

The 4-H Newsletter



K-STATE
Research and Extension
Butler County

November 2023

Thankfulness

November is the month of giving Thanks. A quote from the Dali Lama reads “When you practice gratefulness, there is a sense of respect towards others.” We are all fortunate to have wonderful people in our lives who go above and beyond to help us out; especially when we take a look at the 4-H Community.

Such people as volunteers, leaders, parents, siblings, and the list can go on provide support to adults and children. That support helps us grow and in time, allow us to give back to others. With the support that is given, we also need to remember to show our gratefulness in return.

We have some pretty amazing volunteers who work hard and want nothing but the best, while looking at the big picture, and keeping everyone in mind.

Whether it is a small token of appreciation or a THANK YOU, make sure and tell those important people in your life thank you for helping out. After all, practicing gratefulness shows your respect towards them and all they do to help you out!

I know I am grateful and thankful for everyone who contributes to the 4-H program To Make The Best Better. Whether it’s 4-H’ers, volunteers or the crowd in the stands, THANK YOU for supporting the 4-H program!

~Charlene

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**TO MAKE THE
BEST BETTER**



Leader's Lounge

November Check-Up

- Recognize those that submitted Record Books and Pin Applications.
- Distribute Achievement Celebration items to those that were not able to attend.

Review

- Read the *4-H Newsletter* and mark important dates on the calendar.
- Review highlights from the *4-H Newsletter* at your club meeting.

To-Do

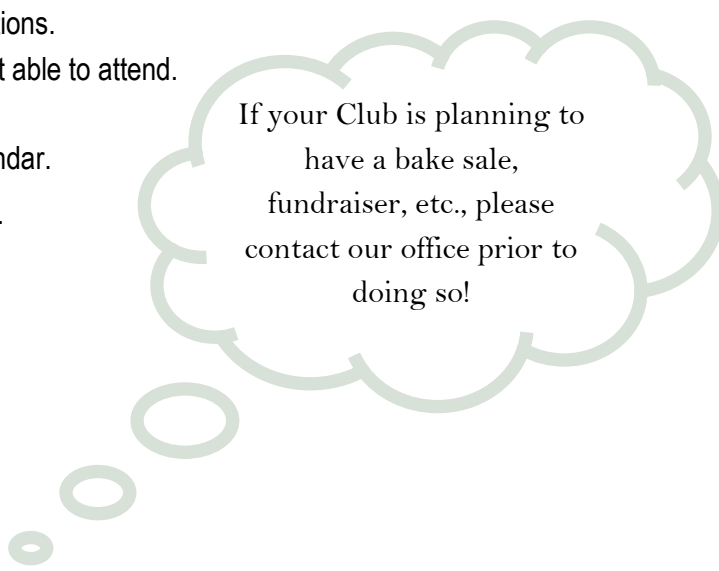
- Distribute copies of club program calendar or club notebooks
- Project Leaders conducting project meetings.
- Check club mailbox at the Extension Office.
- Identify and schedule meeting community service committee
- Plan holiday celebration
- Begin discussion of 4-H Day plans
- Check club's progress toward goals.
- Remind volunteers and 4-H'ers to enroll / re-enroll in 4-H Online for the new 4-H year

Promote/Recruit


- 4-H Days in February

Remember

- Make it a fun and rewarding year!
- Work with your co-leader!



If your Club is planning to have a bake sale, fundraiser, etc., please contact our office prior to doing so!



For some people, volunteering is about giving. For 4-H volunteers it is a way of living.

Important Dates and Deadlines

November

- November 1st:** 4-H Club Financial Reviews Due
- November 1st:** 4-H & IFYE Outbound Application deadline
- November 2nd:** Kansas 4-H Photography Shutterbug Event—Oskaloosa, KS
- November 15th:** Shooting Sports Instructor Renewal deadline
- November 18th-19th:** Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (14-18 yrs.)
- November 24th-28th:** National 4-H Congress

December

- December 8th:** Toy Drive Drop Off

January

- January 12th:** Club Quarterly Report Due
- January 29th:** YQCA In-person Training
- January 27th:** Horse Panorama

See the 2023-2024 Yearly 4-H Calendar for all event dates
Find it [HERE](#)



Butler County 4-H Enrollment Quick Tips

- ❑ [4-H Online Enrollment Link](#) (v2.4honline.com)
- ❑ [Butler County 4-H Website with Enrollment Information](#)
 - ❑ <https://www.butler.k-state.edu/4-h/enrollment.html>
- ❑ **New 4-H Year starts Oct. 1st:** All youth participating between Oct. 1, 2023 and Sept 30, 2024 need to enroll (including shooting sports youth). Any enrollment prior to Oct. 1, 2023 needs to reenroll.
- ❑ State 4-H Projects—there have been some changes!! Please check the 4-H Project page and watch enrollment carefully!! Make sure your 4-H'er gets enrolled in the right projects.
- ❑ Clubs and Projects will not automatically populate when you reenroll. You will have to select your club and all projects you want to enroll in. Years in project are supposed to automatically populate when you reenroll in a project you were enrolled in the previous year.
 - ⇒ If you have projects that you previously enrolled in, did not enroll in the 2022-2023 year, but are reenrolling for the new year and need to know your 4-Her's years in the project – please give us a call and we can look up the years for you.
- ❑ State Project list can be found [HERE](#)



Shooting Sports

If you are enrolled in a Shooting Sports project, make sure that you sign the waiver and pay your fees. This must be completed before practice can begin. You can find the waiver and more information about Shooting Sports here:

<https://www.butler.k-state.edu/4-h/shootsports.html>



We would like to give a big Congratulations to those youth that participated in the State 4-H Shooting Sports matches. Butler County is well represented. Results from state matches can be found [HERE](#)

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/shooting-sports/match-results.html>

Achievement Celebration Results

2023 4-H Achievement Celebration Award Winners

2023 KAP Blue Awards

Intermediate Ella Amend - Beef
Senior Cally Miller – Beef Riley Garcia - Dairy Kyle Parker—Beef

2023 KAP Champions

Intermediate
Madelynn Ikner - Rabbits
Senior
Cami Miller – Beef Trena Garcia – Dairy
Kylee Barlett – Foods and Nutrition
County Secretary Book Champion Valerie Sommers – Purple Heart

2023 Prestigious Award Winners

I Dare You
Cami Miller Brenna Sommers

Dr. Johnson Outstanding 4-H'er

Andrew Tien

Kiwanis Jr. Leader Service to 4-H & Community

Cami Miller Riley Garcia

Key Award

Andrew Tien Riley Garcia

EW Nath Scholarship

Andrew Tien

Trena Garcia

BCC Scholarship

Cally Miller

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the 4-H Achievement Celebration! The Achievement Celebration Committee put in a lot of time and effort to plan and coordinate for the program. To each and everyone who helped see the Achievement Celebration through—**THANK YOU!**

2024 Butler County YQCA Information



Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 7 to 18. This program promotes food safety, animal well-being and character development. With YQCA, you'll discover what it takes to be an informed producer, consumer and employee of the agriculture and food industries.

YQCA is REQUIRED to be Eligible to Exhibit ALL ANIMAL EXHIBITS (Except Horses) at the Butler County 4-H Fair.

The YQCA Deadline for Participating in the 2024 Butler County 4-H Fair is May 30th at 11:59 PM, 2024

Youth are required to take YQCA in-person or online; if taken online, a certificate of completion must be submitted to the Extension Office by May 31st at 11:30 a.m.. You can find more information about YQCA [HERE](#).



- ⇒ Monday, January 29th
- ⇒ Wednesday, February 21st
- ⇒ Tuesday, March 12th
- ⇒ Thursday, April 18th
- ⇒ Tuesday, May 30th

**All Classes will be held from 6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m. in the Community/4-H Building (200 N. Griffith, El Dorado).

Frequently Asked YQCA Questions:

- ⇒ **Is YQCA mandatory for all 4-H'ers?**
YQCA is required to show animals at the Butler County 4-H Fair. 8-18 yr. olds must pass a web based or instructor led training. 7 year olds must attend an instructor led course.
- ⇒ **How much does getting certified cost?**
The online module certification is \$12, and the instructor-led training method of certification is \$3.
- ⇒ **Does the YQCA certification ID sync with 4-H online?**
Yes, you will sign in using your 4-H Online information.
- ⇒ **I only show horses. Do I need to be YQCA certified?**
No. Right now, YQCA, is not required for 4-H Horse Project Members.
- ⇒ **Do 4-H'ers need to update their YQCA certification number each year?**
Yes they do. Youth should re-certify around the same time they tested each year.
- ⇒ **Do I need to register before class?**
Yes! You must register and pay online before attending an instructor-led class.
- ⇒ **Does Butler County 4-H get the registration money?**
No, all registration money is online and goes to YQCA.



Other News and Events

2024 Butler County Fair Dates Set!

The 2024 Butler County Fair dates have been set for July 19th-23rd, 2024! We can't wait to see what projects and skills our 4-Her's will show off at the fair!

Butler County Fair Rules

The 2024 4-H/FFA Division Rules are out and posted! They can be found on our website at: <https://www.butler.k-state.edu/4hfair/>

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Butler County 4-H Alumni Renata Goossen for being recognized as the 2023 Huck Boyd Ag Entrepreneurship Leader of the Year! Renata was a 13 year member of the North Butler 4-H Club and graduated out of 4-H in 2018.

"Goossen tried horticulture as a project while in 4-H and found she enjoyed it. After earning a horticulture degree in college, she converted a school bus into a mobile horticultural resource facility called Renata's Garden that provides plants and horticultural information to the public. "

You can read the full article and announcement here: <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/news/stories/2023/10/community-huck-boyd-leaders-of-the-year.html?fbclid=IwAR3fMEpfZmlb--7FlIXFssk13pzVcubpGPXVuU70bJldqKV0I9I-u6YXKiY>

You can follow Renata's Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/RenatasGarden>



Christmas Toy Drive

K-STATE RESEARCH AND
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Christmas Toy Drive

All donations will be collected at the Butler County Extension Office at 206 N Griffith, Suite A in El Dorado Until 11:30 a.m. Friday, December 8th

New and Unwrapped Items
Needed for Children 11 years
of Age and Younger:

- Sports Equipment
- Art Supplies
- Toys
- Books
- Journals
- Puzzles
- Board Games

All collected items will be given to the Augusta Community Caring Center where they will be distributed to Butler County Families in need.

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Kansas State 4-H News

Jace Kaminska, baseball

Posted on October 4, 2023 by Pat Melgares

The little boy dreams of being a winner. One day he pictures himself winning a purple ribbon at the county fair, and maybe the next day he imagines himself as a major league pitcher, throwing strikes in the big leagues.

Today we'll meet a young man from rural Kansas who is living that exact life. Thanks to Montgomery County Chronicle editor and publisher Andy Taylor and sportswriter Brian Thomas who are the sources for this story.

Jace Kaminska is a baseball player from Montgomery County. Andy Taylor first met Kaminska at an unlikely place 10 years ago: The 4-H baking championship at the Montgomery County Fair.

Kaminska was a little boy from Tyro, Kansas. He was proudly displaying his homemade bread loaf which had earned a purple ribbon. Taylor's newspaper photo of the smiling little 4-H kid would stay in his mind for years.

Taylor next heard about Kaminska in a totally different context. Kaminska's interests had transitioned from baking to baseball.

Kaminska was a teenager at Caney Valley High School and the word was out that he could throw a baseball like nobody's business. Kaminska was coached by his father, Mike, who had played baseball collegiately at Northwest Missouri State. Mike's mother Carrie had played softball there as well.

Because of Jace Kaminska's torpedo-like arm, Taylor termed him the Tyro Torpedo.

Andy tells the story:

"Jace Kaminska was whiffing batters across the Tri-Valley League and picking up accolades across the state. By his junior year, he was among the top pitchers in all of Kansas — setting the stage for a senior season that would put him in a rare category of one of America's extraordinary high school baseball athletes."

It was spring 2020. The excitement about Jace Kaminska's future baseball career was palpable. But then came an opponent that Kaminska could not strike out: COVID-19.

The pandemic hit. Shut-down orders were issued. The 2020 baseball season — Kaminska's senior year — was cancelled one week into practice. It was heartbreak.



But even that could not take away Kaminska's innate abilities. Opportunity remained. In the fall, he enrolled at Wichita State and joined the baseball team as a right-handed pitcher for the Shockers.

In his freshman season, he had an 8-1 record and a 2.31 ERA in 12 games, allowing just 16 earned runs with 51 strikeouts in 62 innings of work. He was named All-American Athletic Conference and was the conference's Newcomer Pitcher of the Year. He was selected first team Freshman All-American by Collegiate Baseball Newspaper plus earning many other accolades.

Taylor continues the story: "In his junior season, he transferred to the University of Nebraska, where he was tested against the Big 10 Conference's best teams. He was the Saturday pitcher for the Huskers — the prime-time slot that granted him plenty of fan attention, as well as TV camera time. It worked. Toward the end of the season, Jace Kaminska was a fan favorite in Lincoln — as evident by the fan ovations when the farm kid from Tyro would run onto the diamond for his opening pitch."

The Tyro Torpedo continued to make his mark. He finished the season at Nebraska with a record of 7-3. He had 57 strikeouts and 15 walks in 72 innings on the mound.

In July 2023, the major league draft took place. In the 10th round, the Colorado Rockies selected Jace Kaminska from tiny Tyro, Kansas.

"We were just relieved when it happened and then super excited," Mike Kaminska said. It was an exciting opportunity for someone from the rural community of Tyro, population 177 people. Now, that's rural.

Of course, nothing comes easy in pro baseball. Kaminska will begin his journey in the farm system of the major leagues and go from there.

The little boy dreams of being a winner, whether it is at the county fair or on a big league pitcher's mound.

We salute Jace Kaminska for making a difference by applying the work and skills to achieve success at the next level. For this young man, it is so exciting to see dreams come true.



A 4-H Project: More than a Fair Entry

4-H project-based learning provides a place for youth to explore their interests and passions — or what we like to call their sparks! Youth learn from caring adult volunteers, or in some cases through self-guided study, in projects in areas such as science, health, agriculture, and citizenship. Screened adult volunteers provide a safe and positive environment where youth learn by doing. Young people thrive through 4-H participation, finding their way to success in life and career.



Careful consideration should be used when selecting a 4-H project to enroll in for the year. A 4-H project has five components: Learning Experiences, Leadership, Citizenship, Exhibition, and Record Keeping. An explanation of each component can be found below. These five components can all be found along the Kansas 4-H Learning Pathway (4H1131).

Learning Experiences	Citizenship	Leadership	Exhibition/ Showcase	Record Keeping
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum-guided activities • Project meetings • Kansas Clover Classroom • Educational tours • Workshops/clinics • State project events • KSU Junior Producer Days • Judging contests • Public presentations • Interviewing the experts • Educational presentations • Quiz bowl contests • Skill-a-thon • How-to shows and online videos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping your community or others outside your family • Helping others without financial compensation <p>Examples may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food drives • Sew and donate lap quilts to nursing home • Knit caps for newborns • Assist in community garden • Volunteer with Story Walk, featuring a book related to project work • Launch rocket with daycare or elementary grades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching skills or information to others outside your family • Organizing or coordinating an event or activity <p>Examples may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach a workshop • Facilitate a group activity • Assist a Project Leader with project meeting • Plan a tour • Serve as a Junior/ Teen Leader • Serve as a Junior Superintendent • Create project-related videos for use on social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contest (foods show, photography contest, wheat show, etc.) • 4-H Club Days • 4-H Project Displays • Livestock show • Educational presentation • County Fair • Kansas State Fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal setting • Record of project work, income, expenses, and skills learned, etc. • Leadership and Citizenship • Project reflection • Pictures documenting learning and engagement

Local Contact Information

