

meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-H

4-H News

Meadowlark District

Nemaha County Fair Edition - July 2024

DATES AT A GLANCE

July 13 – Dog Show

July 17 – Consultation judging beginning at **9:00 am**

July 24 – Fair set-up @ **6:00 pm**

July 25 – Judging of Foods, Poultry, Rabbits, and Horse Show

July 26 – All entries must be checked in **before 10:00 am**

July 26 – Mandatory meeting for all Livestock Exhibitors **at noon** in Show Arena

July 29 – All entries to be picked up between **3:00 – 4:00 pm**

July 29 – Clean-up building @ **4:00 pm**

July 30 – Fair Clean-up @ **6:00 pm**

August 9 – State Fair pre-entries due

August 12 – 4-H Council meeting at **7:30 pm**

August 17 & 18 – Livestock Sweepstakes in Manhattan

September 4 – State Fair entries due in office by **Noon**

September 6-15 – Kansas State Fair

Dear 4-H Family,

The FAIR is just around the corner. Please read this newsletter carefully! This letter and your fair book will answer most of your questions about the fair and help you to have a successful fair season. If you have misplaced one of your important sheets, everything can be found at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html>

All exhibits MUST have an entry card! But, with FairEntry program, the Extension office will be printing all entry cards according to what you entered online into FairEntry.

You will get your exhibit entry cards when you check your exhibit in at judging. We will have a table with each exhibitor's cards in alphabetical order and string/tape for you to attach the cards to your exhibit before taking items to be judged. Livestock will not have entry cards.

You MUST have a sticky label attached to all exhibits with the exception of food and livestock entries. Labels do not have to be 4-H labels, they just need to have your name, address, and class number on the label. You can print labels from our district website <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html>. The office does have sticky labels available here in the office. Food Preservation has its own label that must be attached to all jars. We have some here in the office or can be found on our website.

Make sure to have ALL your entries checked into their designated area before the deadline time.

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS WILL BE JUDGED ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 17th

AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING IN SENECA

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| * Displays | * Table Setting | * Banners and Books | * Home Environment |
| * Reading | * Posters | * Buymanship | * Photography |
| * Clothing | * Fashion Revue | * Visual Arts | * Fiber Arts |
| * Rockets & Robots | * Legos | * Shooting Sports | * Architectural Block Construction |
| * Wildlife | * Geology | | |

See enclosed schedule for these judging times in packet

CONSULTATION JUDGING

When you arrive at consultation judging, you will need to sign-in at a table for each division being judged. This will also be where you pick up your pre-printed entry cards. It will be your responsibility to attach entry cards to your exhibits before they are judged. You will be called to have your entries judged in order according to the sign-up sheet when all entry cards are attached. We will need extra help at these check-in tables, so please step up and help when you are not getting exhibits judged.

As with all consultation judging, parents and project leaders are welcome as observers. The conference is between the 4-H'er and the judge.

CONSULTATION JUDGING SCHEDULE

In this packet you will find a schedule for the judging on Wednesday, July 17th. Please work with us! We know this schedule is not ideal, but we hope getting these projects judged on Wednesday will help to free up some time on the first day of the fair. If you cannot make the time assigned, you can drop off your exhibits at the Extension Office and we will make sure they are judged.

CLOTHING & BUYMANSHIP CONSULTATION JUDGING

The clothing consultation judging will be **Wednesday, July 17th** in the Nemaha County Community Building starting at **9:00 a.m.** All projects must be checked in by 11:00 am to be eligible to be judged. All clothing will stay at the Community Building after being judged.

The schedule is on a separate sheet with this packet. We ask that you arrive a little early because we do try to stay on schedule, even though we may not succeed.

You will need to bring the following to consultation judging on **Wednesday, July 17th**

1. Your outfit(s)
2. "Cost Per Wear" form for each outfit. This can be found on our website.
3. A picture of you wearing the outfit mounted on a sheet of white paper.
4. A short story describing cost, care, use and how the outfit fits into your overall clothing plan.
5. The accessories you will wear with the outfit for judging only. **DO NOT BRING ACCESSORIES TO THE FAIR.**
6. Do not bring your records only "cost per wear" form.
7. When exhibiting at the fair, clothing can only be placed in a see-through bag.

Make sure all garments are securely hung on hangers for the fair! If possible, please hang your clothing on a swivel hanger. Be sure each piece of clothing has some type of label with your name and address on it. Labels can be made of cotton and info wrote with a sharpie marker. Each exhibit will need a "cost per wear". This can be found on our website.

FIBER ARTS EXHIBITORS

There will be 1 judge designated for all Fiber Arts, so make sure you take only the Fiber Arts to that judge. Make sure all exhibits are labeled prior to judging. If the item should be displayed hung up and it is not ready to hang the exhibit will be lowered one ribbon placing. All exhibits must have a label on the item with your name and address. Entry cards must be attached to the exhibit prior to exhibiting PLEASE! **All fiber arts must be checked in for judging by 12:00 pm on July 17th and will stay after being judged.**

TABLE SETTING

Judging of the Table Settings will be **Wednesday, July 17th beginning at 9:00 am.** Please see the schedule enclosed. You will not need to bring a table for the judging. But you will need to bring your card table for your display during the fair. You can set up your display **Thursday, July 25th** during Foods judging but will need to be in place by **10:00 am on Friday, July 26th** or you will be docked a ribbon placing.

BUILDING BLOCK ENGINEERING

Those members who will be bringing a Lego exhibit CLASS 708 you do not have to bring all the paper work asked for in the rules. That is only for those exhibiting in CLASS 5710 & 5711. We do ask that you write on a note card 1.) The cost of your kit, 2.) what did you enjoy about putting this exhibit together 3.) bring your instructions. If you have a Rubbermaid tote that you can put your exhibit in please do so. We have some display cases but not enough for everyone's exhibit.

VISUAL ARTS

Make sure all projects are CLEAN. It has been brought to our attention that several times exhibitors have fingerprints on their projects. So, check it over before you bring them to be judged. All exhibits need to have a description of how you made the item, supplies used, cost and any other important information. We would like to remind you to please pay attention to your grammar and spelling and use complete sentences as you do your write-ups. Learning to do the write-ups correctly is an important part of the project. Only purple ribbon exhibits will stay Wednesday, all other exhibits will be taken home, but must be brought back to the fair and checked in **before 10am Friday, July 26th**. If exhibits are not checked-in Friday, July 26th before 10 a.m. you will **not** receive your premium.

- * All sticky labels, entry cards, photo release slips, and description cards must be attached to your exhibit before it can be judged.
- * Everything but food and animals need to have a sticky label on the back of the item.
- * All pictures / drawings / painting or anything that would hang on a wall must have a hanger on the back. These cannot be set on easels unless they are smaller than 8x10. Otherwise, they will be lowered a ribbon

PHOTOGRAPHY

All photos must have a label on the back with name, class # and description. On the front of the photo, you need to have the release forms which can be found on our website at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html>

You will need to check in at the Superintendent table to get your entry cards and make sure your photos are ready to be judged. They will be checking proper mounting, photo release, and labeling. **PLEASE** use scotch tape only when taping release form on to the bottom of the photo board.

If your photo has a sign "picked for traveling display" on it during the fair, these photos will be put on display for the next year around Nemaha County. These photos need to be put in the box on Deb's desk Monday during fair tear down. If you have questions, please ask Deb.

FASHION REVUE

The judging for the fashion revue will be **Wednesday, July 17th** in the Nemaha County Community Building. Judging will begin at **1:00 pm**. All contestants are asked to please remain at the Community Building until the judging of their division is complete.

Remember to bring the description of the outfit you will be modeling with you on Wednesday, July 17th.

Please type the description in 3rd person, with a 16 font, double spaced on an 8 ½ x 11 paper. Be sure to include your name in the write-up. There is a fill in the blank Modeling Script on our website, that can help you with your write-up. You will be dropped one premium placing if you do not turn in your write-up that afternoon.

The public fashion revue will be held **Sunday, July 28th** at the Community Building. The starting time is **1:30 p.m.** so make sure you are dressed and ready to go no later than 1:15 pm. **ALL 4-H'ers that model in the Wednesday afternoon judging must model at the public fashion revue or premium will be forfeited.**

FOODS JUDGING SCHEDULE

Enclosed in this packet is the schedule for food consultation judging on **Thursday, July 25th** in the Nemaha County Community Building. Please be courteous of others and make sure that the clubs prior to you have finished judging before you get in line. Check-in with Superintendents prior to judging to pick up your entry tags. **There will be a judge for each level of food, please go to that judge as they will be picking the Champions for their level.**

Decorated Cakes, Bread Baskets and Cookie Jars will be judged Friday, July 26th beginning at 9:30 am. A schedule is included in this packet.

All food must be checked in by 2:00 pm on Thursday, July 25th

Reminder that recipes are required for all foods exhibited and all foods must be presented on a disposable container, meaning you will not get that container back. If you bring any food item that is not in a bag or container it will NOT be judged. This is a food safety issue! Pies can be in a glass pan, but please know you will not get them back. I do have several glass pie pans here at the Extension if you would like to use them. Recipes will be kept with all purple ribbon exhibits; you can just make a photocopy of your recipe and bring it to the judging. Please make sure your name is on the recipe.

REMINDER FOR DECORATED CAKES, BREAD BASKETS, AND COOKIE JARS

If you are planning to sell a Decorated Cake, Breadbasket or Cookie Jar, you must have turned in the "Meadowlark District 4-H Premium Auction Requirement" form by July 1st.

All Decorated Cakes and Mayor's Bread Baskets will be auctioned off before the Hog Show **on Friday night, beginning at 6:00 pm**. Those planning to sell their items must be present Friday night. Make sure to have your picture taken before heading to the auction so we can put them on display during the fair. Each exhibitor is responsible for getting their cake to the livestock arena before the auction.

Commissioner Cookie Jars - The top exhibit will be presented to the commissioner on **Monday night before the auction**. Then all Cookie Jars will be auctioned off before the livestock auction on Monday.

FROSTING SAFETY

Just a reminder for good safety purposes, any frosting and filling must calculate the amount of sugar in the frostings/filling recipe. This does NOT include frosting for the decorated cakes classes. Calculation must be attached to entry, or the placing will be lowered one ribbon when judged. Frosting and fillings need to contain more than 65% sugar for safety. Examples on how to calculate this percentage are included in the publication located at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/seneca.html> Included in this packet are 2 frosting recipes with the sugar calculated for you.

FOOD SALE

This year we are going to try something new on who works the food sale. This is the food that the 4-Hers bring to get judged. We are going to have each club work 1-hour slots on **Friday, July 26th**. If we can have at least one adult and one child working. We have just randomly picked 7 clubs to help this year.

9:00 – 10:00 am – Red Rustlers

10:00 - 11:00 am – HHHH

11:00 – noon – Busy Jayhawkers

Noon – 1:00 pm – Pony Express

1:00 – 2:00 pm – Achievers

2:00 – 3:00 pm – Kelly Twilighters

3:00 – 4:00 pm – Woodlawn Meadowlarks

FOOD STAND SCHEDULE

We are needing someone to grill hamburgers for us this year. If you know of someone that is willing, please let Deb or Hannah know right away. Otherwise, your club will oversee grilling when it is your scheduled time.

The schedule was enclosed in the last fair newsletter, in the back of the fairbook, and on our website. Please make sure to show up 15 minutes before your shift. We ask that you restock everything before your shift is over. This includes pop, water, chips etc. Remember when you work at the food stand to check the restroom and trash cans. Additional help may be needed on Sunday night following the parade, please check in with the Food Stand Committee if you would like to help. We ask that each club has at least 4 adults and 5 youths per shift in the building, and 2 adults and 2 youth in the trailer. Every 4-H family should do their part and work at least one shift. The money raised from the concession stand is used to present trainings, buy Achievement awards, and fund the Travel Scholarship to name a few.

If you would like to help with extra shifts at the concession stand, we will have a sign-up sheet in the concession stand. That way if the concession stand needs extra help, they can call you for back up.

If your club is scheduled to dump trash cans, we are wanting all the barrels around the fairgrounds to be dumped in dumpsters. If you have questions, please get with Deb.

CLOVERBUDS

Cloverbuds will be interviewed on Friday, July 26th at 11:30 pm in the Community Building. Participants in this class should refer to the 2024 fairbook for details. Remember there are to be no pets brought, instead bring pictures, a notebook, poster or display. Cloverbuds exhibits will be left for display during the fair. Also, each Cloverbud should have an entry card at check-in to attach to their exhibit.

THANK YOU NOTES

If you receive any type of award at the fair this year you will need to stop by the fair office and write a ‘Thank You’ before you receive your award. This includes all plaques and gift prizes. The reason for this is these sponsors give us money for the awards but are way too often not thanked. We will be sending all “Thank You” notes to the sponsors for you. However, if you would like to write an additional one at home or deliver them treats after the fair, that would be great. These sponsors need to know we do appreciate their support!

4-HER POOL PARTY!

Once again, this year each 4-Her will be given a one-time pass to be used ONLY during the fair at the Seneca Pool. The pool will have a list of 4-Hers names. You will need to let them know you are a 4-Her and your name so they can mark you off the list. This great opportunity is sponsored by the 4-H Council.

WANNA DONUT

The Family of Leon Mosteller invite you to join them for a light, come and go breakfast **Friday, July 26th**. As you probably know, Leon was passionate about the fair and enjoyed his association with each 4-H family. Donuts and/or fruit were often shared as he interacted with 4-Hers and adults alike. To keep his tradition alive, we cordially invite you to have **BREAKFAST WITH LEON** in the north barn of the fairgrounds from **7:00 to 10:00 AM**. We hope to see you then.

SMALL PET PARTICIPANTS

Hand pets are limited to animal species that are unable to exhibit in any other Division at the fair. This division excludes rabbits, poultry, swine, goats, sheep, beef, dairy, and horses. Dogs not participating in the show Saturday, July 13th can participate in the pet show on **Monday, July 29th**.

You must have proof of vaccinations for your pet you are showing at the fair. The veterinary clinic can give you proof of the vaccinations. Make sure you groom your animal before the show. Bathe them, brush their coat, and check their ears and nose.

We ask that you keep your animal contained in their cage until you are called for your show.

PREPARING HORTICULTURE FAIR ENTRY RESOURCES

As fair season approaches Plant Science members, please be aware of some resources available to you. K-State Research & Extension publications Exhibiting Fruits and Vegetables and Preparing Cut Flowers for Exhibit are excellent resources for 4-H members and adults that are planning to exhibit their vegetables or flowers. These publications are often used by judges as they evaluate fair entries and can be found on our web page.

<http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/bookstore/pubs/C405.pdf>

Some of you may be more visual learners. The University of Illinois Extension has prepared a series of videos on YouTube, about how to prepare produce for the fair. These videos give step by step instructions on how to select and groom various types of vegetables for exhibit. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6H5dIS-kgLI>

REMINDER TO SUPERINTENDENTS

Make sure to check and see where you are a superintendent helper. All parents have been assigned definite areas to help with during the fair. **4-Hers we ask that you help with all projects you are enrolled in.** Youth enrolled in Livestock should help with weigh-in, as well as help younger members. If you are unable to work, and can't find a substitute, please let the office know. These lists are on our website and were in the first packet you received.

SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP

We will be setting up the fair on Wednesday, July 24th beginning at 6:00 pm.

It has worked well in the past to assign families to help with set-up and clean-up, so PLEASE show up and do your part. Everyone is to meet at 6:00 pm in the Community Building on **Wednesday, July 24th for set up.**

For barn set-up, please bring pliers, baling wire and gloves and anything else you think will come in handy. Pickups will be needed to haul things places as well.

The Community Building crew will be cleaning cases and racks along with setting up tables and cases for the judging. Please bring some old rags, or towels and a small bucket if you have one. A broom might also be a handy tool.

Monday night clean-up will be in the Community Building beginning at 4:00pm. We will tear down everything and pack cases, racks, etc. away till next year, as well as pick up trash down at the horse arena.

Clean-up Tuesday will begin at 6:00 pm and will consist of tearing down everything in the barns. Please bring gloves, pliers, pitch forks and shovels for barn clean-up.

We have been short on the Tuesday clean-up crew in the past, so check to see if this is your assignment. If you are unable to help during your assigned time, please trade with someone for different times. A successful fair takes

everyone's help so please do your share and don't rely on the next person to do your job. The clean-up and set-up schedule are on our website and were in your last packet.

EARLY CHECK-IN

Again, this year you can bring in your exhibits to the Community Building early. The building will be open Thursday July 25th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you would like to bring exhibits in when you bring your food in to judge that is perfectly fine. Just make sure to attach the entry card to the exhibit. **All exhibits must be in the appropriate judging location Friday morning before 10:00 am.** If you have any questions, please contact the office.

LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

MANDATORY LIVESTOCK MEETING

There will be a mandatory meeting for all livestock exhibitors (Beef, Bucket Calf, Dairy, Goats, Horse, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep and Swine) **Friday July 26th at Noon in the show arena.** Please be on time and sit in the bleachers.

HORSE SHOW

Horses need to be on the grounds a half an hour before show time **Thursday, July 25th.** Horses selected to be stalled during the fair must remain on the grounds until release time on Monday at 3:00 pm or will lose their premium.

REMINDERS FOR THOSE EXHIBITING ANIMALS

Make sure you look over the animal health requirements and guidelines in this year's fair book. **You must have ALL ANIMALS ON THE FAIRGROUNDS BY 10:00 am on Friday July 26th.** It is a very good idea to take your animals into the show ring prior to the show multiple times and walk around, so they are not scared of the big fan and small area.

- Livestock weigh-ins will only be at the fairgrounds at the following times

Sheep and Goats 8:00 am - 8:30 am

Swine 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Beef 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Please have animals clean and free of mud, so that we can get an accurate weight on them during weigh-in.

INTENT TO SELL CARDS

If you are planning to take your market livestock through the premium auction you must turn in an intent to sell card by **Saturday, July 27th before 8:00 p.m.** Cards will be available at the announcer's booth and must be deposited in the white box in the north barn. If you know ahead of time you will be taking your animal through the auction, turn in your card early. The success of the livestock auction is up to you, the 4-H and FFA members. If you want a good premium for your livestock, you must have bidders attend the auction! **Remember, there will be NO floor buyers, this is a premium only auction.**

HELPFUL HINTS ABOUT THE LIVESTOCK AUCTION

- 4-Her visit the business personnel ahead of the fair. Don't come on the day of the auction wanting them to bid on your animal. Most business personnel will not bid on a stranger's animal.
- Write a letter about you and your 4-H experience (sample letter in first newsletter) to leave with the buyer.
- Tell them about your 4-H livestock project. Let them know you have a market hog project or raise more cattle than just your steer. They appreciate knowing.

- **BE SURE TO THANK THEM!** In writing and/or in person. Provide a picture of yourself and your project animal. We have the buyers' addresses in the Extension Office. Go an extra mile and take them a plate of home baked goods when you thank them. They have given you a very nice donation!
- We will have banners to give to all buyers the night of the auction. Make sure to check with the Fairboard at the announcer's booth to get a banner for your buyer.

SPECIAL LIVESTOCK NOTES

- All livestock stalls reserved and not used will be subject to a fine of a blue-ribbon rate if not cancelled by **4:00 pm Monday, July 22nd**. You need to notify the Extension Office as soon as possible.
- Ultrasound scanning will begin at **10:00 am** for all Steers and Market Heifers on **Friday, July 26th**.
- Sand will be supplied in the south beef barn. If you do not want sand, please let the office know.
- Sand will not be used in the north barn.
- **Hog Slat is hoping to provide one bag of wood chips for all SWINE exhibitors. But currently, they are unable to get any. And Bomgaars will be supplying one bag of chips to all Horse, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, Goats and Swine exhibitors. You must provide your own after that.**
- Skid steer loaders and manure spreaders needed - We need at least one, preferably 2 skid steer loaders to move sand and gravel for set-up and clean-up and 3 spreaders are needed.
- Help wanted - **Monday, July 29th**, we need your help for the livestock judging contest and round robin. If you know of any 4-H alumni or other adults, please let them know we can use their help.

BARN SUPPLIES

The 4-H Council has purchased shovels, rakes, brooms, and wheelbarrows for the barns. These are marked and will be kept in barrels in each barn. You are welcome to use them **BUT PLEASE RETURN TO THE BARRELS!**

BUCKET CALF KNOWLEDGE CONSULTATION

The Bucket calf knowledge consultation is required for all members showing bucket calves at the fair. Consultation will be held **Friday, July 26th beginning at 2:00 p.m.** The schedule for this is included in this packet and will be hanging on the bulletin board in the north barn on the east wall. Please check in at the announcer's booth Friday. All bucket calf exhibitors need to go to the announcer's booth Saturday before the show to pick up their exhibitor number. They must have these on before entering the show ring. Exhibitors will not need an entry card when entering the ring.

ANIMALS ON PARADE

Once again, we will be having an Animals on Parade at the Local Nursing homes **Sunday July 28th at 10:30 am**. If you are interested in visiting the local nursing homes to display your animal and brighten the resident's day, please sign your name, and what animal you will be bringing. If you don't have an animal but would like to help, sign up. This would be great for record books! We will leave the fairgrounds at **10:30** and half will go to Credo while the other half go to Life Care to see the residents. If possible, we may also take a trailer with smaller animals to Crestview and Oakley Place.

CLEANING THE LIVESTOCK WASH RACKS

We would like to have livestock members help keep the wash racks clean, as they are seen by the public. We are asking clubs to take their turn in helping keep the wash racks clean during the fair. Just make sure all poop and trash are picked up.

North Barn		South Barn	
Friday am – CA	Friday pm - AC	Friday am - WM	Friday pm - BJ
Saturday am -PE	Saturday pm – HH & KT	Saturday am - CA	Saturday pm – PE & KT
Sunday am - WM	Sunday pm – RR & ST	Sunday am - RR	Sunday pm – AC & ST
Monday am - BJ	Monday pm – everyone	Monday am - HH	Monday pm - everyone

BUILDING CLEAN UP

Because the community building restrooms seem to require extra attention and sometimes need a little clean up and pick up during the fair, we are asking each club to assume this responsibility when they are working the concession stands.

If you need toilet paper or paper towels, please see Deb and she will make sure that you are supplied with these. We will also have the key to the janitor’s closet where the cleaning supplies are located if you need these.

If everyone does their share, we can keep everything looking nice at the fair.

Also, the floor of the Community Building is swept every night during the fair. This is done at the end of the respective evenings program or around 9:30 p.m. This would count on 4-H achievement pins and is a good junior leadership activity. If anyone would like to help with this, just show up at the Community Building at 9:30 p.m.

STATE FAIR ENTRIES REQUIRED

The State Fair is **September 6-15** in Hutchison. The State 4-H Office requires ALL State Fair exhibits to be pre-entered through our Extension office.

If you receive a Purple Ribbon at the County Fair on an exhibit that there is a State Fair class (4-digit class numbers), your 4-H age is 9 & up, then you may exhibit the item at the State Fair all except Visual Arts. This also includes those who received a purple or blue on their demonstrations / project talks / readings from Club Days. You are only allowed one entry per project division.

To make a State Fair entry, you must fill out the pre-entry form by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 9th There will be a table set up by the fair office, during the fair, for those who would like to pre-enter. The only exception to this deadline is livestock which are shown in a combined 4-H and FFA show. The due dates for market animals are July 15th and horse August 1st. If you have questions, please ask!

Exhibits going to the state fair can be left in the fair office after our fair. There will be a box for photos, just make sure you have signed the state fair release forms. All exhibits going to the state fair must be in the Extension office **before Noon on Wednesday, September 4th**. You may pick-up returning entries from the state fair any time on September 21st.

The Kansas State Fair will no longer pay 4-H exhibitor’s premiums for their exhibits. But instead, each exhibitor will receive two free admissions passes to the state fair. Please let us know before **August 9th**. <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/fairs/kansas-state-fair/index.html>.

4-H LIVESTOCK SWEEPSTAKES

The 2024 Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is scheduled for August 17-18 on the K-State campus in Manhattan, KS. The Sweepstakes event includes the state 4-H livestock judging contest, meat judging contest, livestock skillathon, and livestock quiz bowl. Please let Deb or Clay know before August 1st if interested!

WHY DO WE RECIEVE PURPLE, BLUE, RED AND WHITE RIBBONS IN 4-H

4-H uses the Danish judging system at county and state fairs. This means that exhibits are judged against a “standard” rather than against other exhibits. For example, a dresser that has been refinished by a 4-Her is not compared to other dressers. Rather, it is judged according to what characteristics of the dresser meet standards of quality for refinished furniture.

- A Purple ribbon means that the exhibit meets superior standards and quality.
- A Blue ribbon means that the exhibit meets high standards and good quality work is shown.

- A Red ribbon means averages to above average quality work is shown, but improvement is needed in some areas.
- A White ribbon signifies below average in quality, and the exhibit does not meet standards.

You'll notice that the Danish judging is very different from a contest where there is one "winner" whose exhibit is the best of all those present. In the Danish judging system, there could be any number of purples, blues, reds or whites because one exhibit is not compared to another. In 4-H, we believe that using the Danish judging system gives every 4-H member the recognition deserved for the work that was done. It also helps young people recognize the need to improve their skills within a non-competitive atmosphere. Relevant to the judging of exhibits, we believe:

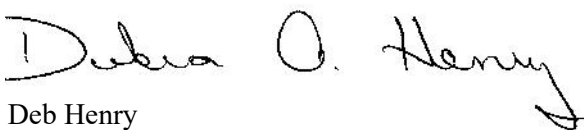
- 4-H members are more important than 4-H exhibits.
- Learning how to do a project is more important than the project itself.
- There is more than one good way to do most things.
- A balanced program of work and play, geared to individuals' needs, is more important than winning.
- Every youth needs to be noticed, to feel important, to experience success and to be praised.
- A blue ribbon 4-H member with a red ribbon exhibit is more desirable than a red ribbon 4-H member with a blue-ribbon exhibit

Twass the Night Before Fair

*'Twas the night before Fair and all through the house ... Not a person was sleeping – not even the mouse
 The unfinished clothes were hung with care, ... In hopes to be finished in time for the fair.
 The children were hustling, making mother see red, ... When visions of blue ribbons danced in their heads.
 As Chloy sewed jumpsuit and Drew knitted a cap, ... Mom and Dad wished for a long winter's nap.
 When out on the lawn, there arose such a clatter, ... Those darn steers were out again! That was the matter.
 Away to the window flew Mom like a flash, ... Pulled open the drapes and threw up the sash.
 The mom on the breast of the lawn freshly mowed, ... Gave a luster of mid-day to creatures below.
 Bill ran for the halter, Dad put on his shoes, ... The girls smelled bread burning – there went the blues!
 More rapid than eagles, the steers, running, came ... As Dad whistled, shouted, and called them bad names.
 Back to the barn, the steers quickly flew, ... Followed by Dad, Mom, and all of us too.
 Bill came in covered with hay from head to his boots, ... So Mom quickly scolded and told him to "Scoot!
 "I'ss finish the tags, you finish your sewing, ... Dad'll help John wash sheep, where is this night going."
 The bread is a bit brown, but preserves looked quite merry, ... Drew iced coffee cake, topping it with a cherry.
 Now blouses have buttons, skirts hemmed at last, ... The dress looks better with seams pressed flat.
 By two in the morning, the sheep clean at last, ... John sat in the kitchen and took a short nap.
 Bill said his toolbox paint was still very wet, ... But Mom said, "At this hour – too late to fret
 Go take your showers" – and she tweaked her nose, ... With yawns and a stretch, the children arose.
 Mom cleaned the kitchen while Dad sipped iced tea, ... Glanced at his watch and said, "You'll agree,
 We've finally done it – We've got time to spare, ... 4-H really is a family affair."
 With a wink of his eye and a nod of his head, he said, ... "Let's go be, Mother, we've a big day ahead."*

If you've made it this far, you're ready for the fair!!! I hope we are too! If you have any questions about items appearing in the newsletter, please be sure to give us a call. Remember your FAIRBOOK is your book of knowledge, please read it! Also make sure to check the website for forms, flyers, updated information, and records!

Sincerely,



Deb Henry
4-H Program Manager



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