



# Kingfisher County

## 4-H News

July 2006

### Bird Flu, County Outreach Program

American farms can be an important line of defense against the spread of avian influenza (AI) or "bird flu." FFA and 4-H have joined with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) at USDA on a public awareness and agricultural education campaign regarding avian influenza.

We are educating backyard poultry owners about protecting their birds and reporting signs of AI. A key component of this effort is a State and County Fair Outreach Program. APHIS has worked to develop a series of informational materials for distribution at poultry exhibits at State and County fairs.

4Hers can volunteer to help educate others about avian flu at state and county fairs and other local events. 4-H volunteers can staff fair booths and provide informational materials to interested fair attendees. You can help educate poultry growers in your community about how they can avoid bird flu and what to do if they suspect their birds are infected. If your chapter can provide the personnel APHIS can provide these materials free of charge to your chapter or club: Brochures, Banners, Fair Giveaways (handheld fans, posters, plastic drink cups, etc.) For more information please visit, <http://www.aifairs.org>.

Editor:

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### 4-H Quilt Block – Rotary Cutter Pattern

The featured quilt block this month at the University of Nebraska's Quilt Quest website is a 4-H quilt block pattern that is created for use with a rotary cutter. To get a copy of this pattern just surf to <http://www.quiltquest.unl.edu/> and click on the featured quilt block link.

While at their site you should take the time to learn a little about Quilt Quest. Quilt Quest is a partnership between Nebraska 4-H Youth Development, the Department of Textiles, Clothing and Design - College of Education and Human Sciences, and the International Quilt Study Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This project is designed to help you learn about quilts and gain a deeper appreciation of quilt-making.

The Threads of this Project Include:

- activities to strengthen family ties
- exposure to different cultures
- career possibilities
- community service learning projects
- computer technology in quilting
- application of quilt making to science, math, language arts, arts and history
- preservation and care of quilts
- gaining a historical perspective of quilts
- quilt research and documentation
- design and make your own quilt, be it fabric or virtual!

Target Age Group: 10-19 years of age and beyond.

## Major changes have taken place in some fair exhibit categories.

Both the Oklahoma State Fair and the Tulsa State Fair will offer Oklahoma 4-H'ers some new and expanded categories in which to enter projects.

The Oklahoma State Fair is slated to run Sept. 14-24. Judging will take place Sept. 13. Judging at the Tulsa State Fair will be done Sept. 27 and the fair will run from Sept. 28 through Oct. 8.

These changes are taking place in an effort to continually meet the interests of 4-H'ers, said Kevin Hackett, Northwest District 4-H youth development specialist.

"Science and technology continues to be of great interest to 4-H'ers, and not only have we expanded the categories, but we've also added new categories," Hackett said.

One of the categories is robotics. The 4-H robotics program allows club members to explore science, technology and engineering through designing and building a functioning robot. The robot can be either programmable or remote controlled and can be created by an individual or a group. In addition, 4-H'ers can create a display with photographs and an explanation of a member-developed robot that is not available for exhibit.

"Our goal with the robotics category is to have club members explore science, technology and engineering through designing and building a functioning robot," he said.

Another new fair project is the Global Positioning Systems (GPS)/Geographic Information Systems (GIS) exhibits. Participants in this category have a number of options when deciding on a specific project. 4-H'ers can put together a poster showing the parts of a GIS map; make a display that illustrates how a GPS works; create a geocache box with contents; submit a hand-drawn map along with an explanation of the purpose for the map; or create a computer-generated map. Hackett said this category also features a section for group projects.

Photography has long been a popular fair exhibit, and this year 4-H'ers can enter digital photos.

"This category is limited only to unaltered photos, however, changes that can be made include color

and contrast adjustments, cropping, exposure adjustments and red eye reduction," he said. "Manipulated or digitally altered photos may be entered in the 4-H Science and Technology section as photographic illustrations. Exhibitors must include the original photo along with the altered photo and a summary of the alterations that were done."

4-H'ers who are interested in geology can enter projects in this category. This section has expanded beyond rocks and minerals to include energy and petroleum exhibits. Club members can create a display of different types of energy and how they work, or different careers in energy. This category also includes a photography exhibit, poster project or an energy or petroleum science experimental display.

Forage plants classes have changed to meet a wider variety of uses. Plant specimens must have been collected during the current project year.

Visitors to the State Fair of Oklahoma can see all of these new projects, along with more traditional 4-H projects, in the Hobby, Arts and Crafts Building. "This new location gives us lots of visibility. More people will be able to see first-hand the type of projects that are available to 4-H'ers," Hackett said.

Hackett also wanted to convey that the International Postmark Fair has been cancelled. For more information about the Oklahoma State Fair or the Tulsa State Fair, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service office.

## 4-H Football Game Day

Mark your calendars for the September 2<sup>nd</sup> 4-H Game Day. It looks as though it will be a 6:00 pm Kickoff. Plans are still being developed and there will be more details to come in next month's newsletter.



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## **Sewing Machine Donated to Kingfisher County Fair**

Randa Parish was raised on a farm outside of Fort Scott, Kansas and went to a one room school house. There were only three people in her grade. Each teacher was responsible of teaching four grades which restricted many learning opportunities. That is why being in 4-H played such a vital role in her life.

Randa was nine years old when she joined Drywood 4-H Club in Bourbon County and continued throughout high school. 4-H was their family's only social outlet, so she looked forward to the 4-H meetings, the county fair, speaking competitions, various 4-H competitive events and the many learning opportunities provided by the County Extension office.

The 4-H meetings were held at an old abandoned school house. There was no air conditioning or fans. In the winter, the room was heated by a tiny wood stove. Her mother's dedication to faithfully take her children to each meeting still impresses her to this day. When we did a speaking competition, showed sheep, or entered sewing and cooking, she had to do everything times three, as two of her four sisters and I were born only 18 months apart.

As a child, she remembers 4-H meetings seemed more like entertainment than learning lessons of life. The lessons learned in 4-H gave her knowledge and confidence to accomplish many things. Participation in 4-H taught her patience, polish, good sportsmanship, teamwork, and focusing on goals were just a few of the many attributes achieved through 4-H participation.

The basics of Roberts Rules of Order gave Randa confidence to join other groups and organizations. Because of her speaking experience in 4-H, Randa gained confidence to take speech in high school and is often requested to speak for quilt guilds throughout Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas, and attributes many of her successes to 4-H.

Sewing was Randa's favorite entry in the county fairs and would often bring home a blue ribbon. She recalls being a master with a seam ripper, her mother had her rip out seams quite often. Randa owns Prairie Quilt, a fabric store in Hennessey.

Sewing is her favorite hobby and often sews after work because she enjoys it.

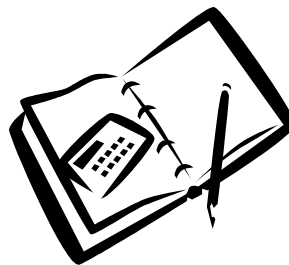
The Prarit Quilt sells fabric, books, patterns, notions and Pfaff sewing machines. They have an average of five classes per week along with many special events such as bus trips, Fat Quarter Frenzy, Sweatin' with Santa and Road to Oklahoma Shop Hop.

Randa also coordinates the annual Winter Quilt show held in January in Oklahoma City. This will be it's 6th year. It is the largest quilt show in Oklahoma and is considered one of the best in the midwest.

Each year Randa donates a sewing machine to the Kingfisher County Fair. This is her way to pay tribute to the 4-H leaders, her mother and 4-H members by doing something to encourage the 4-H members in their endeavors. The memories of what 4-H offered her will never be forgotten. A random drawing determines the winner of the machine.

Randa's goal is to encourage youth to find the many benefits of sewing, of learning a craft, of creating a piece of art designed with fabric. This is a craft directly connected to our heritage, it is one that should be held in reverence and passed on to future generations, and feels lucky to be in the position to give back to an organization that gave so much to her.

## **Change in State Record Book Due Date**



To accommodate numerous county livestock show conflicts created when the Oklahoma Youth Expo backed up into the first week of March, the timeline for State 4-H Record Books has changed. State Record Books will be due by noon, Wednesday, May 28, 2007. Record book judging will be Thursday, April 5, and interviews will be around May 1.

## **Hunter Safety Instruction and Certification**

Hunter Safety Instruction will be offered August 14-16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 8:30pm each evening. Upon the successful completion of this training youth and adults will receive their hunter safety certification. This certification is required for several hunting activities for youth and is required for most hunters above the age of 16. It is also a requirement to compete in 4-H shooting sports activities. Call the Extension Office 375-3822 to enroll today!

## **Pawnee County 4-H Trail Ride/Cattle Drive**

The first annual St. Jude's Trail Ride will be taking place on August 6, 2006. Riders will be camping on the 101 Ranch Saturday Night August 5<sup>th</sup> and start the ride at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning August 6<sup>th</sup>. The ride will be 13 miles, if you have anyone interested in helping raise money or would like to ride for St. Jude's please contact the Pawnee County Extension Center. Meals will be provided on Sunday morning and afternoon to participants. For more information contact: Pawnee County Extension Office (918) 762-2735  
<http://countyext.okstate.edu/pawnee/>

## **Poultry and Rabbit Exhibitors**

If you are planning to exhibit Poultry or Rabbits at the Kingfisher County Free Fair this August, please contact the OSU Extension Center 375-3822 so they can send you a pre-entry form to help our superintendents with fair entries.

## **Kingfisher County Free Fair August 23, 24, 25, 26, 2006**

Come out and support the Kingfisher County Free Fair. Food, Fun and Entertainment for everyone.

We hope to see you there!

## **4-H Leaders Council Meeting**

**The Next Leader's Council Meeting will be held August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm in the OSU Extension Meeting Room. All parents and volunteers are encouraged to attend to provide input into the planning of the Kingfisher 4-H program.**

## **Upcoming Events**

August 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:30pm – 4-H Leaders Council Meeting  
August 13<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm – County Ambassador Meeting and elections  
August 14-16 – Hunter Safety Certification  
August 23-26 – Kingfisher County Fair  
September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4-H OSU Game Day  
September 9<sup>th</sup> - Ambassador Meeting  
September 10<sup>th</sup> – 4-H Achievement Banquet  
October 5<sup>th</sup> – Leader's Council Meeting  
October 8<sup>th</sup> – Chili/Stew Fundraiser  
October 8<sup>th</sup> – Ambassador Meeting  
October 18-20 – NW District Leadership Conf.  
October 28<sup>th</sup> – 4-H Fright Night  
November 22<sup>nd</sup> – Ambassador Bake Sale  
November 22<sup>nd</sup> – Ambassador Meeting  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> – NW District Share-The-Fun  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Ambassador Meeting Christmas  
December 7<sup>th</sup> – Leaders Council Meeting  
January 13<sup>th</sup> – Oakwood Mall Day