksundgren@ksu.edu or Donna at dp96929@ksu.edu.

Tips for Giving a Public Presentation:

1. Dress appropriately for the occasion so you feel at ease and look presentable.
2. Stand up fully on both feet. Good posture will help convince your audience that you mean business!
3. Outline your talk, but do not write it out word-for-word. Use your outline as you give your talk (if you need it) but never read your talk!
4. Practice, Practice, Practice giving your talk. Give it to yourself alone at first in front of a mirror. Later, have someone listen to you who will offer suggestions for improving. The more you give it the more comfortable you will be.
5. Speak slowly; talk at a natural speed but change occasionally for emphasis and better attention.
6. Watch pronunciation of words. Don't use words you can't pronounce or understand.
7. Use charts or visuals if they help you present the topic and add to your talk. Make sure the letters on the poster are big enough to be read.
8. Be pleasant. A smile on your face will put a smile in your voice!
9. Be at ease. Be yourself. Be enthusiastic.
10. Have fun sharing the information with your audience! They want to hear what you have to say, are on your side, and want to be supportive of your presentation.

4-H Day Guidelines

Divisions for individual events:

Age Division	Age as of Jan. 1 (years)	Recommended Time Length
Beginners	7-8	3-5 minutes, 7 maximum
Juniors	9-11	3-6 minutes, 7 maximum
Intermediate	12-14	4-7 minutes, 10 maximum
Seniors	15 +	5-10 minutes, 15 maximum

All necessary equipment should be provided by the 4-Her.

DEMONSTRATIONS

What is a Demonstration?

A demonstration is simply showing and telling how to do something and end with a finished product. It is a teaching method. Most include an introduction, a body, which is the “show and tell” part, and a summary.

- Shows how
- Purpose: to teach
- Visuals: charts & aids for making end product
- Topic may be on any subject of 4-Her's choosing.
- May be individual or team presentation.

ILLUSTRATED TALK

What is an Illustrated Talk?

An illustrated talk is talking and telling how to do something by using pictures, charts, models, equipment, and other types of visual aids.

- Tells how
- Purpose: to teach
- Visuals: models & charts
- Topic may be on any subject of 4-Her's choosing.
- May be individual or team presentation.

PROJECT TALK

What is a Project Talk?

It is a talk about one of your projects. It can tell about your experiences in the project and/or give information relating to your project. The talk should be over something you are familiar with and be of interest to yourself and others.

- Tells about
- Purpose to inform
- Visuals: charts only
- Subject matter: project related
- Topic may be on any 4-H project you are enrolled in.
- Charts are the only visuals accepted
- Seniors: An outline is to be given to the judge.

SPEECH

What is a Speech?

A speech is a talk on any subject that you are familiar with and interested in. The purpose is to inform or persuade the audience on or about your topic.

- Tells about
- Purpose : to inform or persuade
- Visuals: minimal visuals are optional
- Topic may be on any subject of 4-Her's choosing
- Minimal visuals are optional
- Seniors: An outline of the speech is to be given to the judge.

Parliamentary Procedure Contest Guidelines

Age Divisions:

Juniors, 7-11 yrs;

Intermediate, 12-14 yrs;

Seniors, 15 yrs & up.

(Age is determined as of January 1, current year.)

Parliamentary Procedure

Presentations are limited to 15 min, plus a five min. conference judging.

- Contest will consist of teams of four 4-H'ers, President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer within each age group.
- Members may be from more than one club if a club is short one member. (3/4 of the team should be from the same club.)
- Each division needs to follow the business meeting order.
- Use the gavel to:
 - Call to order (2 taps)
 - Dispose of motions (1 tap)
 - Approve minutes (1 tap)
 - Receive treasurer's report (1 tap)
 - Recess/Adjourn (1 tap)
- Juniors and Intermediates will come into the contest already knowing their officer positions.
- Seniors will draw for offices during the presentation prior to the team's presentation.
- The following information sheets are the only notes that can be used during the presentation:
 - General order of business (President only)
 - Secretary's letter of communication and minutes
 - Treasurer's written report of club's financial statement
 - Sheet pertaining to the standing or special committee report (Juniors one each; Intermediate/Seniors only one.)
- Juniors are required and limited to do the first two problems plus one additional problem on the following list
- Intermediates are required to do the first four problems plus two additional problems.
- Seniors are required to do the first six problems plus three additional problems of their choice.

Problems for Presentations

1. Put a motion before the house
2. Amend a motion
3. Lay a motion on the table
4. Call for a division of the house
5. Rise to a point of order
6. Take a motion from the table
7. Withdraw a motion
8. Refer a motion to a committee
9. Call for a division of the question
10. Call for the previous question
11. Reconsider a motion
12. Rescind a motion
13. Appeal the decision of the chair
14. Postpone a motion definitely
15. Postpone a motion indefinitely
16. Reconsider a have entered on the minutes
17. Object to the consideration of the question

Reno County 4-H Livestock HOUSEHOLD NOMINATIONS: Due to Extension Office February 27, 2026

Household Name: _____
(Ex: Willie Wildcat Family. Include at least **one first name**. Use the same name each year.)

Individual exhibitor names in Household:

_____ **Initial** (youth and parent) to certify you have read the rules of Household Nominations.

Housing and Care: Reno County 4-H exhibitors are responsible for the proper care of their animal(s) by following acceptable methods of good animal husbandry. 4-H'ers choosing to household nominate livestock are responsible for following the rules for Reno County 4-H'ers and in the Reno County Fairbook. Please check the box for each species you will be household nominating:

☐ Market Beef Tag #'s: _____

☐ Commercial (Market) Heifers Tag #'s: _____

☐ Swine Tag #'s: _____

☐ Sheep Tag #'s: _____

☐ Goats Tag #'s: _____

Exhibitor(s) Primary Residence:

Physical Address: _____

City: _____ State: Kansas Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Email: _____

Declaration: I attest that I have owned, possessed and cared for my livestock projects since the specified date by specie. I hereby certify that I have read the household nomination information and will comply with these rules. I understand that false information provided concerning household nominations will result in show and/or sale awards and/or premiums being forfeited. Exhibitors presenting false statements are also subject to further penalties by the Reno County Extension Council.

Exhibitor(s) Signature(s)

Parent/Legal Guardian

Signature Date



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

Save the Date

2026

K-STATE JUNIOR PRODUCER DAYS

Beef

MARCH 7



K-STATE
Research and Extension

Sheep
APRIL 11



JANUARY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				Office Closed	Office Closed	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Public Speaking Workshop		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Ninnescah Thomadora Union Valley WRC Meetings	Buhler Meeting		Fair Board			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Haven Mitchell Nickerson Meetings	Office Closed Marin Luther King Jr Day					
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	4-H Council Meeting					

Reno County Extension Office Phone # 620-662-2371

All articles/pictures for the newsletter are due to the Extension office at least one business day before the end of the month.

PLEASE EMAIL DONNA AT dp96929@ksu.edu