



rivervalley.k-state.edu

4-H News

River Valley District

**September &
October
2023**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 48 Hours of 4-H..... 3
- 4-H Sunday 6
- Achievement Celebrations 6
- Club Seal Report 2
- Fair Thank You's 6
- Kansas State Fair 5
- KYLF-KVF 6
- Officers Training 5
- National 4-H Week 3
- Officer Positions & Descriptions ... 7
- Project Record Book Judging . 3
- Record Books 2
- State Fair Judging Teams 4
- Time to Join 4-H..... 2



Summer Fun Comes to an End

River Valley 4-H was fortunate to have not just one, but four outstanding summer Educational Leaders to help provide workshops to youth within our district. As the 4-H Staff is in their busiest time of the year, we typically cannot offer all this summer programming due to lack of time and manpower. We are extremely grateful for these summer educators bringing numerous opportunities to our district.

Kansas 4-H Youth Development collaborated with the Kansas Department of Education to provide a grant to have hands-on summer learning opportunities that were lost as a result of COVID-19. The collaboration was carried out in over 60 counties across the state of Kansas.

Our River Valley Interns participated in summer school programs in seven schools, offered numerous workshops such as floral arrangements, charcuterie board classes, leather workshops, cookie decorating, and so much more. They provided 70 programs in 10 local communities across the district. These in-person summer engagements reached over 2,300 youth—that’s incredible!

Thank you to all the 4-H families that bought into the summer fun and came to participate in all we had to offer. Seeing all the youth having fun and learning makes it all worthwhile. Be on the look out for more workshops throughout the new 4-H year.

As the summer comes to an end, it’s time to say farewell to our summer Engagement Leaders, Faith Beikman, Mandy Simmons, Natalee Bray, and Corley Becker. These ladies were fun, energetic, and hardworking. They brought a lot of laughs and accomplished tremendous growth in bringing new opportunities to our district. As they close this chapter for the summer and head to college, they leave behind an enormous impact. The River Valley staff and local communities thank you.



K-STATE
Research and Extension

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

Kansas4-H.org

It's Time to Join 4-H

The new 4-H year is quickly approaching! Starting October 1st, you can begin to enroll for the 2023-2024 4-H year. With school activities starting back up, now is the perfect time to invite your friends to a 4-H meeting. Talk to them about the benefits of 4-H, and encourage them to come see if your club is the right fit for their family.

The 4-H program is for all youth ages 7-18 as of January 1, 2024. We also offer a Cloverbud program for all youth ages 5 and 6. This age group can enroll as a way to explore 4-H while beginning to develop key life skills.

4-H is a great way to grow as an individual, gain life skills, and serve your community. We are so excited to see what our 4-Hers will learn and accomplish this year as WE GROW MORE IN 2024!

For more information you can contact your local Extension Office, or visit our website at <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/>.

4-H Record Books

A 4-H Record book is a great way to collect and keep records of events and activities that have been completed by a 4-H member during their time in 4-H. A 4-H'er can keep their records from each year in their record book, with the most current year being at the front of their book. Record Books will be beneficial to a 4-H'er when completing scholarship applications for college. If you are needing help in creating your yearly record book please contact your local club leader, Extension Office, or you can visit our website at https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/record_book_forms.html for more information. You may purchase an official 4-H Record Book cover through <https://shop4-h.org> or check with your local Extension Office to see if your 4-H Council provides these for 4-H'ers.

The following items are what should be found in a 4-H Record Book:

- 1. Personal Page:** This is a page that contains personal contact information; your age division, projects you are enrolled in (try to list these in alphabetical order), and the information contained within the record book that reflects the work of the 4-H'er who is submitting the records for evaluation.
- 2. Your 4-H Story:** The 4-H Story is a reflection of the 4-H year. Here are a few tips for what to include in your 4-H Story. Be sure that your 4-H story introduces who you are, tells the highlights of projects and events you participated in, explain how 4-H is shaping you to be a better citizen by helping your community and what you might have learned working with different clubs through 4-H. You can also include your future plans for projects or for college if you are a graduating senior.
- 3. 4-H Permanent Record:** The permanent record is a complete list of all of the 4-H members activities from 4-H and from outside of 4-H. Each year the Permanent Records section will get longer and show the growth of the 4-H'er through all of their activities. You will continue to add on to the Permanent Record year after year. Permanent Records will be very helpful when filling out applications for scholarships and other awards.
- 4. Record Book Check Sheet:** A single page found at the front of the Record Book. It is used to verify that all information is complete and up to date for each stage. All information sheets can be found and filled out online at: https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/record_book_forms.html

Club Seal Report

Each 4-H Club has a charter from Kansas 4-H showing that they are an official 4-H Club. Each year, 4-H Clubs can meet requirements that demonstrates participation to receive a club seal – Purple, Blue, Red, or White. These club seals are placed on the 4-H Club's charter each year.

There are 8 basic goals, which at least 6 must be met by each club. Then, depending on your club's membership numbers, each club must meet a specified number of options on the list to obtain a club seal.

4-H Clubs are given this report at the beginning of the 4-H Year so they may set goals to accomplish and achieve the highest club seal.

During each achievement celebration in the River Valley District, 4-H Clubs will be recognized for the club seal they obtained.

Club leaders must return the completed form to their local extension office by October 1, 2023.

4-H Project Record Book Judging

It is that time of the year when all project record books should be getting finished up and turned into your leaders. All books are due to the Club Leaders by the end of September so that they can be turned into the Extension Office on October 1st. Project Records books are traded around the district to be judged. We need volunteers that are willing to judge and give feedback via a rubric to all 4-Hers in ways to approve their Project Record Books. Parents, Older Teens, Alumni, and any Volunteers are welcome to come help. Below is the schedule for dates of Project Record Judging in your county:

Clay County	Wednesday, October 11th	8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Clay Center Extension Office
Cloud County	Monday, October 9th	8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Concordia Extension Office
Republic County	Monday, October 9th	8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Belleville Extension Office
Washington County	Monday, October 9th	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	FNB Bank

National 4-H Week

Every year in October, millions of youth, parents, volunteers, and alumni across the United States celebrate National 4-H Week! The dates for the 2023 National 4-H Week are Sunday, October 1st through Saturday, October 8th. Take advantage of this exciting and important week to highlight the 4-H youth in our community, and showcase the awesome experiences 4-H offers to our young people. National 4-H Week is a great time to promote 4-H to others!

Here are a few ideas to showcase 4-H during this week:

- Visit school classrooms and share project talks or fun experiences you have had through 4-H
- Wear 4-H shirts to school throughout the week
- Create a window display at a local store, or decorate store-front windows with window paint
- Record radio spots at a local radio station, or place ads in your local newspaper
- Post on social media
- Set up a 4-H info booth at your community's local festivals or events this fall

48 Hours of 4-H

Let's challenge each club to see how much you all can give back to your community! Start planning your community service project now, if you haven't already done so. Gather up 4-H members, 4-H Clubs, friends, Adult Volunteers, Parents, 4-H Alumni, Partnership with other community organizations and ask potential 4-H families to come help as well.

Mark your calendar for the weekend of October 7th -8th.

Here are some ideas, but you might have something already in the works:

- Clean up a neighbors yard
- Pick up trash along a road or in a park
- Collect items for donation to people in need
- Go visit and play games at a local nursing home

Register your 48 Hours of 4-H project - <https://www.kansas4-h.org/events> and always take pictures. Remember one of the 4 H's is – My **H**ands to Larger Service

State Fair Judging Teams

During RVD District Club Days we offer 5 different judging contests. The top contestants in each county are then asked to participate at the state contest.

We had 3 teams compete at the State Horticulture Judging Contest that took place in Manhattan on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Our senior teams placed 6th and 8th with the intermediate team placing 9th. We had two individuals compete at Livestock Skillathon that took place on August 20-21st on the K-State Campus in Manhattan. Congratulations to all the contestants.

The following contestants will be compete at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. We are excited to be sending teams in Crops, FCS, and photography judging. Be watching our River Valley 4-H Facebook page for the results. Good Luck to all of the participants!

Crops Identification Contest – Saturday Sept 9th – Encampment Building

Senior Team #1	Intermediate Team #1
Daegen DeGraff – Cloud	McKennon Lehman – Clay
Gideon Elstrom - Cloud	Boone Richard – Cloud
Jonathon Wright – Washington	Reed Kohmetcher – Republic
Intermediate Team #2	Intermediate Team #3
Michael Pachta – Republic	Gaige Wendland – Washington
Paul Pachta – Republic	Gracen Wendland – Washington
Brandt Carlgren – Republic	Grainger Wendland – Washington
Jacob Pachta – Republic	

Photography Judging Contest – Sunday, Sept. 10th – Encampment Building

Senior Team #1	Senior Team #2	Senior Team #3
Gus Rice – Cloud	Jaycee Selewski- Republic	Payton Fahey - Washington
Bricen Benyshek - Cloud	Sara Smith – Clay	Amber Kolle - Washing- ton
Megan Barr – Cloud	Austin Burr – Clay	Sofia Uffman - Washing- ton
Sheyenne Kelsey- Cloud		
Intermediate Team #1	Intermediate Team #2	
Natalie Sleichter – Clay	Emma Rice – Cloud	
Slade Griffiths – Clay	Verity Elstrom – Cloud	
Addison Willis – Clay	Emily Kelsey – Cloud	
	Ben Elstrom – Cloud	

Intermediate Team #3	Intermediate Team #4
Ellyn Feight – Republic	Justus Uffman – Washington
Rebekah Henriksen – Republic	Cedric Kyner – Washington
Ruth Feight – Republic	Jalyn Fahey – Washington
Carson Struebing – Republic	

Family & Consumer Science Judging – Saturday Sept. 16th – Encampment Building

Senior Team #1	Senior Team #2
Bethany Demars – Cloud	Emma Hubert – Republic
Megan Barr – Cloud	Camryn Reynolds – Republic
Hope White – Washington	Breckyn Reynolds – Republic
Amber Kolle – Washington	Joree Bentz – Washington
Intermediate Team #1	Intermediate Team #2
Grace Demars – Cloud	Rowan Alexander – Republic
Trevor Clark – Washington	Ellyn Feight – Republic
Kian Ramey – Clay	Rebekah Henriksen – Republic
	Ruth Feight – Republic

Kansas State Fair

Congratulations to all the 4-H youth who qualified and are sending projects to the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. The Kansas State Fair will be September 8–17, 2023. Youth projects will be judged throughout these two weeks. We wish all of our River Valley exhibitors the best of luck! Consider making a trip to the Kansas State Fair to see exhibits from across the state, eat some good food, and much more. To see everything that is happening during the state fair visit <https://www.kansasstatefair.com> If you sent project(s) down to the Kansas State Fair don't forget that you receive two free gate tickets this year. Contact your local Extension Office to pick up your tickets today. After the State Fair, entries will be ready at your local Extension office for pick-up on Tuesday, September 19th.

Officers Training

The new 4-H Year is right around the corner, clubs will be electing Club Officers soon. River Valley District holds officers training as a way to teach new officers the responsibilities of holding offices. This year being the same as last year we will be holding in-person and online officers training. All officers must attend one of the training formats to learn all duties they are expected to perform for their club. It is also a requirement for kids to attend as it is on the club seal.

In-person Officer Training – Saturday, October 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Clifton/Clyde Middle School

Virtual Officers Training Opens:

Friday, October 27th, 2023, and Closes: Sunday, November 5, at midnight

Be watching for an email from Macy Hynek (mhynek@ksu.edu) with more information about the Online Officers Training.

KYLF-KVF

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, KYLF and Kansas Volunteer Forum, KVF will be held on November 18th-19th, 2023. This event is for youth ages 14-18, and will include speakers, workshops, and the election of the 2024 Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council. This is a fantastic opportunity for building leadership skills, collaborating with peers, making memories and maybe some lifelong friendships! You must be registered by Monday, October 16th to attend.

Keep an eye on your email for more information. We will send out information as it becomes available from the Kansas State 4-H office.

While the 4-H'ers are having a great time with their peers at their event, remember this is also an opportunity for 4-H Adult Volunteers to have some fun of their own with their peers. The Kansas Volunteer Forum(KVF) is designed to provide volunteers with tools and ideas to take back to their respective 4-H programs. KVF attendees will get to hear the Keynote Speaker with the KYLF attendees. They will also have their own set of workshops.

To end the first day there will be a silent auction and bingo in Leadership Lodge for KVF attendees. This is great time for visiting with other KVF attendees about the day and sharing ideas, likes and dislikes. There will be nominations for officers for the 2024 KVF Planning Board. If you have any questions about either event, please contact your local Extension Office.

County Fair Thank You Notes

It takes a village to put on the four county fairs in the River Valley District. Each year we are amazed at the number of volunteers and 4-H families that step-up to make the fairs happen. A huge thank you to local fairboards, volunteers, premium sale buyers, sponsors, family members, 4-H'ers and anyone else that give time and energy into our county fairs. We had a successful year thanks to you. We couldn't do it without you.

Just a reminder, if you haven't already, make sure to send thank you notes to your award sponsors and livestock and/or project auction premium buyers.

River Valley District Achievement Celebrations

Every year, we have the opportunity to celebrate the many great accomplishments of our 4-H members throughout the River Valley District! See the dates below to see when each county in the River Valley District will be celebrating their 4-H'ers!

Clay County	Saturday, November 4th- 5:30 p.m. – Clay County Events Center
Cloud County	Sunday, November 5th- 5:00 p.m. – Cloud County Fairgrounds Commercial Bldg.
Republic County	Sunday, November 12 – 5:30 p.m. – 4-H Building, Belleville
Washington County	Saturday, November 18th – 6:00 p.m. – Washington County High School

4-H Sunday

One Sunday each year is set aside to emphasize one of the four H's of 4-H; the heart.

4-H Sunday is typically the first Sunday in October and signifies the start of National 4-H Week. This year, 4-H Sunday is October 1st, 2023. 4-H clubs may choose to celebrate 4-H Sunday in whatever way best suits their members and families.

Each club determines how they want to observe 4-H Sunday. Some clubs attend a member's church together, have a special role in the church service, or conduct some other spiritual activity.

Officer Positions and Descriptions

4-H teaches skills that youth will use for their lifetime. Leadership is one of these lifelong skills. Successful 4-H Club meetings depend on leadership from effective officers.

4-H Club officers are elected each year at the beginning of the 4-H program year. It is important to have elections completed in time for the new officers to attend officer trainings. You can read more about the River Valley District 4-H Officer Trainings on Page 5.

Through the election process and holding officer positions, members:

- Learn about and participate in elections
- Learn to be responsible to their group, develop leadership skills, and practice basic parliamentary procedure
- Establish ownership in their club meetings

Before elections take place, an advisor or teen leader should do the following:

- Explain the duties of each office
- Share any qualifications needed to run for the office, such as attendance, participation, etc.
- Discuss the need to elect members for their ability, rather than for their popularity
- Discuss the election procedures to be followed, with written ballots used when voting

4-H clubs usually elect the following officers:

President – Prepares an agenda and presides at all meetings. Understands and follows basic parliamentary procedure. Appoints committees. Works with leaders to ensure that each meeting runs effectively.

Vice President – Presides over the meeting in the absence of the president. Serves as chairman of the program planning committee and introduces the program at club meetings.

Secretary – Keeps complete and accurate minutes of each business meeting. Writes club correspondence. Records attendance of members and advisors.

Treasurer – Handles club money. Maintains accurate and current financial records. Completes the yearly financial review forms for the River Valley District board.

Council Representative - Attends the bi-monthly county 4-H Council meetings, represents the club's wishes and relays council decisions back to the club. Two adult leaders and two 4-H members are needed for council representatives. Clubs may consider electing alternate council representatives to attend the council meetings if a representative is unable to attend a meeting.

Parliamentarians – Assist club officers and leaders by enforcing the correct parliamentary procedures to make the meetings run smoothly.

Reporter – Writes interesting and accurate reports of club meetings and special activities. Sends reports of meetings and activities to local media. Photos are encouraged for events and community service activities for newspapers. Maintains the Club Reporter book.

Historian – Keeps items of historical significance to the club and arranges them in the Club Historian book.

Recreation Leader – Plans and leads recreation at each meeting. Plans special events and parties. Involves other members in leading recreational activities.

Song Leader – Plans and leads songs or music at each meeting.

The size of the 4-H Club and the age of the members may determine the number and kinds of officers to be elected.

In 4-H Clubs with younger and older members, electing Junior Officers may be helpful. A Junior Officer should be a younger 4-H member that works with the regular Officer in the same position to learn the responsibility and duties of their particular office. This would also be helpful in the Recreation and Song Leader positions to meet the needs and interests of the different age groups. Junior Officer roles also help the younger members to gain confidence in front of a group. Junior officers should run at least one meeting during the 4-H year.

Since one of the goals of 4-H is to develop leadership skills, it is a good idea to pass officer positions around through many years, so members gain different experiences. This means that a member should not hold the same office in consecutive years. A variety of experiences will help the member grow in leadership and develop new skills.

If you have any questions, regarding the roles of an officer, please call a member of the District 4-H Staff!

All Dates are Subject to Change

Highlight, circle, underline, etc. the important dates for your family to remember!

Then, use this calendar as a reminder – place it on your fridge, with your calendar, on your bulletin board, etc.!

Date	Time	Event	Location
September			
9/4		RVED Offices Closed – Labor Day	Extension Offices
9/8-17		Kansas State Fair	Hutchinson, KS
9/9		State Crop ID Contest	Hutchinson, KS
9/10		Republic Co. Ambassador Meeting	4-H Building – Belleville
9/10		State Photo Judging Contest	Hutchinson, KS
9/16		State FCS Judging Contest	Hutchinson, KS
9/24	2:00 pm	Advanced Robotics	Palmer Community Building
9/25	7:30 pm	Cloud County 4-H Council	Cloud County Courthouse
9/29-10/1		Kansas Junior Livestock Show	Hutchinson, KS
October			
10/1-8		National 4-H Week	
10/1		4-H Enrollment Begins	https://v2.4honline.com
10/1		Dog Conference Registration Due	
10/1		End of Year Items Due	Extension Offices
10/2	7:00 pm	Clay Co. Jr. Leader Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
10/3	7:45 pm	Clay Co. 4-H Council	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
10/7-8		48 Hours of 4-H	
10/9	7:00 pm	Washington Co. 4-H Council	FNB Basement – Washington
10/9	7:00 pm	Republic Co. 4-H Council	4-H Building – Belleville
10/9-11		Record Book Judging	
10/16		KYLF Registration Due	
10/21-22		Dog Conference & Quiz Bowl	Rock Springs
10/27		Virtual Officer Training Open	Online
10/28	9:00 am	In-Person Officer Training	Clifton/Clyde Middle School
November			
11/4	5:30 pm	Clay Co. Achievement Celebration	Clay Co. Event Center
11/5	2:00 pm	Clay Co. Cloverbud/Ambassador Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
11/5	5:00 pm	Cloud Co. Achievement Celebration	Cloud Co. Fairgrounds – Commercial Bldg.
11/5	11:59 pm	Virtual Officer Training Closes	
11/10		RVED Offices Closed – Veteran’s Day	Extension Offices
11/12		Republic Co. Ambassador Meeting	4-H Building – Belleville
11/12	5:30 pm	Republic Co. Achievement Celebration	4-H Building – Belleville
11/18	6:00 pm	Washington Co. Achievement Celebration	Washington County High School
11/18-19		KYLF/KVF	Rock Springs 4-H Center
11/19	2:00 pm	Advanced Robotic Practice	Palmer Community Building
11/23-24		RVED Offices Closed – Thanksgiving	Extension Offices

All Dates are Subject to Change

December

12/3	2:00 pm	Clay Co. Cloverbud/Ambassador Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
12/4	7:00 pm	Clay Co. Jr. Leader Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
12/4	7:45 pm	Clay Co. 4-H Council	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
12/11	7:00 pm	Washington Co. 4-H Council	FNB Basement – Washington
12/11	7:00 pm	Republic Co. 4-H Council	4-H Building – Belleville
12/17	2:00 pm	Advanced Robotic Practice	Palmer Community Building
12/25		RVED Offices Closed – Christmas	Extension Offices

January

1/1		RVED Offices Closed – New Year’s Day	Extension Offices
1/7	2:00 pm	Clay Co. Cloverbud/Ambassador Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
1/9		District Club Day Entries Due	Local Extension Office
1/14		Republic Co. Ambassador Meeting	4-H Building – Belleville
1/15		Extension Offices Close – MLK Day	Extension Offices
1/19		NE Record Book Judging	Manhattan
1/20		RVED Robotic Challenge	TBD
1/27		State 4-H Horse Panorama	Salina

February

2/4	2:00 pm	Clay Co. Cloverbud/Ambassador Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
2/5	7:00 pm	Clay Co. Jr. Leader Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
2/5	7:45 pm	Clay Co. 4-H Council	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
2/12	7:00 pm	Washington Co. 4-H Council	FNB Basement – Washington
2/12	7:00 pm	Republic Co. 4-H Council	4-H Building – Belleville
2/18-19		Citizenship In Action	Topeka, KS
2/29		Regional Club Day Entries Due	Local Extension Office

March

3/1		State 4-H Scholarships Due	
3/3	2:00 pm	Clay Co. Cloverbud/Ambassador Meeting	Ext. Office Meeting Room – Clay Center
3/10		Republic Co. Ambassador Meeting	4-H Building – Belleville
3/23		Regional 4-H Club Day	Clay Center Community High School



River Valley Extension District
Washington Office
214 C. Street, Courthouse
Washington, KS 66968-1928

Address Service Requested

A Big Thank You to Our Volunteers!

We definitely couldn't make it throughout the year without each and everyone of our Volunteers. It doesn't matter if you just hold one project meeting, help at your local fair, or volunteer all year round. You make a difference for the 4-H staff, but mostly you are making a difference in the lives of our youth. All of the River Valley District Staff Members appreciate you! If you know of anyone that would like to volunteer and help our youth learn life skills, please have them contact your local extension office.

RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT 4-H STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Macy Hynek 4-H Agent RVED – Belleville 785-527-5084 mhynek@ksu.edu	Diane Kussman 4-H Program Manager RVED – Belleville 785-527-5084 dkussman@ksu.edu	Melissa Baxter 4-H Program Manager RVED-Clay Center 785-632-5335 melissabaxter@ksu.edu	Brianna Hake 4-H Program Manager RVED – Concordia 785-243-8185 bmhake@ksu.edu	Brooke Stamm 4-H Program Manager RVED-Washington 785-325-2121 brooke6@ksu.edu
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service. K-State Research is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Belleville Office • 1815 M Street • Belleville, KS 66935-2242 • 785-527-5084

Clay Center Office • 322 Grant Avenue • Clay Center, KS 67432-2804 • 785-632-5335

Concordia Office • 811 Washington, Suite E • Concordia, KS 66901-3415 • 785-243-8185

Washington Office • 214 C. Street • Courthouse • Washington, KS 66968-1928 • 785-325-2121

RiverValley4H@ksu.edu • Facebook.com/RiverValley4-H