



Gove County 4-H Fair News

Volume 2026

July 6, 2026

Number 4 of 4

Tri-State Royal

Just a quick reminder, Sherman County will once again be hosting the Tri-State Royal on Saturday, August 8, 2026, in Goodland. This show is for county champions from across the area. All market animal county champions will have first opportunity to represent Gove County at the show. If they decline then the reserve champion can have the opportunity to go. Showmanship representation will be determined by the judge of our fair for each species.

We need to hear from the winners, regarding their intentions to show at the Tri-State Royal by the end of show day. This will allow us time to get the alternates. Entries are due online by Thursday, August 6th, before 5:00 p.m. You can enter online at: [Tri-State Royal Home Page](#)

Judging Contests at Gove County 4-H Fair:

Monday, July 13 at 1p.m.-8p.m.

Life Skills Judging Contest
Photography Judging Contest
Entomology Judging Contest
Ag Challenge of Champions

Tuesday, July 14, at 5:30 p.m.

Livestock Judging Contest

Wednesday, July 15 at 3:00 p.m.

Livestock Showmanship Clinic

Fair Board Updates

► Meraki Market & Broken Handle is doing concessions-no help from 4-her's or parents is required.

► BBQ is being served by Broken Handle. Clubs will need to help setup for BBQ

► Take your highest earning ribbon to TheBank in Quinter or Grainfield, after fair by August 7, 2026, for additional ribbon premium

Fair Checks

Livestock & Food Sale Checks will not be available until Monday, August 3rd, for pick-up. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter. Don't forget to write thank you notes to buyers. [Check Gove County Fair Board Facebook page, before coming to be sure your checks are ready.](#)

State Fair Entries

Entries eligible for the Kansas State Fair will be awarded a KSF Sticker on the entry tag. Exhibitors must meet the requirements in order to be considered; must be 9 years 4-H age or older and receive a Purple Ribbon. [Livestock](#), [Fashion Revue](#), [Dog Show](#), and [Horse Projects](#) have other entry requirements. Please find those online at: [State Livestock Nomination Information](#) and [Kansas State Fair](#)

All static entries for Kansas State Fair must notify the office by; Tuesday, August 4th, 2026. Please look for emails with more information as it becomes available.

Work Schedules

We have mailed out the judging schedules and work schedule. Please read these carefully and make note of your responsibilities. If you do not receive Newsletter #3, please notify our office at 785-673-4805 or visit our website: [Gove County Fair Page](#)

Livestock Drug Withdrawal Forms

are **REQUIRED** to be completed & signed by 4-Her & parent at check-in of the fair and returned to Kassie Remington

Attention New 4-H Families

If your family has not been involved in the fair before, please do not hesitate to call the Extension Office 785-673-4805 or your club leader to have questions answered. We're here to help!!

4-H Ribbons

Sometimes there is confusion on the ribbon systems used at the fair. All inside 4-H & Open Class Static Exhibits are judged using the Danish system (except pets, dogs, cats, poultry, rabbits, and livestock.) 4-H & Open Class Livestock shows will use the Modified Danish System.

Danish System:

- All exhibits receive a ribbon
- Exhibits are judged in comparison with an ideal standard, not to each other.
- Exhibits are placed in 4 ribbon groups – purple, blue, red, or white.
- Grand & Reserve Champions will be awarded in each age division if quality is shown.
- Open Class exhibits will receive “Best of Show” for their champion ribbon

Grand Champion – is awarded to the highest quality exhibit in the project area. If it's quality merits this award

Reserve Grand Champion – is awarded to the second highest quality exhibit in one project area, if it's quality merits this award.

Class Champion – is awarded to the highest quality exhibit in a single division if there is a worthy exhibit.

Reserve Class Champion – is awarded to the second highest quality exhibit if there is a worthy exhibit.

Purple – outstanding on all standards

Blue – exceeds the minimum standard; may have minor flaws where improvements can be made.

Red – meets all minimum standards; may be visible signs of needed improvement.

White – fails to meet minimum standards.

Participation – are awarded to those exhibits that do not meet requirements. This ribbon indicates to the 4-Her that the exhibit was not necessarily poor in quality, only that it did not meet the project requirements as indicated in the fair book. Participation ribbons are also awarded to Clover Buds or other “participation” only classes.

Modified Danish System

(Pets, Dogs, Cats, Poultry, Rabbits & Livestock)

Exhibits are compared to a standard, placed in 4 color ribbon groups, but are ranked top to bottom within each ribbon group.

Teaching Kids to Take Responsibility

Teaching kids to take responsibility is a parent's job. When parents show through their words and actions that they take responsibility for their own behavior, they become an effective and powerful role model for their children.

Here are some do's and don'ts for modeling responsible behavior:

- **Listen to Your Words**
Avoid phrases that imply that someone other than yourself is in charge of your actions. For “I can't,” say “I don't want to.” For “I should,” substitute “I've decided to.”
- **Set Reasonable Expectations, Then Give Children Opportunities To Live up to Them.**
Don't expect your kids to read your mind. Be clear about what you expect them to do. And once they know what's expected, don't be in a hurry to help them out. Give them a chance to make, and learn from their mistakes.
- **Explore Issues of Responsibility With Your Children by Encouraging Them to Think About Action; and Consequences.**

Rather than ask why something happened, ask what went on and keep asking. If the child seems dissatisfied with the result, ask what he/she would do differently next time.

- **Be Responsive, Not Reactive.**

When something angers you, take time to calm down, then think of alternatives that can get you back in charge of the situation.

Reflecting on the outcomes afterwards can help you – and your kids – make better choices in the future.

- **Get Involved in the Community.**

Participation in some kind of volunteerism helps all family members recognize that they are part of something much larger than their circle of family and friends.

Claire Rober yourt, “Taking Responsibility: Teaching Our Kids to Take Responsibility,” Bottom Line, August 1, 1995. – About 4-H – Mississippi State University-May, 1998

Sportsmanship

Conduct becoming to an individual involving fair and honest competition, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of results.

All participants in 4-H and other youth programs are expected to demonstrate each of the following elements of sportsmanship before, during, and after their participation:

1. **Conduct:** Demonstrate and maintain high standards of personal behavior and conduct which becomes you as an individual and as a representative of your family, your club, your community and the 4-H program or other youth programs in which you are involved.
2. **Fairness:** Learn and follow the rules. Do not cheat. Be objective, honest and just in evaluating yourself and others.

3. **Honesty:** Be truthful, fair and straight-forward in everything you say and do. Show integrity. Don't lie or deceive. Do your own work. Do not understate or overstate your abilities, skills, or accomplishments.
4. **Competition:** Accept that the nature of competition is seeking to get what others are seeking to get, involves rivalry between contestants to earn rewards, and results in both winners and losers.
5. **Courtesy:** Be well-mannered in your conduct. Be respectful, thoughtful, considerate, cooperative, friendly, and cheerful in your attitude and your behavior regardless of whether you do well or not, or whether you win or lose.
6. **Graceful Acceptance of Results:** Accept judges' suggestions and the results with a positive attitude.

Your Checklist for Judging

Fair week is very exciting for all exhibitors, but it is especially stressful on the novice members. There are so many things to remember and it seems everyone waits until minutes before the show to share their advice.

Some of these tips may not seem very important, but they all add to a successful experience in front of the judge.

- I have no gum in my mouth
- I have on clean clothes. No shirts with questionable sayings, etc.
- I have on a belt if my pants have belt loops.
- I have my hair combed and fixed so it doesn't hang down in front of my face.
- I don't have on any jewelry that will hang down and get in the way.
- I have my show equipment-bat/brush/comb that I will

need in the show ring.

- I have already turned in my entry cards.
- I know the breed of animal I am showing.
- I know how much my animal weighs.
- I know how old my animal is.
- I know what and how much I feed my animal each day.
- I will wear a pleasant face and be a great sport no matter what happens in the show ring.
- I know how the recipe is to be followed.
- I know the steps I took to complete project.
- I read the instructions to mount & hang items.
- I have my projects prepared.
- I have all documents required.
- And always remember to thank the judge after the consultation for a job well done.

Ten Commandments for 4-H Parents

1. Thou shalt not feed, train, make or bake projects for thou are trying to teach the child responsibility.
2. Thou shalt forgive a child for making mistakes while showing for thou hath made mistakes, too.
3. Thou shalt not get mad when thy child forgets items in thy project, for one day thou may forget something, too.
4. Thou shalt help the show management for they are doing a job that thou would not want to do.
5. Thou shalt see that thy child is on time for all activities for thou shalt not want to wait for another.

6. Thou shalt ensure that thy child has the project entered and the entry papers in order by the designated time.
7. Thou shalt teach thy child that winning a blue ribbon is a desirable goal, but making friends along the way is more a worthy goal.
8. Thou shalt not complain about the judge, for it is his/her opinion that has been sought.
9. Thou shalt not forget that all projects are teaching projects, not moneymaking.
10. Thou shalt remember that the 4-H project is a family project that shall be enjoyed and supported by the entire family.

We'll see you at the fair!!

2026 GOVE COUNTY FAIR SCHEDULE

All open class judging will immediately follow 4-H judging.

Thursday, July 2, 2026

4:00 p.m. First Clean Up 4-H Building & Fairgrounds

Friday, July 10, 2026

10:00 a.m. Clothing Construction & Buymanship Judging-St. Agnes Educational Ctr.

4:00 p.m. Final Set Up & Clean Up 4-H Building & Fairgrounds

Monday, July 13, 2026

7-9:00 a.m. Check in for Horse Show (Must have Coggins papers)

9:00 a.m. Horse Show

1:00 p.m. Life Skills Judging Contest

1:00 p.m. Photography Judging Contest

1:00 p.m. Entomology Judging Contest

1:00 p.m. Ag Challenge of Champions

4:00 p.m. Visual Arts/Crafts Exhibit Judging
Photography Exhibit Judging

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

7-9:00 a.m. Check- In 4-H & Open Class Livestock
(TRAILERS ON SITE BY 8:30 AM)

9:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony (Smoky River 4-H Club)

10:00 a.m. Booth & Banner

10:15 a.m. Judging of Remaining Static Exhibits

1:30 p.m. Check In Rabbits & Poultry

2:00 p.m. Rabbit & Poultry Show

3:30 p.m. **Nex-Tech** Train

5:30 p.m. Livestock Judging Contest

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

8:00 a.m. Open Class Livestock Entries

9:00 a.m. Small Animal Livestock Show
Swine Showmanship
Breeding Swine
Market Swine
Goat Showmanship
Breeding Goats
Market Goats
Sheep Showmanship
Breeding Ewe
Market Sheep

Wednesday, July 15, 2026, continued

7-8:30 a.m. Foods Check-In

8:30 a.m. Open Class ONLY Foods Judging

9:00 a.m. 4-H Foods Judging

2:00 p.m. Pet Show

-Rabbits, Cats, Aquarium, Etc.

3:00 p.m. Fitting Contest

3:30 p.m. **Nex-Tech** Train

5-7:00 p.m. Tallest Corn Contest- **Nutrien Ag**
**Prizes for 1st & 2nd, t-shirts while supplies last.*

5:30 p.m. Siruta Pedal Pull Sign-In

6:00 p.m. Siruta Pedal Pull Contest;

7:00 p.m. Style Revue, Food Auctions, & Inside
Trophy Presentation

8:30 p.m. Barnyard Olympics- **Quinter FFA**

Thursday, July 16, 2026

8:00 a.m. Open Class Livestock Entries

9:00 a.m. Large Animal Livestock Show
Bucket Calf Showmanship Bucket Calf
Return Bucket Calf
Beef Showmanship
Breeding Beef
Market Beef

1:00 p.m. Round Robin (Sr.'s Only)

1-6:00 p.m. Activities for All Ages

1-8:00 p.m. Promote Your Business Day Booths

3:30 p.m. Nex-Tech Train

5:30 p.m. BBQ Appreciation Meal- **Broken Handle**

6:30 p.m. Livestock Trophy Presentations

6:45 p.m. Celebrity Showmanship Contest

7:30 p.m. Livestock Auction, Pie Sale, & Gary
Evans Memorial Cookie Jar Sale

*****Fair Clean Up IMMEDIATELY Following
Livestock Sale*****

Saturday, July 18, 2026

9:00am Dog Show, DFA Oakley

Just a few reminders of things to look out for during fair week! We look forward to a fun time encouraging each other in our project mastery and learning alongside friends!

Exhibit Changes:

1. Judging Contest Kits will be set up Monday from 1 p.m. to approximately 8 p.m. for any 4-H member who is interested. Please remember these are for contest and cell phones should NOT be used during the duration of your test. Volunteers will be around to help guide youth in finding paperwork, reading questions out loud, and providing some helpful answers if needed.
2. Please keep track of time and your judging time spots. We ask that you do not “cut” ahead because line is empty if there is still a youth scheduled for their turn. You may work out a deal with other families running behind or ahead to make these changes.
3. **Foods Check In-** We will start checking in Food Projects at 7:30 a.m. and be finished by 11:00 a.m. All foods must be checked in by **11:00 a.m.** *If you are participating in the Small Animal Show, you may check in your food projects from 7-8:30 a.m.* After you have checked-in and set food on assigned tables, we encourage you to go watch the Small Animal show beginning at 9 am while you wait for food judging to take place starting at 9:00 am. Foods judging begins at 9 a.m.
4. Food Judges will be using a system on overall baking science learning and growth in project, so come prepared to answer questions about all you have learned this year within the Foods & Nutrition Project and not just what you learned with that specific item. It is not mandatory for judges to try foods in order to evaluate the project. (i.e. food allergies/intolerances)
5. **Shopping In Style and Sewing & Textile Designs** - We will hold the judging portion again at the St. Agnes Catholic Education Center beginning at **10:00 a.m.** on Friday, July 10. Outside observers are welcome to come to the judging portion, however space is limited. They are welcome to come enjoy the public revue Wednesday evening. There will be designated dressing rooms with 1 being for MALES ONLY. Once you are dressed we kindly ask that you keep all undergarments or spare clothes picked up so the next contestant dressing has a clean space. Please knock before entering any dressing room. Privacy should be respected. There will be no call backs this year so once you are done judging you are free to go. Power strips will be provided for hair tools & accessories. Participants are encouraged to bring their own mirrors.
6. **Shopping In Style** projects are a separate judging from the Fashion Revue modeling. Example can be like Clothing Construction- you get judged on the sewing aspect and then judged on the modeling. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.
7. Rabbits & Poultry- DATE CHANGE REMINDER; typically these have been judged on Wednesday afternoon along with Pet Show. This year Rabbits & Poultry have been moved to Tuesday Afternoon. See fair schedule for details. NO Poultry testing this year due to new regulations set by the USDA. 2027 is our year to be tested unless disease outbreak.
8. **Cloverbuds-** Reminder they are allowed 1 static entry for their Cloverbud exhibit, all other items will need to be open class. Cloverbuds are also to be judged in the area their project fits, we do not have a specific Cloverbud judge. (ex. John, age 5, baked cookies. He would go be judged by a Foods judge) The Projects will then be displayed in the Cloverbud Booth. Please help judge see they are a Cloverbud.
9. Ribbon Changes- We will be using 4-H ribbons this year. All ribbons will be attached to projects for display during fair week.
10. Reminder the fair is all about having fun, making friends, encouraging our mastery of skill, and celebrating victories!
11. **Miscellaneous Exhibits-** These are the few projects that have smaller amount of entries so a couple judges tackle that list. **In fair newsletter #3 page 6,** we list the judge assistant and the order of projects they will be judging in. You can also find it in this newsletter issue. Our automated text messaging service will help aid in keeping everyone informed on what project we are currently judging and what is coming up soon. We will be around to help make sure no family is missed. Newsletters can be found on the Golden Prairie District Website: <https://www.goldenprairie.k-state.edu/4-h/gove-fair.html>

12. Please refrain from being a “No Show” for scratched events. Alert extension ahead of judging, so we may take you off the list.
13. **Food Projects at KSF 2024-** For food safety purposes, any entries with frostings and fillings must calculate the amount of sugar in the recipe only. Calculation publication is listed on our website. If you wish to do this for the Gove Co. Fair, it is welcomed and encouraged. It will be mandatory for all State Fair Food Project exhibits. *(recipe must contain more than 65% sugar for safety)*

Fair Entries

All Fair Entries have been submitted and cards are printed. Each family has a folder at our desk to hold these cards. So please come find us at fair to collect entry tags! WE also volunteer to keep said cards all week until you need them so as nothing gets lost. Any scratched events are to be marked with ‘red slash’ and placed back in family folder. Livestock will again just be double checked, and we will hand them out after ribbons have been attached. Livestock will not be allowed to go with the family- we need these cards for our records.

Photo Matte Boards

Photo matte boards are available in office, will be at 2nd clean-up day while Extension Staff is present, and we will bring to fair Monday ONLY! Charge is \$2 per board/sleeve and must be paid when picked up. Please have exact cash or check. We do not have change.

Fair Books

The fair book has been delivered to leaders and is posted to the Golden Prairie District website. Get with your leader to pick up your book or request a printed copy free of charge. Please let us know if you would like an extra hard copy! [Gove County Fair Book](#)

We have posted All fair newsletters to our website for reference if you cannot find your copy at home.

Thanks, and we can't wait to see everyone at the fair!

**Judging Contest
Kits will be
available Monday
ONLY from 1:00 pm
to 7:00 pm!!!!**

- Please no cell phones while competing
- Volunteers will be around to help if needed

Style Revue Descriptions

4-Her's participating in the Public Style Revue are Required to have your descriptions turned in to the Extension Office ASAP to Jennifer at jmackerm@ksu.edu.

If you have not decided which outfits you want to model, please submit descriptions for all available options then we can delete what you don't model. Final decision made by Friday, July 10.

Gove County Fair Board will have a sign-up sheet posted for all 4-H members to pick a Grand Champion Prize. Prizes will only be ordered for the individuals that receive a Grand Champion ribbon at fair.

**Thank You!!
Gove County Fair Board**

Judging Time Spot Sign Up Sheets

Sign up information are for the following project areas only:

Photography Visual Arts Visual Crafts Foods

Judging time spots will go back to paper sign-up sheets for the 2024 fair season. Please stop by the office, call during office hours, or see us at the following events to get members names on the list:

- Clothing Project Judging – July 10
- 2nd Fair Clean Up – July 10
- 1st Day of Fair – 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Extension Desk

Anyone not listed by the deadline, NOON, July 11th will be assigned to the end of the list by Extension Staff. Notifications will be sent out as reminders.

**Photo Matte Boards
and Sleeves are
available for sale at
the Extension Office
for \$2.00/set**

Helpful Pages for Fair Projects

Check out this link to our 4-H Fair Page. These are some of the items listed on the page [Gove County Fair Page](#)

- Preparing Baked Foods Exhibits
- Food Safety of Frostings & Fillings-*Sugar Calculation Publication*
- Cost Per Wear for/Fashion Revue Scorecard
- Cat Record Sheet
- Dog Record Sheet
- Pet Record Sheet
- Rabbit Record Sheet
- Judging Poultry at the County Fair
- Fair Newsletter's #1, #2, #3, and #4

Notice: Flower Exhibitors

>No Fragile Containers for
vases

>Must be weighted down due
to wind

Miscellaneous Projects Judging Order

10:00 a.m.

Judge A

BANNER

BOOTHS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (CITIZENSHIP)

COMMUNICATIONS

FAMILY STUDIES

HEALTH & WELLNESS-

Bicycle, Health & Fitness, Outdoor
Adventures, & Recreation

INTERIOR DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE

LEADERSHIP

PERFORMING ARTS

READING

SELF-DETERMINED

Judge B

AEROSPACE/ROCKTRY

AG MECHANICS WELDING

AGRONOMY

ASTRONOMY

BUILDING BLOCK ENGINEERING

COMPUTER SCIENCE

ELECTRIC & RENEWABLE ENERGY

ENTOMOLOGY

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

GEOLOGY/LAPIDARY

ROBOTICS

SHOOTING SPORTS

SMALL ENGINES

UNCREWED AERIAL SYSTEMS

VETERINARY SCIENCE

WILDLIFE

WOODWORKING

July 13th-16th

Gove County Fair

Volunteers Needed

We welcome new volunteers to step up and learn the ropes from our experts as their families age out of the program! 4-H is built on volunteerism, we look forward to working with you.

Job duties may include:

- Ribbon placement on projects
- Helping Display Projects in Building
- Horse Show Gate Operator, Announcers, Discipline
- Equipment changes
- Public Fashion Review Decorator & Coordinator
- Judging Contest Kit Observer
- Helping Photograph Event

Any amount of time you can offer will be greatly appreciated!

Please contact the Golden Prairie Extension District Office in Grainfield if you are interested in helping out this year!

(785) 673-4805 by July 6th

Gove County 4-H

Along With

Gove County

Fair Board

GOLDEN PRAIRIE EXTENSION DISTRICT
GRAINFIELD OFFICE
PO BOX 173
GRAINFIELD KS 67737-0173

**2026
4-H Fair
Information**

K-STATE
Research and Extension

**Golden Prairie
Extension District**
goldenprairie.k-state.edu

Grainfield Office
230 Main St.
P.O. Box 173
Grainfield, KS 67737-0173
785-673-4805
fax: 785-673-4803

Oakley Office
Courthouse
710 West 2nd
Oakley, KS 67748
785-671-3245
fax: 785-671-3246

WaKeeney Office
216 N. Main St.
WaKeeney, KS 67672-2189
785-743-6361
fax: 785-743-6391

**Kansas State University
Agricultural Experiment
Station and Cooperative
Extension Service**

Kansas State University, County Extension
Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S.
Department of Agriculture Cooperating.

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

July 6, 2026

Dear 4-H Families,

**Here is the final pre-fair mailing.
Good Luck to all of you at the fair!!**

Sincerely,



Hadley Folsom
4-H Program Manager



Jennifer Ackerman
Office Professional