

ISSUE 8 • SEPTEMBER 2025

4-H UPDATES

Newsletter of Barber County 4-H



Finish Up Strong. . . Start the Year Right

Record Books

- Screening is September 22.
- Includes Officer's Books for the Club Seal Awards
- Achievement Level Pins Applications should be turned into leaders
- Resources for anything you are missing are at: <https://www.barber.k-state.edu/4-h/recordbook/>
- When in doubt, call the Extension Office for help. We are glad to try and help you.
- We are reprinting an article that families have found helpful, if they don't know where to start. See page 2.

Finish Officer Responsibilities

- Finish an officer's book. This helps the next officer.
- Pass on notes or tips you picked up.
- Let the next officer know if there was unfinished business. Are you waiting on a check or expecting a bill for a project?

Plan to Enroll

- 4-H Enrollment starts October 1.
- Enroll in 4-H Online (<https://v2.4honline.com/>)
- Select PAY BY CHECK. Public Service Company of Oklahoma donated the \$15 program fee for all Barber County 4-H members. Selecting PAY BY CHECK is the easiest way. If you put in a card number, we will not be able to help you fix this.

Dream

- What would you like to achieve? What is possible?
- Now, make those goals and get started!

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in 10 Days

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Thank You to Public Service Company of Oklahoma for Donating \$5,000 to Barber County 4-H Council. Callan Smith is pictured with Kristi Sproul at the check presentation. The funds are designated for Program Fees and Achievement Night.



Complete A Record Book in 10 Days

This article assumes you've not opened the green book with your new project report forms in it. The average 4-H member has 3 to 4 projects. This will be laid out with a four project time frame. You can adjust it to fit your number of projects and the time you have available.

It should be noted, this is not how Record Books were intended to work. But every year, some families share their last-minute struggles.

Day 1

Skip passed the permanent record and personal page. There is a large temptation to start at the beginning, but this method is going to work backwards.

Select your favorite project, the one you could talk about all day long. Pull out the project report form for this project. Assuming it's still blank, you need to start by thinking back to what you hoped to accomplish this year. There will be a place to list goals or objectives. It is okay if you did not accomplish all of your goals.

For the adult or older 4-H member helping gather up the expenses associated with this project; hopefully, they are written down in a notebook or a pile of receipts.

Move right on in to telling about what you did in the project, what you exhibited at the fair, and other learning experiences like collecting insects or community service.

Now go to the sections that require financial information, or feeding details for livestock projects; hopefully, the adult helping you has gathered these records for you. Enter this data in the boxes provided.

Now you are ready for the fun part, photos and project reflections or a story. Make sure you read the directions.

Make a list of anything you need to finish the project report form. This could be printing color photos on Mom's computer, finding the weight records from the fair for your livestock, or adding ribbon placings from the State Fair.

Congratulations you've just finished one project record.

Days 2-4

Days two, three and four will be exactly like day one. Because the average enrollment tends to be four projects. If you have time left after completing any one of the project days, move ahead to start the next project sheet.



Complete A Record Book in 10 Days

Day 5

The personal page is the very first page. One of the most missed items is a photo on the personal page. This can be a school photo or a snapshot.

Adult helpers make sure the list of projects on this page matches the list of projects the extension office has on record for your enrollment on May 1. Just because you didn't end up buying an animal or making a clothing project for the fair, it doesn't make it a dropped project. This is a great time to think about what happened to prevent you from reaching your goals that you had when you entered the project. Sometimes these stories are the most memorable.

This might also be the day you realize that you are missing project report forms. These are all available at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/LocalRecordKeeping.html>.

Day 6

A 4-H Story is today's goal. This is a chance for you to share everything you want to remember about the 4-H year. Some members like to write a little bit about each project. Some members like to write a little bit about each month and what happened. There is no right or wrong way to write a 4-H story. For those members who are in their last couple of years, looking back at all you've learned from 4-H might make a very interesting story. Remember that in Barber County, we judge the 4-H stories and select winners in the junior and senior divisions. This is awarded at the Achievement Banquet. 4-H Council sponsors the cash prizes.

4-H Council Meeting

SEPTEMBER 22, 2025
IN MEDICINE LODGE
7:00 PM

AGENDA:

- PLANS FOR ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT
- PLANS FOR USING DONATION AT ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT
- 48 HOURS OF 4-H SERVICE PROJECT WITH OFFICER TRAINING - YES OR NO
-

FOLLOWED BY RECORD BOOK SCREENING



Complete A Record Book in 10 Days, Part 3

Day 7

It's time to start the permanent records. Looking in your club program book, the online news updates, and even your family calendar will make this easier. These records can be typed on the ones from the previous year. Handwriting is also acceptable. Do whatever works best for your family. Doing the project records first, also provides a source of information for the permanent records. Updating the permanent records is a requirement for having a completed record book. Please do your best to include all of the different pieces.

Day 8

Remember that list you started making of things you needed for your project report forms? Today is a day to go back and add all of those pieces. Look over everything again, read all of the directions, and make sure you didn't miss anything.

Day 9

Your level achievement pin should have been included with your record book. Today, go through and mark what you achieved this year. If you have questions about how things might count, ask your club leader or call the extension office. We are glad to help. These forms are available online at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/index.html>

Day 10

Today is your day to apply for the county champion. The county champions recognized at the Achievement Banquet are based solely on the records turned in with the record book. County champions are divided into 3 age divisions.

On this day, you will need to make sure you have access to a copy machine. Select your best projects to turn in for the county champion. Details for this are available under record keeping on the [Barber County web page](#). Also, use this day to finish up any loose ends.

Remember that all record books must be turned in to a community leader. Please honor the deadlines they have set. Community leaders will bring the record books to the 4-H Council Meeting on September 22nd. Record books will be screened by leaders following the council meeting. Happy Record Keeping!

Club News

Submit notes from your club meetings by the 20th of each month to reubank@ksu.edu to have them included here.



Sunflower Reporter Notes

November 2024 – Preparing for the Holidays The Sunflower 4-H Club gathered at the Walstead Schoolhouse and shared favorite Thanksgiving foods for roll call. Members finalized plans for a December community service project of baking cookies and making crafts for local manor residents. The club also voted to create a float for the Sharon Christmas Parade, with the December meeting to follow afterward. The program included a horse project talk, patriotic music, riddles, and a fencing demonstration. Members were also reminded about the upcoming Club Days in February.

December 2024 – Holiday Cheer At the December meeting, members answered roll call with their favorite Christmas activities. Plans included donating to the Barber County 4-H Foundation and assembling cookie platters for Medicine Lodge Memorial Hospital and Kiowa Manor. The program featured a reading of the Christmas story, and the meeting closed joyfully with a group rendition of “Jingle Bells”.

January 2025 – Planning Ahead Members met at the Walstead Schoolhouse and shared favorite Kansas destinations for roll call. The club planned community service for February and began organizing a March fundraiser. They also voted to donate a Tractor Supply gift card to a local family. The program included a heifer project talk, a musical performance, and a demonstration on making a picture wall. February’s meeting will also celebrate Parents’ Day.

February 2025 – Honoring Parents The February meeting featured a fun candy-guessing roll call and a Parents’ Day celebration with family-led demonstrations, songs, and talks. Members also approved helping with a local church fundraiser by donating time or pies. The meeting ended with patriotic singing, and the next meeting was scheduled for March.

March 2025 – Serving the Community This month, members responded to roll call with one-word advice. They confirmed their March 12 church fundraiser participation and approved a donation to the Kiowa Food Bank. Announcements included upcoming day and overnight 4-H camps. The program showcased sheep projects, music, demonstrations on animal care and sandwich-making, and a fun word game.

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Sunflower Reporter Notes

April 2025 – May Day Plans The April meeting included roll call answers of “least favorite foods.” Members voted to make and deliver May Day baskets for their next service project. The program featured a fishing project talk, music, and a lava lamp demonstration. Recreation time was spent outdoors playing tag, closing with a cheerful group song.

May 2025 – Service and Celebration Members gathered to share “bad habits they’d like to break” for roll call. They voted to purchase bird seed for local care centers as their June service project and celebrated Kayla Rucker’s graduation. The program included music, demonstrations, and a project talk on pigs, finishing with “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” as the club song.

June 2025 – Preparing for Fair Season At the June meeting, members shared hobbies they enjoy for roll call. The club voted to buy ice for the Barber County Fair and discussed the annual club tour. The program included demonstrations on crafts and livestock projects, plus a round of jokes. Recreation wrapped up with a lively game of freeze tag.

July 2025 – Club Tour at the Pool The July meeting was held at the Kiowa Pool after the annual club tour. Members shared their favorite 4-H projects for roll call. Leader Sue Marshall reminded everyone about record book deadlines and assigned the club to clean the swine barn before the fair. The meeting ended with birthday celebrations for two members.

August 2025 – Wrapping Up the Year The club met in August to share favorite songs during roll call. Members voted to celebrate the end of the program year with a trip to The Alley in Wichita. The program featured a lighthearted “dog comparison” presentation. Announcements included a reminder about officer elections at the next meeting. Members adjourned with plans for a fun celebration to mark another year of service and learning.



4-H Financial Summary Due

By State Law, the County Extension Council is responsible for the appropriate management of all 4-H club funds.

This means that each year, we need to receive a Financial Summary from each club. If your treasurer is completing a treasurer's book, this is included.

If not, leaders will need to help complete pages 29 & 30 of the Treasurer's Book. It is also available on the Kansas 4-H Resource Site at <http://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/4H474.pdf>.

This needs to be turned in with all Record Books on September 22.

Looking Ahead. . . .

September

- September 3: Exhibits Due to the Extension Office for State Fair
- September 5-14: Kansas State Fair
- September 22: 4-H Record books Due & 4-H Council

October

- October 1: New 4-H Year Starts
- October 1: 4-H Online Opens for Reenrollment
- October 4-5: KJLS
- October 5-11: National 4-H Week
- October 7: South Barber Livestock Judging
- October 11: Officer Training @ MLHS @ 9:00 AM
- October 11-12: 48 hours of 4-H

November

- November 8: Achievement Banquet plans to be made at 4-H Council on September 22.
- November 8: 4-H Council following Achievement Banquet
- November 22-23: KYLF (Kansas Youth Leadership Forum) 4-H Members age 14 and over

December

- December 1: Deadline for Returning Members to be enrolled in 4-H Online

February 23: 4-H Council

May 18: 4-H Council

September 28: 4-H Council

State Wide Events

Flyers, Images, Notes about State Wide Events

KYLF = Kansas Youth Leadership Forum

What: Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers, and more. In addition, the 2026 State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected, and up to six National 4-H Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF.

Objectives:

- Broaden your understanding of the meaning of leadership and the qualities of a leader.
- Practice leadership skills you can use in other situations, like your local club, school and community.
- Improve interpersonal communication skills.
- Gain confidence.

When: November 22-23, 2025

Where: Rock Springs 4-H Center

Who: Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2026

2025 Fees will be set in the summer

2024 Fees: \$215 and an additional optional \$55 for Friday overnight and breakfast.

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, October 15, 2025, by 11:59 p.m.

Workshop list & Draft Schedule available at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/educational-experiences/project-based-events/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/>

Kansas Youth Leadership Council Applications Open

The application for and information about the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council and National Conference is open and available now! The Youth Council Application and National 4-H Conference Application will be combined again this year, with applicants indicating if they are applying for one or both opportunities.

Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2026, may apply as a Council Rep, and those 15-18 before January 1, 2026, may apply for the National 4-H Conference.

This year's Kansas Youth Leadership Forum delegation will elect representatives from the four extension program areas (NE, NW, SE, SW) for one-year terms on the council. Up to 6 National Conference Delegates will be selected through an interview prior to KYLF, and they serve a two-year term on the council.

The deadline will be October 1, 2025

Project Partnership Teams Applications Now Open

For over a century, Kansas 4-H has been deeply rooted in volunteer and teen leader involvement. Throughout the years, we have had various groups and committees working across the 4-H project areas to deliver programmatic opportunities, make recommendations for project advancement, and the list goes on. These teams have played an integral role. As we get ready to begin the new 4-H year in a few weeks, it is time for us to recruit members for the 2026 year for our 4-H Project Partnership Teams (introduced in 2024).

What are the Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams? Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams (PPT) serve to bring youth, volunteers, and K-State Research and Extension professionals together to:

- Enhance learning through project pathways,
- Provide leadership in the development of a project subject matter,
- Review, recommend, and provide professional development opportunities for KSRE professionals and volunteers on curriculum and other resources, and
- Provide leadership in planning and conducting one or more state educational experiences.

The role of the Program Partnership Team is to provide guidance and leadership in the development of a project subject matter or program, including conducting and managing major state events or educational experiences of the Kansas 4-H program. Areas of responsibility are to be outlined for each team by the 4-H Specialist with the approval of the Kansas 4-H Youth Development Program Leader. Final accountability for accepting team recommendations and implementing Kansas 4-H programs rests with the designated 4-H Specialist(s) and the Kansas 4-H State Program Leader.

The Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams are:

- Animal Science
 - Communication & Expressive Arts
 - Consumer & Family Science
 - Natural Resources
 - Plant & Environmental Sciences*
 - Discovery Days**
 - Engineering & Technology
 - Leadership & Personal Development
- *This will be a team that will be coming in the future.

When you look at the [Kansas 4-H Project List](#), there are several projects that fall under each Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Team. We need individuals with interests in all of these areas to serve on each team. We really want to have a diverse group of teens, adult volunteers, and Extension Professionals to serve on the 4-H Project Partnership Teams.

This also means that a sub-committee of additional youth, volunteers (need to be screened and appointed by their local Extension unit), and Extension professionals may be needed to carry out an educational experience.

Details for the application for membership:

- Prospective Program Partnership Team members must apply for membership.
- As terms end, those who wish to renew will complete a renewal application.
- The [application](#) deadline is September 15. Applications are processed and reviewed by the 4-H Specialist and the chair or an adult representative of the 4-H Program Partnership Team. Final appointment will be made by the 4-H Specialist in cooperation with the State 4-H Program Leader or designee. Notification of appointment will be communicated by the 4-H Specialist.
- An annual Project Partnership Team Summit will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026, at Rock Springs Ranch. All appointed members are expected to be in attendance.

For more information on the Kansas 4-H Project Partnership Teams, please go to the [website](#), where you will find additional details, [the link to the application](#), and the role description.



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K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the event contact Robin Eubank-Callis two weeks prior to the start of the event at 620-886-3971 or reubank@ksu.edu. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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