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4-H News

River Valley District

**September &
October
2021**

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River Valley 4-H JOIN TODAY!



The new 4-H year is quickly approaching. In just one month, on October 1st you can start to enroll in the 2021-2022 4-H year. Now is the best time to invite your friends to join 4-H. See page 2 on how to enroll.

4-H Members

Any youth 7 – 18-years-old, as of January 1st, 2022, can enroll as a 4-H'er. We cannot wait to see what our 4-H'ers will accomplish this year. It's a great year to grow as an individual, empower those around you, serve your community, and to be a part of the biggest youth development organization.

Cloverbuds

Any youth 5 and 6-years-old, as of January 1st, 2022, can enroll as a Cloverbud in 4-H. This free-educational opportunity is a great way for youth to explore 4-H while starting to develop key life skills.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/> or contact your local 4-H Program Manager.

Happy New 4-H Year!



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K-STATE Research and Extension River Valley District

The 2021-2022 4-H Year is Near

October 1, 2021 will be here before you know it! Let us share some important steps you need to take when re-enrolling for the new 4-H year:

1. If you have a 4-H Online account, just log into your account at <https://v2.4honline.com> and follow the prompted steps.
2. If you are new to 4-H, go to <https://v2.4honline.com>. To create an account click on “Don’t have an account?”.
3. Program Fee is \$15.00 per 4-H member. You can pay by the following options:
 - a. Credit Card- paid through 4-H Online
 - b. Check- mailed directly to the State 4-H Office and made payable to “Kansas 4-H Youth Development”. Make sure to include a list of youth names, 4-H Club, and River Valley District, so the payment is applied to the correct account.
 - c. Waiver- Each club/county has the opportunity to let the State 4-H Office know if they would like to pay for their members memberships. This payment needs to be made before September 30 if that is the club’s/county’s choice. Please check with club leaders/extension office before enrolling if your club has decided this route of payment.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact your local 4-H Program Manager.

Officer Training

As the new 4-H year approaches, clubs are electing their new officers. Each 4-H member that is elected to an office has many responsibilities to fill for their 4-H club. To help teach the officers their responsibilities and duties, the River Valley District has put together an online Officer Training Scavenger Hunt.

The Scavenger Hunt will be available online on Monday, October 25th and will be due in the local extension office on Monday, November 15th. You only have to complete the questions for ALL officers and your specific office you currently hold.

It is important to have your club members complete this, as it is a requirement on the club seal. It will also help you complete your 2021-2022 pin applications, and helps provide you with a wealth of knowledge when leading your club this year.

National 4-H Week Facebook Video

National 4-H Week is just around the corner on October 3 – 9, 2021. This week is a great time for us to promote 4-H and welcome new 4-H families into our community. Let’s help them find their spark.

This year we are making a promotional Facebook video about how River Valley 4-H’ers “find their spark”. Here are the details!

Who: You

What: Two fun short video clips – both less than 15 seconds

Video 1 – Say “Find Your Spark” Make sure to pause in between words. “Find” pause “Your” pause “Spark”

Video 2 – Practice doing one of your 4-H projects. Example: Sewing, feeding your livestock, per forming a visual art. Be as creative and fun as you want to be.

Where: At Home/Outside/ With your 4-H Project

When: Videos will be accepted now through Sunday, September 12, 2021 (Email the completed videos to macy22@ksu.edu)

Why: To promote National 4-H Week and to encourage others to join 4-H.

We can’t wait to see your videos. If you have any questions, please contact your local 4-H Program Manager.

48 Hours of 4-H

Join us this fall in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! The last weekend of National 4-H Week, October 9-10, is the perfect opportunity to carry out a service project. Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers and 4-H Alums too! Kansas 4-H encourages you to register your projects and then follow up with a report so we know about all the great things that happened across the state. 48 Hours of 4-H is the perfect complement to **#InspireKidstoDo**.

For more information about this time to give back to those that give to us, please check it out at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/index.html>.

4-H Record Books

The General 4-H Record Book is a collection of activities, events, and displays completed by the 4-H member through their 4-H career. They can be put into a 3-ring notebook, or the Official 4-H Record Book covers can be ordered from Shop4-H.org if desired. Some people will separate each year with dividers, but have the most current year in the front. You will find that this record book will be to your benefit when applying for scholarships as you complete high school and enter college. If you have questions, contact your local club leader, extension office or visit <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/recordbook-forms.html>

- 1) **Personal Page** A single page that contains personal contact information; used to verify the appropriate age division, projects enrolled in, and that information contained within the Record Book reflects the work of the individual submitting the records for evaluation.
- 2) **Your 4-H Story** This story talks about you and your 4-H year as a whole – this is not the same story that you put in your project records. Your 4-H story should introduce yourself, tell your highlights of projects and events you participated in, explain how 4-H made you a better citizen by helping in your community and what you might have learned working with different groups like your club, jr leaders or even ambassadors. Finally describe about your future plans and maybe what career you are thinking about at this time.
- 3) **The 4-H Permanent Record** The 4-H Permanent Record is a complete compilation of a 4-H member's activities, both 4-H and non-4-H. This record grows with the 4-H member, as you add on to it year after year. An up-to-date Permanent Record can be helpful with many award and scholarship applications. This record is available as a fillable Microsoft Word document. Additional lines can be added as needed.
- 4) **Check Sheet** A single page found at the front of the Record Book; used to verify that all information is included and complete for each level of competition. This information page is not judged.

Forms can be found at <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources.html>

4-H Project Record Book Judging—Your Help is Needed!

We are all hoping that our 4-H members districtwide are busy putting the final touches on their project records and putting each of them in a separate binder. These are due to their leaders by the end of September so the leaders can bring them to the extension office by October 1st. These binders are then exchanged with another county within our district to be judged.

This is when we need YOUR HELP! WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to look through project area books, fill out a rubric evaluation form, and write some positive encouraging comments to the youth. Parents typically find this as a way to help our 4-H members to grow and improve. Parents, older teens, 4-H Alumni or even a grandparent and any willing volunteer are encouraged to help.

Here is when your county has scheduled project record judging:

Clay County – Oct 13th 7:30am-7pm Extension Office Meeting Room

Cloud County – Oct 18th 8am-4:30pm Courthouse Meeting Room

**Republic County – Oct 11th 8am-4pm Extension Office and
4:30 – 7:00 pm 4-H Building-Fairgrounds**

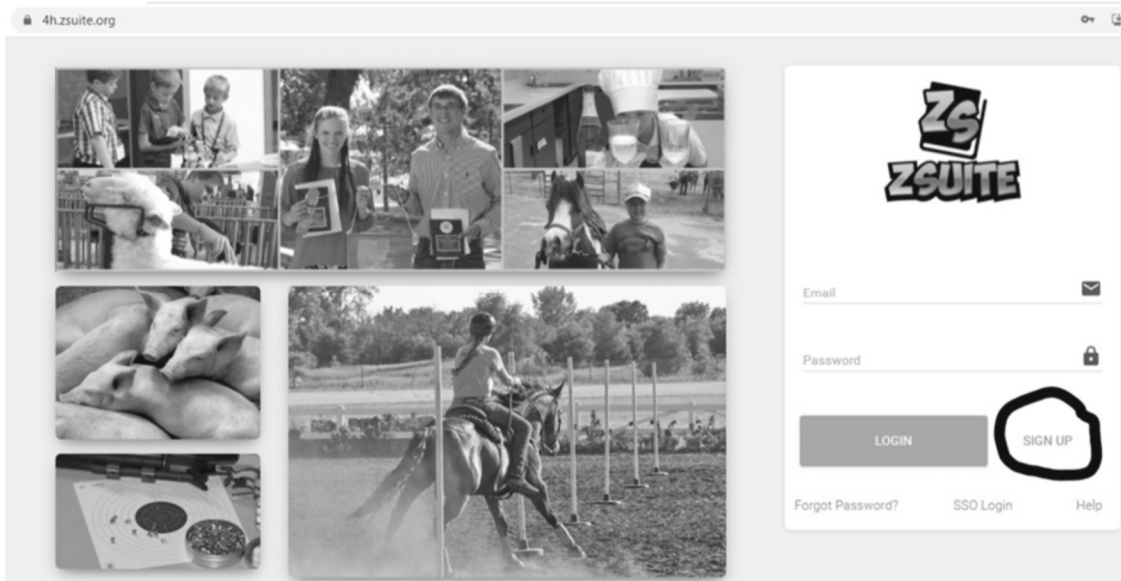
Washington County – Oct 11th 4:30pm-7:30pm FNB Basement

Thank you to the 4-H Clubs that generously donated to the ENDURE THE COURSE at Rock Springs Ranch. This is an amazing Leadership Adventure Course and we hope each of you gets the chance to experience it.

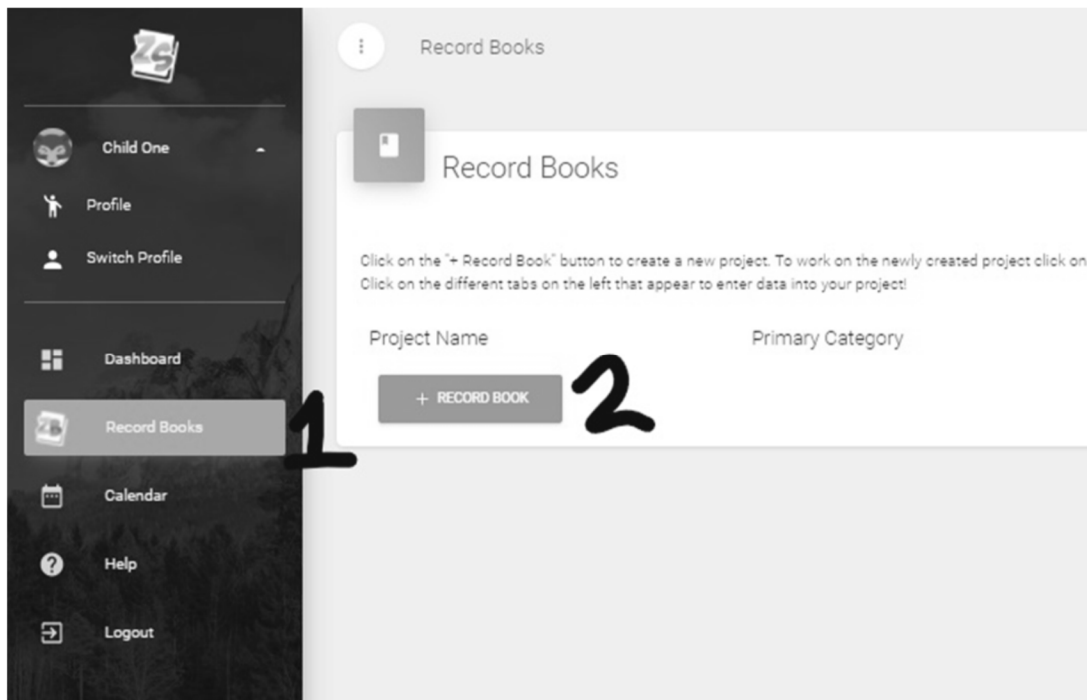
Transitioning to ZSuite to Complete Your Project Records

For the past 2 years, River Valley District 4-H has been part of a state wide pilot program to help youth transition to ZSuite to complete their Project Records. This transition will be required by the 2021-2022 4-H year. We want to help you get started. First go to <https://4h.zsuite.org> and create an account. The parent will be the primary account holder. After the account is set up, you'll be able to create profiles for each 4-H'er in your household to be able to create, edit, and add to Project Records. For a step by step tutorial, please contact your local extension office.

↓ ZSuite sign in page



↓ Setting up the Record Book



County Fair Thank You Notes

Congratulations to all our Exhibitors at all four county fairs in the River Valley District! This is a reminder to be sending out all of your thank you notes to your award sponsors and livestock and/ or project auction premium buyers. If any help is needed call your local extension office.

Don't Forget to Complete Your Pin Application

All 4-H members have the opportunity to achieve an award for their involvement each year of their 4-H career. There are nine-member achievement plans or pin applications. A member can only apply for one at the end of the 4-H year in September and will be awarded during the 4-H Achievement Celebrations. For more information refer to: <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/awards.html>

Northeast Area 4-H Leadership Event (NELE)

Kansas 4-H is 'Falling into Leadership!' 4-H members ages 12 to 18 are invited to the NE Area 4-H Leadership Event (NELE), Saturday, October 16, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Heritage Hall at Rocks Spring Ranch.

NELE is led by the Northeast Area Youth Council representatives. Delegates can sign up for multiple classes. Registration of \$30 includes lunch, snack, and t-shirt.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet new people, learn new leadership skills, and enjoy fun classes. Check it out at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/regional-events/northeast-leadership-event/index.html>

Apply for Kansas 4-H Leadership Council

Do you want to be a member of the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council or be a delegate for the National 4-H Conference? As a member of the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council you will have an opportunity to show case your leadership skills for 48 Hours of 4-H, KYLF, Citizenship in Action, and Campference as well as other State 4-H Events.

Any Kansas 4-H Member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2022 may apply as a Council Representative and those that are 15- 18 before January 1, 2022 may apply to be a delegate at the National Conference.

Applications are due by Friday, October 1, 2021. To learn more about The Leadership Council follow the link <https://www.kansas4-h.org/4-h-programs/teen-leadership-opportunities/youth-leadership-council/index.html> or contact your local extension office.

Take a Trip to the Kansas State Fair

Has your family just wanted to take a break from life's crazy schedule and are looking for a mini family get-away?? Consider making a trip to Hutchinson, KS during the Kansas State Fair from Sept 10-19th. There is a lot to enjoy – from looking at interesting exhibits, to different attractions, to good ole fair food. To learn more about the KSF, check out <https://www.kansasstatefair.com> Remember if you sent down a 4-H project to the KSF - you get two free gate tickets this year!! Contact your local River Valley Extension office to pick those up.

STEM: Robotic Nights

Now that fairs are over for the year. It's time to start our 4-H Robotic Nights again! Cue, Dash, and Evy are rested up and ready to get programming. In September, we will focus on 4-H'ers with **experience** that have previously been in our robotic program. In October, we will have more interest nights for 4-H'ers wanting to get started. Remember, as you enroll for the 2021-2022 4-H year, sign-up for the STEM: Robotic project.

September Robotic Nights:

Sunday, September 12 @ 4:30 pm – South Exhibit Building - Washington County Fairgrounds

Monday, September 13 @ 6:30 pm – Commercial Building – Cloud County Fairgrounds

Thursday, September 16 @ 6:30 pm – 4-H Building – Republic County Fairgrounds

Tuesday, September 21 @ 6:30 pm – Clay County Extension Office

4-H Volunteer Project Leader Training Series-Fall 2021

The sessions are designed to provide 4-H volunteer project leaders with tangible ideas and resources they can use to engage 4-H Youth. All sessions are free and will be recorded. The sessions are scheduled to start at 6:30 CST. The general outline for sessions is as follows:

- Sept. 21 – Public Speaking
- Sept. 28 – Textile Science
- Oct. 5 – Service Learning
- Oct. 12 – Financial Literacy
- Sept. 23 – STEM – Rocketry
- Sept. 30 – Animal Science – Livestock
- Oct. 7 – Creative Arts – Barn Quilts
- Oct. 14 – Ag & Nat Resources – Wildlife

Go to https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b2h9P3ROvNs8jI2 to register for the event.

Re-ignite Your Spark in Kansas 4-H: A Kansas Volunteer Training

Sit and think for a moment. What makes your 4-H volunteer role have meaning and purpose? What is something that you are passionate about, the hidden flame that motivates you?

The Search Institute describes this passion as one's "spark." Sparks are activities and interests that brings out a person's energy and joy, allowing them to express their personality and contribute to the world.

We know it has been a tough year. Join us on September 23 at 7:00 PM for an evening to re-ignite your spark in Kansas 4-H as we hear from current volunteers and passionate 4-H alumni. Participants will explore how to find their spark, engage families, and realize the impact they have on youth. Watch for more information to come in your email.

A Big Thank You to Our 4-H Volunteers

The River Valley District is made up of many volunteers who specialize in specific 4-H areas. These volunteers spend numerous hours of their personal time to help make the best better. Our 4-H organization could not be successful without the help of each one of them. They all have big hearts that love our youth and our 4-H organization. As the 2020-2021 4-H year comes to an end, the 4-H staff would like to thank you personally for all the time, energy, and support you give not only during fair but during the whole year. We look forward to continuing to work with each one of you and to have many more successful years to come.

Photography Leaders WANTED!

In 2019, pre-pandemic, the State Photography Action Team applied for and received a grant from the Kansas 4-H Foundation to help increase the number of volunteers serving as Photography project leaders in Kansas 4-H.

The grant funds C.A.T.S. (Cameras at the Springs) which is a training, networking weekend (Saturday morning through Sunday morning) designed to provide leaders with hands on shooting activities, resources from print, web resources, mentors, and materials to take back to your home county to use with youth.

If you would serve as a photography volunteer leader, you could attend C.A.T.S. at **no cost** to you beyond transportation to Rock Springs. Up to 24 volunteers are eligible to attend with full scholarship joining with those who attended the 2019 session. Adults and youth age 16 and older are welcome to attend this training.

Interested??? Contact C.A.T.S. chair, Pansy Fryman and submit your name on or before Friday, September 24th, 2021.

C.A.T.S. 2021 will be held Saturday, October 9 starting at 10 am through Sunday, October 10, dismissal at 10:30am at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Plans are already being made to provide fun, learning, and lots of sharing about photography.

Questions? Contact any of the following

Pansy Fryman- pansyfryman@gmail.com
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Kathleen Ramonda- ramondak@AOL.com
Susan Stich - Sstich12@gmail.com
Ginger Kopfer – gkopfer@ksu.edu

Kansas State Fair Judging Teams

Every year 4-H'ers have the opportunity at District Club day to compete in Crops, FCS, Photography, Horticulture, and Livestock Judging. The top four individuals from each county qualify to judge at the state level. Good luck to the following individuals as they will represent the River Valley District at the 2021 Kansas State fair.

Photography-Senior Division

Bricen Benyshek
Daegen DeGraff
Megan Barr
Payton Fahey
Reece Geer
Lane Musselman
Ryan Geer
Annie Larson

Photography-Intermediate Division

Rylan Schaaf
Jonathan Wright
Bryce Wittgartner
Jordi Fahey
Ellyn Feight
Ezra Beene
Tallyn Metlon

FCS– Senior Division

Leah Benne
Camryn Reynolds
Kiersten Morgan
Lane Musselman
Levi Musselman

FCS-Intermediate Division

Ellyn Feight
Rebekah Henriksen
Emily Henriksen
Janae Wolf
Case Richard
Boone Richard
Nellie Fahey
Octavien Cardenas

Crops– Intermediate Division

Isabelle Rogge
Boone Richard
McKennon Lehman

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)

What: Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers, and more. In addition, the 2022 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.

When: November 20-21, 2021

Where: Rock Springs 4-H Center

Who: Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2022

Registration: Opens late Aug/early Sept

Registration Deadline: Early Bird Rate-October 15, 2021

Regular Rate-November 1, 2021

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Address Service Requested

Find Your Spark!

Everyone has a Spark but sometimes it takes trying different things before you find yours. What is a Spark? Sparks are activities and interest that brings out a person's energy and joy, allowing them to express their personality.

How do I find my spark you may be thinking? One can find their spark by spending time with other youth and adults, by immersing themselves in their community, and exploring a variety of interests. Did you know there are over 30 chances to find yours in 4-H?? Yes, 4-H, the largest youth organization offers over 30 different projects from the Arts to Plant Science to STEM to Woodworking. Have you found your Spark yet?? Try a different project to enroll in, or maybe become a project leader to encourage other youth to explore their spark. Don't forget to sign up for this next 4-H year starting October 1st at <https://v2.4honline.com>

RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT 4-H STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION				
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