# **WEST PLAINS EXTENSION DISTRICT**

# NEWSLETTER

# **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**



- 2 Upcoming District Events
- 3 At Home with Carol Ann
  - Holiday candy can be a science experiment
- 4 Joyful Living with Jennifer
  - Simpler Happier Holidays
  - o Tips for Freezing pie
- 5 Local Agri-Look with Lauren
  - Grazing Crop Stubble
  - Winter Agronomy Meetings
  - Garden Hour
- 6 4-H District Roundup
  - A New Year, A New Project Lets Discover and Grow Together!
  - Point of Order!
- 7 Club Reports



OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY | 8 AM - 5 PM
FINNEY COUNTY OFFICE:
620-272-3670

**SCOTT COUNTY OFFICE:** 620-872-2930

**OFFICE PROFESSIONALS:**COZETTA O'DEA & JESSICA LOPEZ



JANET HARKNESS 4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT JLP27@KSU.EDU







JENNIFER LASALLE
FAMILY & COMMUNITY WELLNESS
ILASALLE@KSU.EDU







H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT TMOCK@KSU.FDU



#### **UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS**



Print or screenshot this page to keep up to date with all of our upcoming activities! (\* indicates a pre-registration is required.)

- 2/1 County & District Club Days
- 2/6 4-H Pin & Year End Awards Tips & Tricks Workshop, Scott City, 6:30pm Wm Carpenter Building
- 2/10 -West Plains Extension District Board Meeting, Scott County
- 2/11 4-H Pin & Year-End Awards Tips & Tricks Workshop, Finney Co, 6:30pm, Grandstand Meeting Room
- 2/12 Wm Carpenter 4-H Foundation Meeting, 6:30am, The Grill House Restaurant
- 2/16-17 Citizenship In Action, Topeka
- 2/17 Finney Co Cloverbud Club, 6-7pm, 4-H Building
- 2/20 West Plains 4-H Leadership Academy Zoom Meeting, 7pm. For 4-H'ers ages 12,13 and 14. https://ksu.zoom.us/j/99073967710
- 2/22 Regional Club Days
- 2/22 Horse Panorama, Rock Springs Ranch
- 2/24 Scott Co 4-H Ambassador Mtg, 7pm, Wm Carpenter Building
- 2/25 Scott Co Cloverbud Club, 4-5pm, Extension Office





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 West Plains Extension two weeks prior to the start of the event at 620-272-3670/620-872-2930. 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.

# AT HOME WITH CAROL ANN | CAROL ANN CROUCH

# FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR

# Don't Let the End Zone be the Danger

Posted on January 22, 2025 by Karen Blakeslee

Score a touchdown at your party by serving great food, and winning with safe food!

#### **Party Food Penalties**

• Don't wash chicken wings

Washing Poultry splashes bacteria up to 3 feet around vour sink!

• Don't leave food at room temperature

Reheat or chill foods within 2 hours.

• Don't double dip

Use individual plates or bowls for dipping.





- Wash your hands with warm soapy water for 20 seconds.
- Wash and sanitize all dishware and utensils.

Senarate: Your hest defense!

- Keep raw meat and poultry away from ready-to-eat foods.
- Use a clean utensil for each dish.
  - Use a clean plate when going for second helpings of food. Cook: A game winner!
- Use a food thermometer to check for doneness
- All poultry—165°F
- Burgers and sliders—160°F
- Soup and reheated foods—165°F

Chill: Don't let the clock expire!

- Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold.
- Put out food in batches.
  - Follow the 2-hour rule.

Learn more at https://www.foodsafety.gov/blog/dont-let-end-zone-become-danger-zone-your-guide-hosting-penalty-free-super-bowl-party





- ust be 18 years old and have a high school diploma or equivalen ist have knowledge of and be able to navigate the internet proficiently and be knowledge.

at 501 S. 9th Street, Garden City Ks, or 210 W. 4th Street, Scott City, KS

Kansas State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer, All applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, disability or

# JOYFUL LIVING WITH JENNIFER | JENNIFER LASALLE

# FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL HEART MONTH





February is National Heart Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about heart health and the importance of preventing cardiovascular disease. As the leading cause of death worldwide, heart disease affects millions of lives, but with knowledge and proactive steps, we can reduce its impact.

Heart health is important because it is the engine of our bodies, pumping blood to deliver oxygen and nutrients to every cell. When the heart is compromised, it can lead to serious conditions like heart attacks, strokes, and other cardiovascular diseases. According to the American Heart Association (AHA), nearly 50% of adults in the United States have some form of heart disease.

#### Tips for a Healthy Heart

Caring for your heart doesn't have to be overwhelming. Here are some simple lifestyle changes that can make a big difference:

- 1. Eat Heart-Healthy Foods: Incorporate plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins into your diet. Limit your intake of saturated fats, trans fats, and sodium.
  - 2. Stay Active: Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic exercise per week. Activities like walking, cycling, or swimming can improve cardiovascular fitness.
    - 3. Avoid Tobacco and Limit Alcohol: Smoking damages blood vessels, while excessive alcohol consumption can increase blood pressure.
  - 4. Manage Stress: Chronic stress can negatively affect heart health. Practice relaxation techniques such as yoga, meditation, or deep breathing exercises.
    - 5. Know Your Numbers: Regularly check your blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and blood sugar to stay informed about your heart health.

Act this month and prioritize you cardiovascular well-being. There are many opportunities in our community to stay active, Join "A Better You" class offered by West Plains to help manage stress and become physically active.

You can also support National Heart Month by wearing red on the first Friday of February for National Wear Red Day. This simple gesture raises awareness about heart disease, especially in women, who are disproportionately affected by this condition.

Remember, every beat matters, show you heart some love by making heart health a priority, you're not just adding years to your life but also life to your years.



#### **Almonds: A Superfood for Your Health**

Almonds are more than just a tasty snack; they're a nutritional powerhouse packed with health benefits. Whether enjoyed on their own, as almond butter, or in a variety of dishes, almonds are a versatile and heart-healthy addition to any diet.

Almonds are rich in essential nutrients including; healthy fats, protein, Vitamin E, fiber, and magnesium. Eating almonds regularly has been linked to lower LDL ("bad") cholesterol levels and improved heart health. Their nutrient profile makes them a valuable ally in reducing the risk of cardiovascular diseases.

Enjoy almonds as a snack, add them to your oatmeal or yogurt, and use them in desserts. There are many was to incorporate almonds into your diet. Aim for a serving size of about 23 almonds (one ounce) to enjoy their benefits without overindulging.

Did you know February 16 is National Almond Day? It's the perfect time to celebrate this nutritious and delicious nut. Whether you snack on them plain, roast them with your favorite spices, or add them to your favorite recipes, take a moment to appreciate all the benefits almonds bring to your health and taste buds.

Almonds prove that good things truly do come in small packages. Add them to your diet today and take a step toward a healthier, happier you!

# Local Agri-Look | Lauren Litton

#### **Grazing Crop Stubble**

Cattle Chat: Grazing crop stubble can extend feed resources by Lisa Moser

Eating leftovers is a way for people to save money while still getting nutritious food. For beef producers, one way to extend the grazing days is to turn cattle out on crop fields after harvest, according to the veterinarians at the Kansas State University Beef Cattle Institute. Addressing this topic on a recent Cattle Chat podcast were K-State veterinarians Brad White, Bob Larson and Scott Fritz, who specializes in veterinary toxicology.

"Crop stubble is a great feed resource for cattle, but it is a resource that will decrease in nutrient quality the longer the cattle are in the field," Larson said. "When cattle are first turned out, there is often a lot of leaves on the plants, but over time cattle will strip those leaves off."

Larson recommends beef producers monitor the grazing fields and offer supplements to the herd as needed.

White agreed, adding: "The cow herd will likely need to be supplemented with protein later in the winter."

And while they agree that crop stubble can be a valuable feed resource, there are risks to be aware of, Fritz said.

"In a dry year, drought-stressed forages can accumulate nitrate and can poison the cattle, so it is important to do a field test in arid parts of the country," he said.

By contrast, Fritz said overly wet fields also pose a risk.

"Cattle turned out on flooded fields can be exposed to mold growth that leads to mycotoxin issues," he said.

Before turning the cattle out on the crop stubble, Fritz recommends walking through the field to assess the quality of the field and look for grain spills.

"One problem a lot of people overlook is a pile of corn that got spilled in the field when loading the grain cart. If a cow eats 20-30 pounds of grain, she will get acidosis, and if it is a pile of soybeans, the (opposite) happens and they can end up with a neurologic disease," he

Along with inspecting the field for spills, Fritz recommends that producers also evaluate water sources and grass strips.

"Make sure that whether it is surface water or a dedicated underground source, it is functioning before the cows are turned out," Fritz said.

White added: "It is a good idea to give the water source a flush through, so you know the cattle are getting clean, fresh water."

The last thing to check for when inspecting the field is the grass strips that might be full of weeds. "When putting up the hot wire around the field, make sure there are no noxious plants in the grass strips," Fritz said.

To hear the full discussion, listen to Cattle Chat on your preferred streaming platform.

#### **Winter Agronomy Meetings**

**Topic: Corn/Sorghum Schools** 



- February 3, 9:00AM MT Tribune, KS (Greeley Co.)
- February 4, 9:00AM Hugoton, KS (Stevens Co.)
- February 5, 4:00PM Pratt, KS (Pratt Co.)

**Topic: Weed Management Schools (Southwest) Dates & Locations** 

- February 11, 9:00AM CT Liberal, KS (Seward Co.)
- February 12, 8:00 MT Syracuse, KS (Hamilton Co.

#### **Garden Series**

February 27th: Seed Starting (tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers)

March 27th: Seed Starting (lettuce, peas, carrots) April 10th: Seed Starting (green onions, broccoli, okra)

May 1st: Transplant tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers

July 10th: Maintenance, harvesting and pest management



Code for registration information

#### K-State Garden Hour

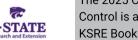
Interested in learning more about gardening? Join K-State Research and Extension horticulture staff on the first Wednesday of each month from 12-1 p.m.! All sessions are recorded and posted on the website, so don't worry if you can't make it live!



**Maximizing Water Efficiency Through Drip Irrigation** Wednesday, February 5th 12:00PM -1:00PM CST

Drip irrigation is an effective, easy-to-install, and widely available method for enhancing landscapes while conserving water. It delivers water directly to the root zone, achieving over 90% efficiency compared to 50-70% for traditional sprinklers. Join Gregg learn more about the benefits of drip irrigation.







The 2025 Chemical Weed Control is available online at the **KSRE Bookstore** 

# 4-H DISTRICT ROUNDUP | JANET HARKNESS | TORI MOCK



#### A New Year, A New Project - Let's Discover and Grow Together!

Hey 4-Hers! A new year brings the perfect chance to try something new, learn a fresh skill, or dive deeper into something you've always wanted to explore. Whether you're looking to challenge yourself, discover a hidden talent, or just have fun. 4-H has so many exciting projects waiting for you to get involved in. With over 45 diverse projects to choose from there's no limit to what you can achieve this year. From working with animals to exploring technology. creating art, or helping in your community, 4-H is the place where you can grow and develop skills that will last a lifetime. Plus, you'll have fun doing it! Here is a list of all the cool projects that 4-H has available:

#### **Animal Science**

Beef Dairy Cattle Dairy Goat

Dog Horse

Meat Goat Pets

**Poultry** Rabbit

Sheep Swine

Veterinary Science

#### **Natural Resources**

**Environmental Science** Geology **Shotting Sports** Wildlife

**Plant Science Agronomy** 

Entomology **Forestry** 

Horticulture & Landscape Design

#### **Consumer & Family Science**

Sewing & Textile Design Shopping in Style **Family Studies Fiber Arts Foods & Nutrition Health & Wellness** Interior Design & Architecture



#### **Leadership & Personal Development**

Civic Engagement Leadership **Reading Adventures** Self-Determined

#### **Communication & Expressive Arts**

Communications Performing Arts Photography Visual Arts



## **Engineering & Technology**

Aerospace/Rocketry **Ag Mechanics Welding** Astronomy **Building Block Engineering** Computer Science 。 **Robotics Small Engines** 

**Uncrewed Aircraft Systems** Woodworking

If you are interested in learning more about any of these projects, check out: https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/ for the 2024-2025 project selection guide, project descriptions and more!

#### POINTS TO PRACTICE PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

# Withdrawing a Motion 1

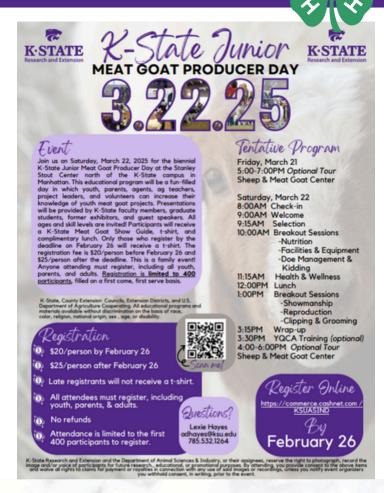
A motion can be withdrawn if the person who made it changes their mind, realizes it might cause more problems than it solves or wants to rephrase it

- Before a Second the person who made the motion can withdraw it without anyone's permission
- After a Second the group must vote and give permission for the motion to be withdrawn



# 4-H DISTRICT ROUNDUP | JANET HARKNESS | TORI MOCK





# WEST PLAINS 4-H YOUTH LEADERSHIP

# **ACADEMY**

For 4-H'ers ages 12, 13 & 14 Informational zoom meeting Thursday, February 20, 2025

HTTPS://KSU.ZOOM.US/J/99073967710





Tentative Schedule

8:00AM Registration Opens 9:00AM Welcome 9:15AM Project Selection 10:00AM Breakout Sessions -Nutrition, Meats.

-Nutrition, Meats, Facilities & Equipment, Breeds & Ear Notching Lunch

12:45PM Health
1:30PM Breakout Sessions
-Showmanship, Daily
Care & Clipping,
Show Day Prep,
Resources

8:00PM Wrap-up 3:30PM YQCA Training (optional)

> O Location Stanley Stout Center

Attendance is limited to the first 400 participants to register.

Register Phine https://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUASIND

Registration

**⊗**\$20/person by February 5

§\$25/person after February 5

All attendees must register, including youth, parents, and adults.

K, State Repearch and Extension and the Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, or their assignees, reserve the right to photograph, record the image and/or voice of participants for future research, educational, or principants by any use of facilities of the property of the property

⊗No refunds.



Sponsored by:

LOR JAN

TRANSPORT

Scott City, 973

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# CLUB DAY RESULTS | CLUB REPORTS | ANNOUNCEMENTS

# **CLUB REPORTS:** FINNEY COUNTY 4-H BEACON BOOSTERSS

The Beacon Boosters 4-H club meeting was held on November 19, 2024. There were eight members, and seven adults present. The club planned the Beacon Boosters holiday party which shall include angel tree shopping and club gift exchange. There was a discussion about organizing a club exchange meeting. As a club we painted fun Christmas ornaments. The next meeting will be held on December 1, 2024.

The reporter's report was submitted to the Garden City Telegram, Finney County Extension Office, and the Beacon Booster's Facebook page.

Respectfully submitted,

Paislea Cogan, Reporter

# FINNEY COUNTY 4-H SHERI OCK STRIVERS

DECEMBER 2024 monthly meeting notes

Colton Obregon, club reporter

The Sherlock Strivers 4-H club held their monthly meeting on Sunday, December 8th, 2024 at the 3-I parking lot. This meeting started at 4:45 p.m. focused on several updates. Members decorated the float for the Christmas parade later that evening. The Fair theme was mentioned of "deep roots and dusty boots". Highlighted was the club's participation in the bell ringing for the Salvation Army at Sam's club. Plans were started for the 4-H club days on Feb 1, 2025, possibly having a club skit. The Next meeting will be January 4th, 2025. The meeting was then adjourned to start the parade.

#### FINNEY COUNTY 4-H FINNEY FLYERS

The Finney Flyers 4-H club met on Sunday, November 3, 2024 at the Finney County 4-H building. The meeting was called to order by President, Aleah Eatmon, Roll Call was answered by "What are you doing for Thanksgiving". The club welcomed new members Abigail and Andrew Morales.

The club is in charge of the Achievement Banquet along with Korageous Kids 4-H Club. Everyone needs to arrive by 1000 to help setup on November 10.

The Christmas Parade was discussed and everyone decided to join in the fun. The parade will be Sunday, December 8. The next meeting will be Sunday, December 1 at 4:00 p.m.

KI Plunkett Reporter

The Finney Flyers 4-H club held their December meeting on December 1. 2024 at the 4-H building. The club voted on donating gloves and hats to the Family Crisis Center. Every member is to bring hats and aloves to the lanuary meeting. The club members also decided to participate in the Christmas Parade. All members should be a bag of candy and meet at the 3-I parking lot on December 8 at 4:30 pm. Many members participated in the Garden City Christmas parade on December 8 after enjoying pizza.



# CLUB DAY RESULTS | CLUB REPORTS | ANNOUNCEMENTS

# CLUB REPORTS: SCOTT COUNTY NEW HORIZONS

December 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm

18 members present, roll call answered by Favorite part about Christmas 10 parents. 3 leaders in attendance

Reading and approval of minutes: Approved as read 4H Pledge: Led by Hayzen Kerr

Treasurer's Report: Balance: \$975.05 no credits/debits

Reporter's Report: Hailey submitted minutes to the newspaper

Leaders Report:
Concrete in show barns
Nursing home centerpieces are in February & July
Library showcases in February & March
Skit idea- Traveling the world
K-State basketball game RSVP to go
Meal train for Deardens and Janet

New Business: New members Asher & Elijah Day
Push County Club days skit to the committee (Chalynda Kerr idea)

4-H Council & Ambassadors: Decorate Houses for the elderly

Song/Rec: Christmas Party / games and treats

Adjournment

# FINNEY COUNTY 4-H HAPPY HUSTLERS

Purple Seal December

2024 is the Happy Hustler's 80th year of being a 4-H club. The cherry on top of that sundae was receiving another purple seal, the highest honor a 4-H club can achieve. Their December meeting's program gave them the opportunity to hold their seal ceremony.

This ceremony recognizes the achievement of the purple seal. This seal represents teamwork and leadership. Their ceremony allows the club to celebrate their hard, put-in work. Their celebration happened to include the whole club, taking part in a fun, all-including, ceremony. They also got the gift of a new member.

The ceremony consisted of a club speech, and the placing of the prestigious purple seal. The club is very proud of their award and they are looking forward to what they can achieve as a team in the future. Their hard work paid off, and now they get the chance to have an even bigger impact on their community. Congratulations Happy Hustlers! Keep up all your good work. Continue using your head to clearer thinking, your heart to greater to loyalty, your hands to better service, and your health to better living, for your club, community and world. Keep making the best better!

It's That Time... Again

The Happy Hustlers met on January 10, 2025 to begin working their way into the New Year by preparing for Club Days. Their top priority is working on the model meeting. They have to reach all the requirements, and maybe throw in something new. They have participated in the model meeting for years, which means that they have a lot of stuff down. But what about the things that they don't have covered? They will have a lot of practice to perfect their meeting. They will work on how loud they should be, their procedures, and their motions. This club has even done a little game to work on the taps of the gavel.

The Happy Hustlers are an 80 year old club, with generations of practice. They can do this. They will hold practices every week until "That Time". Everyone holds a vital role in their success, and no one is insignificant. They'll definitely have some stiff competition, but they can handle it. As for all of the members' own presentations, playing solos, and talks, they'll all do well, too. The Happy Hustlers are on top of their game and are ready for whatever Club Days hits them with.

Good Luck, and great job for all that you put in.