



Walnut Creek Extension District #2

4-H Focus Newsletter

“Helping Grow Tomorrow's Leaders, through 4-H!”



February 2017

Walnut Creek Extension District Offices

Dighton Office

144 S Lane, PO Box 487
Dighton, KS 67839
620-397-2806
Toll Free: 866-755-1654

Ness City Office

503 S. Penn
Ness City, KS 67560
785-798-3921
Toll Free: 877-798-3921

Lacrosse Office

702 Main, PO Box 70
Lacrosse, KS 67548
785-222-2710
Toll Free: 800-460-9079

Office Hours:

8:00am to Noon
1:00pm to 5:00pm

Check us out on the web:

www.walnutcreek.ksu.edu
www.kansas4-h.org

Facebook:

walnutcreekextensiondistrict (page)
Walnut Creek District 4-H (group)

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

4-H is known for Agriculture and Public Speaking, although those are only two small parts of the National 4-H Youth program. At the same time in rural Kansas they are two big parts of our program. With that being said, there are lots of upcoming events that 4-H members can participate in to learn about their 4-H projects. Please read through this newsletter to see what is available and what opportunities you might want to mark on your calendar.

Regional 4-H Club Days is scheduled for Saturday, February 18th starting at 8:00am at the Dodge City Middle School. We have several from Walnut Creek District that will be representing us, as they received a TOP BLUE rating at District Club Days last weekend.

Deadline Dates:

February:

- 9 - Ambassador Training registration deadline online
- 15 - Discovery Days class proposal deadline, Sarah Keatley
- 15 - International Exchange Host application deadline
- 22 - Junior Swine Producers Day registration deadline
- 24 - State KAP due for Gentry Shapland and Alysson Foes

Upcoming Events:

- 11 - 2nd Saturday 4-H Jewelry Making – Visual Arts
- 14, 21, 28 - After School 4-H at Ness City High School
- 15, 22 - After School 4-H at Otis Bison Grade School
- 15: New Families Meeting in Ness City at 5:45pm
- 18 - Regional Club Days, Dodge City Middle School
- 19-20 - Citizenship in Action, Topeka
- 22: Rush Livestock Meeting 6:00pm, place TBD
- 24-25 - State Ambassador Training
- 27 - Extension Board Meeting

March

- 11: Super Saturday – Hays Judging, Volunteer Workshop & Project events
- 23: Fiber Arts Day
- 25: Space Tech Day

Kansas Junior Meat Goat Producer Day

The 2017 Kansas Junior Meat Goat Producer Day will be held on Saturday, March 25th, in Weber Hall on the K-State campus in Manhattan. Youth, parents, project leaders, and extension agents of any skill level or knowledge base are invited to participate in this program.

Participants will learn about various topics related to meat goat production and youth meat goat projects. More details and registration information will be released later this fall. Please visit the KSU Youth Livestock Program website, under Kansas Junior Producer Days, and watch future 4-H Tip Sheets for more information.

Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day

Please join us March 11th for the Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day in Weber Arena on the K-State campus in Manhattan. This highly interactive, hands-on educational event will be a fun filled day of activities in which youth, parents, swine project leaders and adults can increase their knowledge and experience of swine production and management practices.

All participants will receive a K-State Show Pig Guide, T-shirt, and a complimentary noon lunch. Participants with registrations received after February 22 cannot be guaranteed a T-shirt.

Cost: \$15/person by February 22
Door Prizes, Show Equipment & Supplies to be given away!

4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator/Instructor Training

The next 4-H Shooting Sports Training is scheduled, Friday - Sunday, April 7 - 9, 2017 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Plans are to offer all disciplines within 4-H Shooting Sports provided interests from volunteers across the state matches the disciplines. Disciplines offered: Coordinator, Rifle, Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloading, Pistol, Hunting Skills and Western Heritage/Cowboy Action. Registration will be on the 4-H web page mid-February.

Additionally, a 4-H Volunteer Orientation Session will be offered on Friday, April 7, 10 a.m. for interested 4-H Shooting Sports participants.

2017 Kansas 4-H Ambassador Training

The 2017 Kansas 4-H Ambassador Training will be February 24-25 at the Rock Springs 4-H Center near Junction City. It is open to all county/district 4-H ambassadors, ambassador advisors and Extension staff. The theme is "Ambassadors – Growing 4-H." There will be six youth workshops, three adult workshops, a keynote speaker, with lots of fun and fellowship. Full details will be posted on the Kansas 4-H web site by December 15th at <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/ambassador-training/index.html>.

Registration will be on the CVent system, and will close on February 10th.

Draw String Bags For Sale

The Rush County 4H Council still has 4H Drawstring bags available for purchase at \$7.00/bag. Contact the Rush Office if you are interested 800-460-9079

State KAP Judging

Congratulations to Gentry Shapland (LE) - woodworking, and Alysson Foos (NS) - Citizenship their KAP's will be representing Walnut Creek District at the State KAP Judging. Books will be due to Robyn by February 24th.

District Club Days and Regionals

District Club Days results have been posted on the Walnut Creek District 4-H Group on Facebook. Regional Club Days has been scheduled for February 18th at Dodge City Middle School.

Second Saturday 4H Project Days

The Second Saturday of each month, volunteer Brittany Nichepor will be hosting a 4H Project event that is open to ALL Walnut Creek District 4H members, at the Ness County Fair grounds.

February 11th will be a Jewelry stamping and jewelry crafts by Donna Baker. The time will be 10 to noon, at the Praise Fellowship Church, Hwy 4 in Ransom. Cost is \$7.00 Limited to the first 15, RSVP to 877-798-3921, cell 785-798-5020 or rdeines@ksu.edu

Upcoming Projects (Tentatively)
March – Super Saturday in Hays
April – Horse
May – Entomology
June – Parks and Wildlife

New Family Meetings

I'm not sure where January went, lets try to get these rescheduled for early February. This is open to anyone but HIGHLY ENCOURAGED for the 1st and 2nd year Families.

- ★ What to expect
- ★ What do you need to do
- ★ Planning Ahead
- ★ Questions and Answers

Thursday February 9th 6:30pm at the Rush County Extension Office

Wednesday, February 15th at 5:45pm at the Ness County Fair Grounds

Please RSVP by Tuesday February 14th

Campference 2017

4-H Campference is for youth ages 12- 14 (before January 1, 2017), and will be held June 26-30, 2017 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Participants will experience the feel of a conference, while enjoying the 'camp' activities Rock Springs 4-H Center has to offer. This is a great transitional opportunity, as these tweens go from being a camper to attending educational conferences.

4-H Campference will feature workshops about opportunities in the 4-H program and how to better interact with others. Participants will meet other youth from around the state of Kansas.

Register early as the space will fill on a first come basis, and Campference was full in 2014, 2015 and 2016 with waiting lists! Registration and detailed information will be the State 4-H Website in early spring.

Rock Springs is Hiring for Summer

Rock Springs 4-H Center is recruiting Summer Staff positions for 2017! Know of past or present 4-H members or other outstanding young leaders graduating high school through college age that are looking for an exciting Summer opportunity? Send them this great employment option! Must be able to "Think Outside. No Box Required."

For a list of position openings please click:

<http://www.rocksprings.net/employment/Summer/positions.php>

To apply:

<http://www.rocksprings.net/employment/Summer/apply.php>

Discovery Days Floor Counselors Needed

For the 2017 Discovery Days, we are again looking for responsible, mature and dependable young adults to serve as Floor Counselors. These Floor Counselors will be responsible for leading floor meetings, doing room checks and making sure youth stay in their rooms after lights out each evening. Floor Counselors can expect to work evenings and early mornings. They will receive free room and board for 5 days and 4 nights as well as \$100. Applications are due by April 1, 2017.

Please advertise this opportunity to any recent 4-H Alums or even responsible youth that you know who were not in 4-H. To fill out an application, visit <http://tinyurl.com/2017FloorCounselorApp>. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Keatley.



As 4-H Clubs Market Kansas 4-H we are asking that you use this new branding image. This will help us to be more connected to the National Branding of 4-H. This image can be found at the www.kansas4h.org website under marketing.

You're going to need me. You're going to need us. All of us. You're going to need our help with your water, your air and your food. You are going to need our determination, our compassion. You're going to need the next generation of leaders to face the challenges the future will bring, and we promise we will be there when you need us. Kansas 4H is growing the next generation of leaders.

4-H Camp Dates are all Scheduled

Want to go camping this summer? Then mark your calendars we have our dates set and look forward to a great group of kids signing up to attend as a camper or counselor.

Heart of Kansas Camp: Rock Springs 4-H Center, Junction City, June 7-10, for campers 3rd thru 8th grade, Counselors 15 and older go in on June 6

4Clover 4H Camp: Dodge City Community College, June 21-23, for campers 7-10 years of age, Counselors 14 and older.

Cedar Bluff Overnight: Cedar Bluff Lake, June 28-29, for campers 5-12 years of age, Counselors 13 and older.

4-H Super Saturday

Volunteers, load up the car with 4-H members and join us in Hays for a day filled with lots of great 4-H learning opportunities!

Judging Contests: Morning judging contests will be Entomology, Horticulture, Crops, Life Skills and Photography. Afternoon Judging contest will be Livestock. Lunch will be provided for those that pre-order. Cost: \$5.00 for one or all six contest.

Volunteer Gathering: at Ag Research Center, Hays Drop the 4-H members off on campus and make your way to the Ag Research Center Auditorium (1232 240th Ave, Hays, KS) for a day filled with sharing, learning, and laughter 4-H Style. Whether you're a club leader, a parent, or a teen volunteer you will get some great ideas to take back to share with your local 4-H club and county 4-H program. Watch for registration flier coming soon.

Project Workshops: require pre-registration by Friday, March 3. There is a fee to participate in some of these and is required to be paid in advance in order to hold your child's spot in the workshop. Space is limited, so don't delay! Projects will be Entomology, Create with Denim, Junk Drawer Robotics(\$5) and Photography.

For more information check out:
<http://www.ellis.k-state.edu/docs/4h-documents/nw4h-oppo rtunities/2017SuperSaturdayJudgingInfoFinal3.pdf>

Tech Saturdays:

Offered by Ellis County 4-H, these are being held at the Ellis Public Library. March 11 - Saturday Hack – explore what you can do with old computers.

April 1 - Saturday Hack 2.0 – Learn basic Arduino and Scratch programming

All Saturdays are held at the Ellis Public Library Maker Space from 10:00am to 3:00pm, Cost is \$5 per participant. Bring a Sack Lunch.

Register by contacting the Ellis Rec Commission at ellisrec.org by the Wednesday, prior to the event. For more information contact Ellis Public Library at 785-726-3464

Space Tech Day:

Mark your Calendars for Saturday, March 25th for the annual Space Tech Day. This year the event will be hosted at the Ellis Public Library. Classes being offered are

- ★ Rocket Finishing Techniques
- ★ Junk Drawer Robots
- ★ Rock Sim- Advanced Rocketry
- ★ Explore the MarsScape and Maker Space
- ★ NXT-EV3- What's 4-H Robotics all about?
- ★ Drone Discovery

See Attached Registration Sheet to sign up by March 17th.

Ness County Shooting Sports:

The Ness County Shooting Sports program will get started Sunday, February 12th at 2:30pm at the Ness County Fairgrounds in the Booth building. They will be offering the Air Rifle program. This will be an 8 week program. Please plan to attend. This is open to any Walnut Creek District 4-H member, as well as any youth 10 years of age and older. Cost will be \$20. The instructors are Darcy O'Toole 785-798-5601 and Sandy Rupp 785-798-3787

Fiber Arts Day

Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 23rd for an Area wide Fiber Arts Day, to be held in Barton County. More information will soon be sent out. This will be a fun event for any 4-H or non 4-H youth to participate in during Spring break.

More Than Just Baking

Watch your email, the Walnut Creek District 4-H Group page, for more information on Casserole Cooking coming during spring break 2017. This workshop will be offered in Lane and Rush Counties.

Rush County Livestock Meeting

There will be a Rush County Livestock Meeting held on Wednesday, February 22nd at 6:00pm. This is open to all 4-H families that are enrolled in any aspect of Livestock (Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits and Horse). We will set some important dates, and talk about what to expect from now to County Fair. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Place to be determined, watch for a text, email and facebook post with this information.