



February

- 4 4-H Day, St. George Elementary School
- 5 Purple Ribbon Prep Foods & Nutrition, Alma, 12:00 p.m.
- 9 Registration due for Ambassador Training**
- 11 9th Annual 4-H Day with the Wildcat Women's Basketball
- 19-20 Citizenship in Action (CIA) Topeka
- 20 Extension Office Closed for Presidents' Day
- 20 Willie and the Beanstalk Registration Due**
24-25 Ambassador Training at Rock Springs

March

- 10 Grensing Scholarship Applications due for PPP 4-H Camp**
- 11 Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day, Weber Arena, Manhattan
- 19 "Ingredients for Photo Success", Auburn Community Center, 1:00 p.m.
- 25 Kansas Junior Meat Goat Producer Day, Weber Arena, Manhattan

Notes from the Office

Do you think that the good old ground hog will see his shadow? Personally it has not truly felt like winter without a few good snow days, but we take what we are given. February is a wonderful time to start planning ahead for summer time fun and activities. Purple Power Pack 4-H Camp will take place June 4-7 this year! This is always a wonderful adventure to add to 4-Hers and non-4-Hers summer memories. The best part as a parent is listening to the stories they tell you from summer camp FIVE months later. Happy Valentine's Day! And remember to call, email, or just stop by! We love to see your smiling faces in the Extension Office.

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Important Bits

4-H Day will be held on **Saturday, February 4 at St. George Elementary School.**

Wabaunsee County Fair Dates are **July 28 – August 1.**

2017 Fair Theme is “**Going Green in 2017.**” This theme was decided on at the January 4-H Council meeting. 4-H Council will select artwork during their March Meeting.

New 4-H Family Notebooks are available to new families who would like to become involved in 4-H.

Animal Mortality Insurance Did you know your 4-H member can recover costs due to the death of their livestock? Click [here](#) for more information.

Enrollment and Re-enrollment If you have not enrolled please do so **NOW** as we need to insure that all participating 4-Hers are enrolled! Click [here](#) for enrollment instructions. Click [here](#) for re-enrollment instructions. Click [here](#) for 4HOnline. Families that are not enrolled in 4HOnline will be removed from the mailing list and will not receive updates and news from the Extension Office.

Volunteer Renewals were due to the Extension Office by **December 1.** Renewal Forms are available at the Extension Office. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like us to email you the form. Community Leaders and Project Leaders will be contacted directly for additional requirements.

4HOnline Feedback is needed! During your enrollment or re-enrollment on 4HOnline we would love to hear from you. Please let us know if you come across anything that holds up the process or seems just amazing!

Purple Ribbon Prep Foods & Nutrition Meeting will be on **Sunday, February 5 at 12:00 p.m. at the South Fair Barn.** This is a new county-wide group that has been focusing on having fun while learning and prepping for the best county fair yet! Throughout the year you will work to complete your Foods and Nutrition record books to make it less stressful at the end! If you have questions please contact the Extension Office.

Permanent Record Carpe diem, “seize the day.” Now is a great time to start filling out your Permanent Record. By updating your Permanent Record monthly, it will be easy to fill out your record book at the end of the 4-H Year. Permanent Record forms are available digitally on our website [here](#).

Spring Livestock Day will be on **April 29** at the Wabaunsee County Fairgrounds. Sheep, goats and beef will be shown. More information will be included in the next newsletter.

Spring Swine Show is on **June 3** at the Wabaunsee County Fairgrounds. Mark your calendar now!

Purple Power Pack 4-H Camp will be from **June 4 – 7** at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Registration forms will be available later this month and registration will be due **May 10.** Please contact the office for more information.

On a Silly Note

Groundhog's Day began in 1887. Clymer H. Freas, the editor of the Punxsutawney Spirit newspaper in Pennsylvania and a member of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club (a group of groundhog hunters) declared that their groundhog "Phil" was the only true meteorologist of their time! Check out more information from the History Channel about Groundhogs Day [here](#).

Greensing Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship fund provides scholarships to 4-H members and leaders in Wabaunsee County to attend 4-H camps, conferences, or other leadership enhancing opportunities. The applications for 4-H Camp will be due **March 10**. Click [here](#) for more information.

2017 Kansas 4-H Ambassador Training

Training will be **February 24-25** at the Rock Springs 4-H Center. It is open to all county/district 4-H Ambassadors, Ambassador advisors and Extension staff. The theme is "Ambassadors-Growing 4-H." Full details are posted on the Kansas 4-H website. Click [here](#). Registration is on the CVent system and closes on **February 9**. For more information please contact Deryl Waldren at 785-462-6281, or email him at dwaldren@ksu.edu.

Kansas Junior Swine & Meat Goat Producer Days

Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day – Saturday, March 11, 2017

Weber Arena, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

Early Registration Due – February 22, 2017

Early Registration Fee - \$15/person (\$20 after February 22nd)

Kansas Junior Meat Goat Producer Day – Saturday, March 25, 2017

Weber Arena, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

Early Registration Due – March 3, 2017

Early Registration Fee - \$15/person (\$20 after March 3rd)

Online registration

link: <https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND>

"Willie and the Beanstalk"

4-H groups are invited to participate in the 10th annual "Willie and the Beanstalk" contest this spring. The contest is to see who can grow the biggest soybean plant in a 40-day period. Judging will take place on April 1, 2017 at the K-State Manhattan campus as part of the 2017 K-State Open House activities. All Contestants will receive a free T-shirt and there will be plaques and certificates for the winning teams. For contest announcements and contest rules please click [here](#). Registration deadline is **February 20**.

“Ingredients for Photo Success”

The Shawnee County 4-H Photography Workshop Committee and the Kansas Photo Action Team would like to invite you to join them on **March 19** for “Ingredients for Photo Success” at the Auburn Community Center. The workshop will begin at 1:00 p.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m. There is a \$5 non-refundable registration fee. For more information please contact Callie Hobkirk at (785)232-0062 ext. 111.

K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy

The 9th annual K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy is hosted by the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry’s Youth Livestock Program and sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council. Leadership skills are essential for young people interested in advancing the animal science industry. The intensive four day educational experience will focus on increasing the participant’s knowledge of a dynamic and sustainable livestock industry and its importance to a global food system. Students will learn valuable leadership skills and enhance their personal development. Selection is limited to 20 students per session ensuring ample personalized instruction and interaction with counselors, professors and livestock industry leaders. Applications are available on the website and due **April 1:**

<http://bit.ly/KSUASILeadershipAcademy>

4-H Unmanned Aerial Systems Experience

The Kansas 4-H SpaceTech Program and the Kansas Cosmosphere are teaming up to provide fun, hands-on and science-based programming for Kansas 4-H Youth Development. The experience will begin **Friday, March 31**, at 4 p.m., and will end on **Saturday, April 1**, 4 p.m. Cost will be \$110 for youth between 9-18-years old and \$110 for all adult participants. All youth must have a designated chaperone to attend. Parents, grandparents, other relatives, and guardians may chaperone their own children/relatives. They may not chaperone other non-family members. Adult chaperones will be responsible for their children overnight.

Program topics include: a UAS flying challenge inside the Cosmosphere, an outside UAS demonstration (weather permitting), FAA regulations and compliance of registering private and commercial UAS's, guest speakers, UAS applications in agriculture, military and commercial uses, fixed and rotor wings UAS's, remote control basics, plus much more.

This Cosmosphere collaboration is designed to be an adult-child experience, where 4-H members and adults can interact and learn from these fun and educational experiences. The program will include overnight indoor camping at the Cosmosphere located in Hutchinson, KS, (bring your own sleeping bag, air mattress, pillow, towel and toiletry items). The experience is open to 4-H members, parents, grandparents, volunteer 4-H leaders, and KSRE staff.

The CVent registration system is now accepting registrations, visit: <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events/index.html>. Registration will close **March 16**, 11:59 p.m. There will be a minimum number required or the Unmanned Aerial Systems experience will be cancelled. The program is limited to the first 60 who register on a first-come, first-serve basis to ensure that it remains fun and hands-on for everyone. For more information, contact Deryl Waldren, dwaldren@ksu.edu, or call 785-462-6281.