

County Fair Newsletter

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Walnut Creek District

JULY 2026



Entry Due Dates

4-H Member Entry Packets are ready in all three offices. Stop by and pick up yours as soon as possible!

Lane and **Ness** County Entries Due July 6th

Rush County Entries Due July 15th

Horse Shows

- July 11 **Lane** County 8:00am
- July 14 **Rush** County 8:00am
- July 20 **Ness** County 7:00pm

County Fair Dates

Lane County Fair July 15-18

July 13 - Clothing Judging

Ness County Fair July 21-25

July 20 - Clothing & Photography

Rush County Fair July 29-

August 1

July 27 - Foods, Photography &
Clothing



Check out all the fair info at:

https://www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu/4-h/county_fair-info.html

Kansas 4-H Projects at: <https://kansas4h.org/projects/>

Kansas State Fair Rules at

<https://kansas4h.org/educational-experiences/fair-resources/kansas-state-fair/>

Fair Respect and Manners



Please Remember

- These are kids.
- This is a County Fair
- Superintendents are Volunteers
- Judges are human.
- Your child is NOT showing at the National Western Livestock Show today

4-H is about more than the ribbons and awards, it's about the **PEOPLE**, the **EXPERIENCES**, the **LIFE-LONG SKILLS**, the **MEMORIES**. The County Fair it's about being a **ROLE MODEL, GIVING BACK**, and *Making the Best Better!*



4-H Parents

- Thou shalt not feed, train and care for the animals, for thou art trying to teach the child responsibility.
- Thou shalt forgive a child for making a mistake in the show arena.
- Thou shalt teach the child that winning a blue ribbon is a desirable goal, but making friends along the way is a more worthy goal.
- Thou shalt remember that the livestock project is a family project that shall be enjoyed and supported by the entire family.
- Thou shalt have FUN, it's Fair WEEK!

4-H Photography



Preparing Your Photo for the County & State Fair:

- ✓ It's important to know that there are 105 counties in Kansas and every county fair runs differently than the next. This means each county in Kansas will have different, but similar, rules. 4-H Division Rules will also differ from Open Class Division rules.
- 💡 **Make sure to obtain a copy of your counties' fair book and read it thoroughly for best results!**
- ✓ Once you have a copy of your local county fair book, review the 4-H Photography Division, Open Class Photography Division, and any special photography contests that may be available for youth. Decide which divisions you will be participating in, 4-H only or 4-H and Open Class, etc.
- 💡 **It's important to read the division rules. They should tell you everything you need to know before you mount your photos (Size of photos allowed, measurements, adhesive to use, etc.) and the information needed to submit them correctly.**
- ✓ Review what class categories are available within each division and let the photo selection process begin! Photos taken within the 4-H year will qualify. Look back on all the photos you've taken and see which photos fall into selected class categories. Decide if there are other photos you would like to try and capture before fair time.

Supplies and Materials Needed to Mount Your Photo:

- Matte Board
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Mounting Guide with clips
- Spray Adhesive
- I.D. Strip
- Tape (for I.D. Strip)
- Clear plastic photo sleeves

- 💡 **For Families:** pre-cut matte board and clear plastic photo sleeves can be obtained from your local extension office for a nominal charge. Most extension offices will sell the matte board, clear plastic sleeve and supply the I.D. Strip together. Before you purchase your matte board, you will want to have an idea of how many matte boards and clear sleeves you need.
- 💡 **For extension offices:** Large quantities of matte board and clear plastic sleeves can be ordered through the University Bookstore. <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/>
- 💡 **Mounting Guide template** is located on the Kansas 4-H website: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/communication-and-expressive-arts/photography.html>
- 💡 **Spray adhesive** can be purchased at most big box stores including Walmart, Staples, Home Depot and online. One can will last several years depending on how many photos you mount!

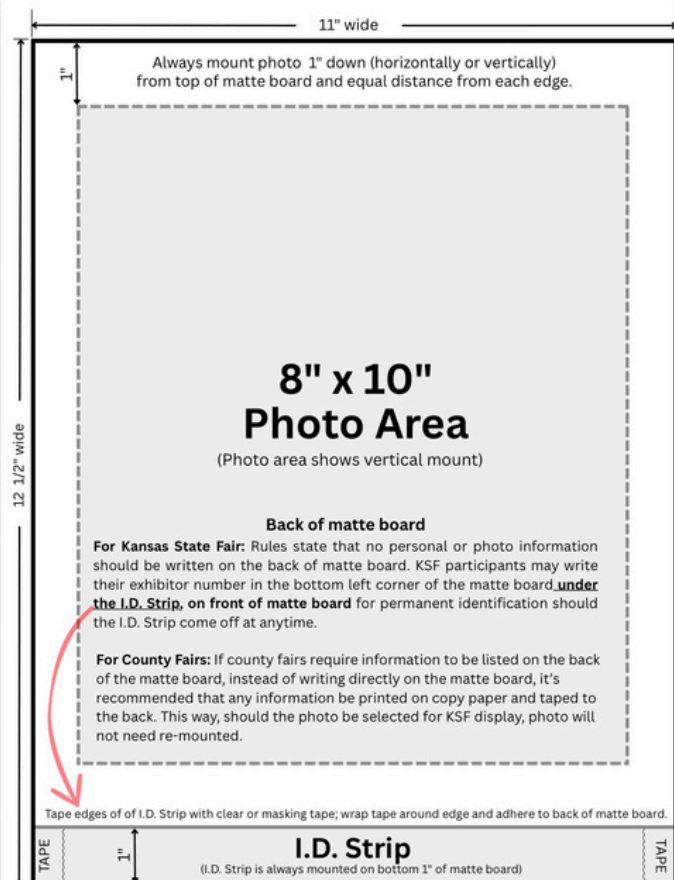
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Preparing Your Photo for the County & State Fair:

- ✓ Once you have your photos selected and have gathered all your mounting supplies, it's time to get busy!
- ✓ To mount your first photo, either vertically or horizontally, you will want to use your ruler and a pencil to measure where your photo will be placed. This is easier and quicker to do if you are using a mounting guide.
 - 💡 **The matte board is 11" wide by 12 1/2" in length.**
 - The matte board is always orientated with the 11" side at the top.
 - Mount each photo 1" down from the top (horizontally and vertically) and equal distance from each side.
- ✓ Correct mounting adhesive must be used, only use adhesives designed for permanent photography mounting. *Spray adhesive is highly recommended and easy to find.*
- 💡 **Do not use:**
 - Rubber cement
 - White glue
 - Double stick tape
 - Tape dots
 - Glue sticks
 - other household adhesives
- ✓ Once you have measured where your picture will be positioned on the matte board, it's time to mount your photo.
- ✓ Lay several layers of newspaper on the table, then lay your photo upside down in the center of the newspapers.
 - 💡 **At this time, you should always wash your hands.**
 - 💡 **When working with white matte board, it's always good to wash your hands when you begin to mount photos. Your hands contain natural oils and residue that you do not want transferred onto the matte board, plus, newspapers can transfer ink onto your hands. Wash your hands repeatedly during the mounting process!**
- ✓ Hold the spray adhesive approximately 12" above your photo (it's easy to get too close, so be careful to keep a good distance!) Begin spraying from the top left corner, at a diagonal, to the bottom right corner. A gentle spray will do, take caution that you do not use too much spray adhesive or that you do not get too close to the photo with the spray adhesive.
- ✓ Once adhesive has been applied to the photo, gently pick the photo up with both hands. Be careful not to touch the front of the photo or get adhesive on the front of the photo. Turn it over and using your measured marks or mounting guide, apply photo to the matte board.
- ✓ Once the photo is placed, lay a clean, white sheet of copy paper over the photo and place a heavy book on the top or run your hands over the paper to make sure photo is adhered.
- ✓ Now it's time to add the I.D. Strip. Fill out the I.D. Strip and make sure to check the appropriate boxes for:
 - Type of camera used
 - Film or Digital
 Tape the I.D. Strip to the bottom 1" of the matte board on each end. Use clear tape or masking tape on each end and wrap tape around the edge and secure to back of matte board. (see diagram)
- ✓ Slide mounted photo into clear plastic sleeve. Do not seal the bag until judging has taken place.

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Reminder:
DO NOT WRITE ON the back of the photo.
Photo Boards and Photo Bags are available at each of the offices.
Boards \$1.50
Bags \$0.25

4-H Clothing



5 Easy Steps to Writing a 4-H Fashion Revue Script

Step 1 – Start with an attention getting sentence. Check out this fashionable look. This summer I found my adventurous side at _____, Short and sweet – that’s the cool summery look of _____.

Step 2 – Share a fact about YOU! What is your name? What 4-H club do you belong to? What is your favorite 4-H Project?

Step 3 – Tell one or two facts about your outfit. Where do you plan to wear this? What is the fabric content? Any “stories” about your trip to purchase the outfit? Did you sew this outfit or buy it?

Step 4 – Share a sentence about your interests. What else do you like to do? What would you like others to know about you? Do you have other hobbies? Any adventure in 4-H you would like to share?

Step 5 – Now add an exciting sentence or fact to finish up your script!

Here are some sample scripts

Example 1:

When Jennifer goes to a thrift store, she always hopes to find a treasure. For less than \$15, this Clover Club 4-H member, found a denim jacket that she paired with a light and airy skirt. The jacket can also be worn with many other items hanging in her closet. This 11-year old homeschooler loves to sketch fashion ideas and loves dance. Enjoy this great multipurpose outfit Jennifer!

Example 2:

Ely thinks sewing is so much fun! As a fourth-year clothing construction member she stitched up this sleeveless top and capris with the help of her project leader. Notice the bright buttons that she discovered at a specialty shop while on a spring break trip. She is looking forward to packing this outfit for the family vacation to Missouri. This Jolly Juniors 4-H member will be ready to tackle another 4-H Clothing project next year. Thank You Ely!

Example 3:

Even though Dan does not love shopping, he does love a brand-new pair of Wrangler jeans! His favorite place to be is in the barn working with his livestock and getting ready for the fair. His plaid western shirt is a staple in his wardrobe and he will have many places to wear this outfit including the rodeo and family events. Dan is a sophomore at _____ High School and will be a starter on the football team this fall. Looks good Dan!

Keep it short and snappy! Remember, the 4-H'er will have to be on stage modeling the entire time this is read. Practice it at home and see how it feels before submitting.

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4-H Script Inspiration Form

Your Name

Your Attention Sentence

Meet the Amazing “YOU”!

Tell Us About Your Outfit

What Else Do You Like to Do?

Now, add an exciting sentence / fact to finish your script story!

Thrifty Shopping Description Form - \$15 Challenge

Only one entry per 4-H member. This form will be given to the judge at the judging.

Name _____ Age as of January 1 _____
Years in Project _____

Share a picture of you in your outfit _____ List the items in your outfit, including shoes and accessories.

	_____ \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
	Total Cost of the Outfit \$ _____

Attach receipts (or authorized note with price and signature from the seller).
Cost of the outfit must be less than \$15.

What factors did you consider before making the decision to buy the outfit? (fiber content, care, fit, construction, etc.)

Briefly explain your reasons for purchasing your outfit.

What did you learn from this project that will be helpful to you in the future?

Fashion Revue Tips:

- Be familiar with your scorecards.
- How does your outfit fit into your wardrobe?
- Accessories should be used to complete the look.
- Good posture is IMPORTANT.
- Check your personal grooming (hair and nails).
- Practice your modeling skills. Ask a senior for help.
- Know your fabric content and care of your outfit.
- Walk naturally, show pockets, turn slowly. You can carry a prop.
- Don't look at the floor

4-H Showmanship & Herdsmanship



Showmanship Tips:

- During your walking exercises, it's a good idea to practice for the show ring. Use a parent, sibling or friend as the judge.
- Show every angle of your animal. Judges want a showman that will move freely.
- Position your body so your animal is between you and the judge.
- Keep your animal moving at a good pace.
- Help the showman in front of you if their animal stalls out.
- Give the Judge and the other showman space.
- The first showman in line sets the pace, and the line up.
- Wash your animals and have them looking their BEST!
- Have the correct equipment - show stick, brush, scotch comb, show rag.
- Wear jeans, closed toed shoes, and a shirt/blouse that is appropriate for the 4-H Dress Code.
- Pay Attention to the Judge from the first step into the arena to the last step.
- SMILE, act like you enjoy being in the show ring.
- Show intensity and stay focused
- Shake the hand of the Judge and thank them for being here.



Herdsmanship Tips:

- Maintain water and feed pans so that your stall is clean.
- Routinely clear manure from pens and alleys. Keep it clean for the community.
- Provide fresh bedding when needed.
- Neatly store all grooming and show equipment out of public walkways.
- Make sure electrical cords are secured for safety.
- Make sure your stall cards are filled in completely and hanging above your livestock at all times, so the show management team can identify and public can identify ownership of livestock.
- Courtesy, Cooperation, and good attitudes in the barns are appreciated.
- Be ready to share your 4-H story with the public.
- Some Decorations and Flair might be nice to help your area look FAIR FESTIVE.
- Rush County Judging will take place each day between 9am and 7:00pm. Coupons will be awarded to daily winners and \$100 awarded for the best club of the week.

4-H Invitations & Thank You's



Invitations and Asking Supporters to come to the Fair:

- Share the dates, times and location of events and activities
- Share your 4-H Story with the businesses and individuals in your community.
- Increase awareness of the 4-H Program and how the community can support the local 4-H Program.
- Get more people to attend the fair, the shows and the sales.
- Help the shows and sales be successful for EVERYONE!
- Ask businesses that your family does business with.
- Be respectful, and remember you representing yourself, your club, our county 4-H Program and Kansas 4-H.
- Flyers and Schedules are available at each office to share with businesses and individuals. It's okay to add a plate of cookies or your foods practice items to help entice buyers.
- Dress nicely, with a 4-H t-shirt.
- Shake their hand, Introduce yourself, thank them for their time.
- Be sure you don't have gum in your mouth.



Thank You's:

- Each 4-H member will need to write a Thank you to each business or individual that supported awards and premiums.
- **Thank you cards for Lane and Ness are due by August 15th. Rush County due by September 30th.**
- Sometimes a Shout Out on social media can share in the awesomeness of the business or individual.
- Start with a strong salutation to the correct person/business and spelled correctly (ex: Dear Auntie, Dear Rush Co Farm Bureau Association)
- Thank them specifically for exactly what they gave you (Thank you for taking time out of your day to support me at the Ness Co Fair.
- Show your gratitude (I love the duffle bag, it will come in handy this school year.)
- Tell them what you will use the money for.
- Close with a forward-looking message, please consider attending the 4-H Banquet this fall.
- End your note with a sign-off that feels appropriate.(personal ~Love, more formal~ Thanks Again, Sincerely
- Share a picture, beef sticks, small project trinket, a baked good etc. and deliver in a timely manner.
- **Turn thank you cards into the office for verification.**

Did You Know?



ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO BEFORE THE COUNTY FAIR... **READ THE FAIR BOOK**

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS ARE DIFFERENT FOR EACH COUNTY.

Check with your local extension office, fair books may be:

- Printed in book form
- Printed in the local newspaper
- May only be found online

It's the exhibitor's responsibility to know the rules pertaining to each project!

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Did You Know?

MOST COUNTY FAIRS HAVE TWO DIVISIONS FOR FAIR ENTRIES **OPEN CLASS** *and* **4-H** EACH DIVISION IS JUDGED DIFFERENTLY

OPEN CLASS DIVISION: AMERICAN JUDGING SYSTEM

Most county fairs use this system with **open class** judging for the public and other contests.

- Entries are judged against one another.
- Ranked by judge, placing them in 1-2-3 order.
- Not all exhibits receive a ribbon.

4-H DIVISION: DANISH RIBBON SYSTEM

Most county fairs use this system with their **4-H divisions**.

- Entries are judged against a standard, not other projects.
- Entries are evaluated and arranged into ribbon groups (purple, blue, red or white)
- All exhibits in the class receive a ribbon.

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CLOVERBUDS

Clover buds are 4-H members that are 5 and 6 years of age. Clover buds get to participate but are not involved in the competitive part of 4-H. **They are able to bring any 6 entries to the fair,** (example: 2 Crafts, 1 Lego, 1 food, a photograph and an all about me poster OR any other combination of 6 entries). Clover buds cannot show livestock in 4-H, however they can in open class. Clover buds will participate in consultation judging with a 4-H Teen leader.

CHALK The WALK

July 3rd at 9:30am

Come celebrate with us, ALL families and kiddos welcome!

Sponsored by Ness Co 4-H

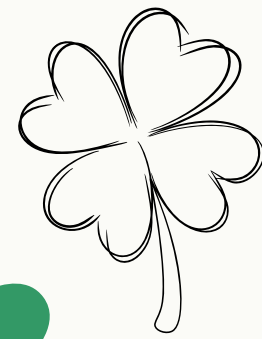
Downtown

Bazine Main Street, Amanda Wittman-620-797-0221

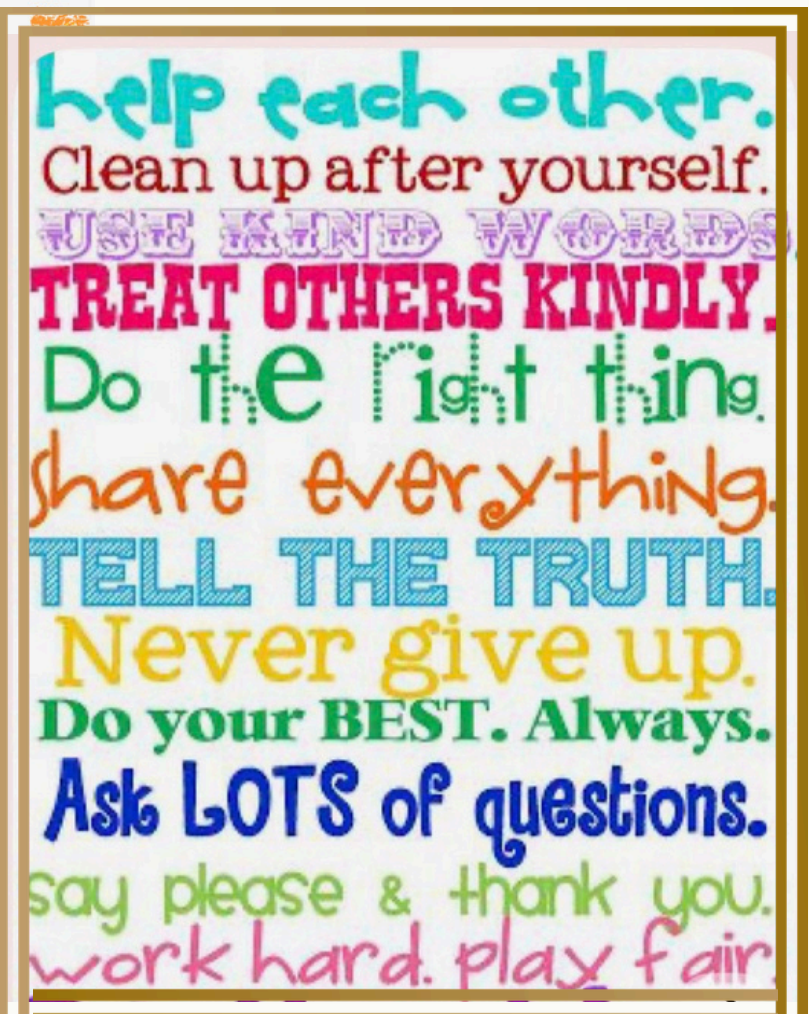
Ness City Pennsylvania Ave, Robyn Trussel - 785-798-5020

Ransom Main Street, Katie Flax-785-343-1022

Utica Main Street, Brittany Nichepor-316-214-9562



County Fair is a great learning experience, if you have any questions, you are unsure, confused or just need ideas call Robyn, she wants to **HELP!!**
Robyn 785-798-5020





Did you know Cool Careers Contest is open to all youth ages 10-18? New this year are cash prizes, an awards ceremony at the Kansas State Fair and the opportunity for non-4-H youth to participate too. Work as a team or an individual and find out about careers in Kansas that interest you. This is a unique contest that has **BIG rewards.**

Go to <https://www.kansas4-h.org>

for more information.

KANSAS 4-H X HIREPATHS

cool careers

Student Edition
contest

**Your Video.
Your Future.
Your Cash Prize.**

FILM A REAL PROFESSIONAL. TELL THEIR STORY. PRIZE MONEY TO TOP VIDEOS.

PRIZE POOL
\$1000
SUBMIT BY:
AUGUST 2, 2026

4-10 min.

video length

MP4

file format

1-4 People

team size

NEW IN 2026

- Open to both 4-H and non-4-H youth
- Two age groups: Intermediate (10 - 13) & Senior (14-18)
- Cash prizes for top placing videos
- Awards ceremony at the Kansas State Fair - 2nd Saturday during the KSF Public Fashion Revue.

YOUR VIDEO SHOULD COVER:

01

What they do on the job

02

Why they chose this career

03

How they learned skills

04

What they enjoy about it

05

Type of education needed for this career

TECH & TOOLS:

- Smartphone, tablet, or video camera - your choice!
- Edit with iMovie, Capcut, Canva or any editing app
- Free tutorials on YouTube or AI platforms for filming & editing basics.
- Inspiration: HirePaths.com/cool-careers-videos . Watch past episodes like Cybersecurity Analyst, Plumber, Pilot

ALL RESOURCES
LOCATED AT:
[KANSAS4-H.ORG](https://www.kansas4-h.org)

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QUESTIONS?
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