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4-H News

River Valley District

**January &
February
2022**

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Happy Holidays from the RVD 4-H Staff!

Thank you to all the parents, leaders, volunteers, and 4-Her's that make our job so interesting and fun! You are all the best. Keep using your head, hands, heart, and health to make our community a better place.



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District Club Day

District 4-H Club Days is Saturday, January 29th, 2022 at the Cloud County Community College in Concordia. This is an opportunity for any of our 4-H youth to show off many of their talents individually or as a club. If you have not yet registered get in touch with your club leader or your local extension office. Club leaders must have all the registration forms to your local RVD Extension Office by January 3rd!

Judging contests will be available for youth to participate in, which may qualify youth to compete at the State Contests! We will be having Photography, FCS, Crops, Horticulture, and Livestock Skill-a-thon Judging Contests available. These are great opportunities for our youth and will help increase their knowledge.

The District Club Day rule book and documents are available to assist you with planning your entry. You may pick a hard copy up in your RVD Extension Office or get ahold of a Program Manager and we can email them out to you.

When scheduling District Club Days is completed, we will email out schedules and any additional information as soon as possible, including sign-up sheets for being a door monitor. If you have any other questions get ahold of your local extension office.

Shooting Sports Update

Shooting Sports has officially started! With two safety meetings in the month of November, we will be having one more safety meeting in January if you are still interested or were not able to make it to the first two. You must attend a safety meeting to be in shooting sports.

Upcoming Shoots:

January 16 – 1:00 p.m. Safety Meeting and Practice Shoot

January 23 – 1:00 p.m. Practice Shoot

February 27 – 1:00 p.m. Practice Shoot

March 20 – 1:00 p.m. Practice Shoot

April 3 – 1:00 p.m. Practice Shoot

May 1 – 1:00 p.m. Practice or Fair Shoot

May 22 – 1:00 p.m. Fair Shoot

August 7 – Practice for Shot Gun State Qualifier (Time TBA)

August 13 – Shot Gun State Qualifier (Time TBA)

If a shoot needs to be rescheduled due to inclement weather, we will post on our River Valley District 4-H Facebook Page and an email will be sent out to all youth enrolled in shooting sports. If you have any questions, please contact your local Program Manager.

Winter Spectacular-RVD Rabbit Show

The River Valley District Rabbit Club is hosting their annual Winter Spectacular 4-H Rabbit Show on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at the National Guard Armory in Marysville, KS. (306 Veterans Memorial Drive, Marysville, KS) All 4-H youth interested in the rabbit project are welcome and encouraged to attend.

On the day of the show, doors will open at 7:30 am, and the show will start at 9:00 am. Contests will include Judging, Breed ID, and Showmanship. Cost per regular entry will be \$3.50 and for fur entry it will be \$1.50. Entries may be completed by emailing Steven Wright at stevenwjedi@gmail.com. ALL entries are due by 8:30 am on January 15th.

David Kroenke, ARBA Rabbit Judge is scheduled to judge the Rabbit Show. Come on out and watch the rabbit show, grab lunch at the concession stand, or take part in the raffle. For more information, please contact Steven Wright at stevenwjedi@gmail.com or 785-265-3019.

Jr. Leader Trip is Back

We are back on schedule for a Jr. Leader Trip in August 2022. Due to COVID, we were unable to have our 2021 Jr. Leader Trip. We are excited to have the planning under way and hopeful to have a safe 2022 trip. All high school aged 4-H'ers enrolled in the Leadership project are eligible to sign-up. Please watch your emails for more information.

Introducing 5H

River Valley 4-H is excited to announce a new partnership with Meadowlark Hospice. Our two organizations are developing a new program called 5H which stands for Head, Heart, Hands, Health, and Hospice. Our mission is to provide indirect monthly community service to support Meadowlark Hospice staff, adult volunteers, and patients. This provides a great opportunity to educate our 4-H youth about Hospice care. 5H service will be completed by 4-H'ers in the River Valley District.

Community service activities will begin in January 2022. 4-H groups such as local clubs, Ambassadors, Jr. Leaders, etc. will have the opportunity to volunteer for 5H. Monthly activities may include community services such as Valentine's Day cards, May Day baskets, and Christmas ornaments. Once the 4-H youth has completed the community service, it will be distributed to Meadowlark Hospice.



The River Valley District is excited to welcome Meadowlark Hospice into our 4-H family. We are eager to get started with 5H and to see all the community service our 4-H'ers do in the future.

If you are interested in volunteering with 5H, or have any questions, please contact Macy Hynek, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent, at 785-527-5084 or mhynek@ksu.edu.

Jr. Producer Day

The 2022 Kansas Junior Producer Days will be back in-person this March. The events will be hosted in Weber Hall on the K-State campus in Manhattan. Youth, Volunteers, and Extension Agents are invited to attend and learn about a variety of topic related to the project. Sessions will include selection, nutrition, meat science, reproduction, fitting and grooming, daily care, and showmanship, plus more.

Junior Beef Producer Day

Saturday, March 5, 2022

Junior Sheep Producer Day

Saturday, March 19, 2022

An instructor led YQCA training will be offered as an optional class at the end of the day during both events. T-Shirts will be provided to youth and adults who sign-up before the deadline. Flyer and registration details are coming soon. Please watch for emails and Facebook posts with that information.

Citizenship in Action

Are you interested in seeing how the Kansas legislative process works? Are you 13-18 years old? If so, consider going to Topeka, KS for the Citizenship In Action event. It will be held Sunday, February 20th —Monday, February 21st so check those dates on your busy calendar. The purpose of this event is for Kansas youth to know their voice and learn how participation in decision-making can make a difference. You could have the opportunity to meet with House Representatives and Senators from your area, get to visit the Kansas Capital and watch the session. The 4-H staff will be providing transportation to the 2022 CIA. Watch for more information on this in your email when the state 4-H office releases the details .

Regional 4-H Club Day

Regional 4-H Club Day will be on Saturday, March 26th, 2022 at the Clay Center Community High School in Clay Center.

If you receive a Top Purple in an eligible division at River Valley District 4-H Club Day, you may compete at the Regional 4-H Club Day. If you are eligible to compete, you will be contacted by your local RVED office after January 29, 2022.

Regional Club Day entries will be due to our offices by Monday, March 7th, 2022.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals-YQCA

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals, YQCA, is the livestock quality assurance program that is required to sell livestock in the premium auction at your local county fair and to participate in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive or the Kansas Jr. Livestock Show. A current and valid Youth PQA Certification will be accepted until they expire.

YQCA offers in-person and online training for youth 8-18. Youth 4-H age 7 must attend an in-person training. The in-person training is \$3 per youth while the online course is \$12 per youth. You may participate in any YQCA trainings that the district offers.

YQCA offers a test-out option only for youth 12 and 15. The training must be completed online and pay for the multiple years they are testing out of.

Mark these dates on your calendar for the in-person training in the River Valley District!

Monday, March 14 th	5:30 p.m.	Fairgrounds – Commercial Building	Concordia
Monday, April 18 th	7:00 p.m.	Fairgrounds – South Exhibit Building	Washington
Saturday, May 7 th	10:30 a.m.	Fairgrounds – 4-H Building	Belleville
Thursday, June 2 nd	5:30 p.m.	Fairgrounds- 4-H Conference Center	Clay Center

An email will be sent out in January regarding how to register for in-person or online training, and more details on the test out options for the qualified youth. If you have any questions, contact Macy, 4-H Agent at 785-527-5084.

Discovery Days

Oh, now here is a state 4-H event that every 4-H member from 13 – 18 years old should try!!! This year, Discovery Days will be held June 1-3 on the Kansas State University campus. Get a taste of dorm living for a few days, while meeting other youth across the state of Kansas. You will listen to some keynote speakers, attend some mini classes that you pick when registering, get to taste some Call Hall ice cream maybe too.

The State 4-H staff are busy planning this years Discovery Day, by searching for instructors and developing classes that will be offered. Be watching your emails for more details on this state event in the coming months.

RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT FAIR DATES

Fair	Dates	Location
Cloud County	July 5 th - 9 th	Concordia, KS
Clay County	July 19 th – 23 rd	Clay Center, KS
Washington County	July 19 th – 23 rd	Washington, KS
NCK Free Fair (Republic Co)	August 2 nd – 6 th	Belleville, KS

Be watching in future newsletters, for more information on pre-fair dates!

Livestock Weigh In Dates

Mark your calendars now for Livestock weigh-in and tagging.

BEEF

County	Date	Time	Place
Clay	Sat, March 12 th	9:00 am – 11:00 am	Salava Vet Clinic
Washington	Sat, March 12 th	9:00 am – 11:00 am	Animal Health Center
Republic	Sun, March 20 th	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Belleville 81 Livestock
Cloud	Sun, March 20 th	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Cloud Co Fairgrounds

Goat, Sheep, and Swine

County	Date	Time	Place
Washington	Mon, April 18 th	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Washington Co Fairground
Cloud	Tues, April 26 th	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Cloud Co Fairgrounds
Clay	Thurs, April 28 th	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Clay Co Fairground
Republic	Sat, May 7 th	9:00 am – 10:00 am	NCK Fairgrounds

NELE

Kansas 4-H is Falling into Leadership at the annual Northeast Leadership Event (NELE). This event is for 4-H member ages 12 – 18. NELE 2021 was held at Rock Spring Ranch on Saturday, October 16th. The River Valley District had 6 youth attend workshops and team building activities to help prepare them to be the leaders of tomorrow.



(Left to Right): Slade Griffiths, Chayla Maichel, Ryan McClure, Chesnie Dickinson, Matthew Paillet, and Zachary Piroutek

National Congress

The 100th National Congress was held during the Thanksgiving weekend in Atlanta Georgia. This is a National 4-H event where more than 800 delegates come from throughout the United States and its territories. This event is a mix of educational, service, and recreational opportunities. The River Valley District was honored that four of our 4-H members took advantage of this opportunity.

Cole Meyer – Washington Co member of Happy Workers 4-H Club was the Kansas State Dairy KAP winner for the 2019-2020 which earned him a trip slot.

Key Award winners from 2019-2020 that are interested in attending National Congress are entered into the Standard of Excellence or Centennial drawing. Seven youth are randomly drawn by the State 4-H Office and offered the opportunity to attend. River Valley District was honored to hear that **Maggie Sleichter** from Clay County, **Blake Aurand**, and **Terin Rundus** from Republic County names were drawn.

The delegates listened to Motivational Speakers, attended workshops designed to develop leadership skills, A Service-Learning Experience with hands-on service projects like sorting books for libraries and cleanup up the City of Atlanta Park, and tours/recreational opportunities throughout Atlanta, like the Martin Luther King Center for Non-Violent Change, Atlanta History Center, Georgia Aquarium, and the World of Coco-Cola. They even enjoyed the culture night and ate food from all over the world.

As they headed out to clean up a park on a cold chilly day, the Tennessee 4-H State Program Leader stated, “Today is not about you, your community service project is not for you; it is for the City of Atlanta and the people that live here.” The kids saw the need for this growing experience, and it will be something that will always be remembered.

When asked if you would recommend this trip to others, Terin stated

“This trip was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity! 4-H at the county level was always fun for me; I did it with people I had always known and was successful, but 4-H at the National level is a different side of 4-H. The opportunity to travel to Atlanta to be with likeminded, overly involved, driven leaders is an eye-opening experience. The people that I met will forever be some of my best friends.”

Hutchinson Community College Winter Classic

Hutchinson Community College offered a judging contest in Lyons, KS on December 10th. Judging contests are a great way for youth to grow as an individual and learn how to evaluate breeding and market animals. Our 4-Her’s had the opportunity to judge 10 classes of swine, beef, meat goats, and sheep with 1 class of questions. Congratulations to all the River Valley District participants.



Back Row (Left to Right): Dawson Strunk, Megan Barr, Chesnie Dickinson, Taley Murdock, Elizabeth Wright

Front Row (Left to Right): Mark Paillet, Witt Keesecker, Lee Lacy, Seth Lacy, Grace Demars, Noah Demars

Key Award Winners

What is the Key Award, you might be thinking? It is one of the highest honors awarded to 4-H members across the State of Kansas. The applicant must have met the basic 3 requirements.

1. Passed 16th birthday by January 1 of the current year.
2. Completed four or more years of 4-H work.
3. Enrolled in 4-H Leadership four or more years.

Also, must meet 9 of the 11 other requirements on the application. These need to highlight 4-H related events, activities and achievements accomplished within the 4-H club, county/district, region, or state.

Like all member achievement pins, a member should look over the key application early so you know what you need to achieve. They can be found on our River Valley District website at <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/awards.html>

Congratulations goes out to these 4-H members that received their Key Award during the Achievement Day Celebrations held in November.

CLAY COUNTY

Washington Headliners

Reece Geer

Lane Musselman

REPUBLIC COUNTY

Republic Pioneers

Paisley Benne

Sherice Frasier

Andrew Hubert

Sherdahl Boosters

Leah Benne

CLOUD COUNTY

None

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Happy Spirit

Madison Bruna

Happy Workers

Cole Meyer

4-H Project Award Deadline

If you were a Senior Division Project Winner at your Achievement Celebration—you qualify to go to the Kansas NE Area Regional 4-H Project Award Screening, Make any corrections to your project record and refer to <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/regionalscreening.html> for the helpful resources to prepare your cover letter and resume. These are due to your local extension office no later than Tuesday, **January 18th, 2022**. Good Luck!

Building Blocks of Babysitting to Be Held in March

Whether it's just for one evening or the entire summer, being a babysitter is a great opportunity, but caring for a child is also a very big responsibility. The River Valley Extension District is excited to bring back "Building Blocks of Babysitting" so you can build a foundation to be the best babysitter possible.

Topics covered will include ages and stages of children, basic first aid and emergency procedures, activity ideas, healthy snacks and meals, and more!

Building Blocks of Babysitting is for youth that are currently in 5th – 8th grade and will be held in all four counties during Spring Break.

More details, including dates, locations, and registration process will be released in late January.

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
JANUARY			
1/03		Club Day Entries Due	District Extension Offices
1/09	2:30-4:30 pm	Hungry Robo Challenge	Clyde, KS
1/09		Horse Panorama Registration Deadline	Online
1/15	9:00 a.m.	RVED Rabbit Show	Marysville, KS
1/16	1:00 pm	Final Shooting Sports Safety Meeting	Fairgrounds - Concordia
1/17	7:00 pm	Republic Co 4-H Council	4-H Building, Belleville
1/18		Project Record Due for NE Area Judging	District Extension Offices
1/23	1:00 pm	Shooting Sports – Practice Shoot	Fairgrounds – Concordia
1/23	1:00 pm	Kansas 4-H Day with K-State Women Basketball	Manhattan, KS
1/28-30		Kansas 4-H Horse Panorama	Rock Springs 4-H Center
1/29		District Club Days	Cloud Co Community College
1/31	7:30 pm	Cloud Co Council Meeting	Commercial Building – Concordia
FEBRUARY			
2/01		Citizenship – In – Action Registration Deadline	Online
2/07	6:30 pm	Clay Co Ambassador Meeting	Clay Co. Extension Office
2/07	7:00 pm	Clay Co Jr Leader Meeting	Clay Co Extension Office
2/07	7:45 pm	Clay Co Council Meeting	Clay Co Extension Office
2/14	7:30 pm	Washington Co 4-H Council	FNB Basement
2/20-21		Citizenship–In-Action	Topeka, KS
2/27	1:00 pm	Shooting Sports – Practice Shoot	Fairgrounds – Concordia
MARCH			
3/01		KS 4-H & Vanier Scholarship Due	Qualtrics Survey
3/05		KS Jr Beef Producer Day	Manhattan, KS
3/7		Regional Club Day Entries Due	Extension Offices
3/12	9-10:30 am	Beef Weigh-in – Clay Co	Salava Vet Clinic – Clay Center
3/12	9-11:00 am	Beef Weigh-in – Washington Co	Animal Center – Washington
3/14	5:30 pm	YQCA – Cloud County	Commercial Building - Concordia
3/19		KS Jr Sheep Producer Day	Manhattan, KS
3/20	1:00 pm	Shooting Sports – Practice Shoot	Fairgrounds – Concordia
3/20	2-4:00 pm	Beef Weigh-in – Republic Co	Belleville 81 Livestock
3/20	5:30-7:00 pm	Beef Weigh-in – Cloud Co	Cloud County Fairgrounds
3/25-27		Shooting Sports Instructor Training	Rock Springs 4-H Center
3/26		Regional 4-H Club Days	Clay Center, KS
3/28	7:30 pm	Cloud Co 4-H Council	Commercial Building - Concordia
APRIL			
4/03	1:00 pm	Shooting Sports – Practice Shoot	Fairgrounds – Concordia
4/04	6:30 pm	Clay Co Ambassador Meeting	Clay Co. Extension Office
4/04	7:00 pm	Clay Co Jr Leader Meeting	Clay Co. Extension Office

4/04	7:45 pm	Clay Co Council Meeting	Clay Co. Extension Office
4/11	7:30 p.m.	Washington Co 4-H Council	FNB Basement
4/18	5:30 - 6:30 pm	Goat, Sheep, Swine weigh-in/tagging	Washington Co Fairgrounds
4/18	7:00 pm	YQCA – Washington Co	First National Bank Basement
4/26	5:30 - 6:30 pm	Goat, Sheep, Swine weigh-in/tagging	Cloud Co Fairgrounds
4/28	5:30 - 6:30 pm	Goat, Sheep, Swine weigh-in/tagging	Clay Co Fairgrounds
MAY			
5/01		Horse ID's Certificate Deadline	Local Extension Office
5/01	1:00 pm	Shooting Sports–Practice Shoot/Fair Shoot #1	Fairgrounds – Concordia
5/07	9:00 – 10:00 am	Goat, Sheep, Swine weigh-in/tagging	Republic Co Fairgrounds
5/07	10:30 am	YQCA – Republic Co	Republic Co. Fairgrounds
5/22	1:00 pm	Shooting Sports–Fair Shoot #2	Fairgrounds – Concordia
5/30	7:30 p.m.	Cloud Co 4-H Council	Commercial Building - Concordia
JUNE			
6/1-2		Discovery Days	Manhattan, KS
6/02	5:30 pm	YQCA – Clay Co	Conference Center – Clay Center
6/17-18		Insect Spectacular	
JULY			
7/5-9		Cloud Co Fair	Fairgrounds – Concordia
7/19-23		Clay Co Fair	Fairgrounds - Clay Center
7/19-24		Washington Co Fair	Fairgrounds – Washington
AUGUST			
8/2-7		NCK Free Fair	Fairgrounds – Belleville
8/07		Practice Shoot – Shot Gun State Qualifier	Fairgrounds – Concordia
8/13		Shot Gun State Qualifier	Fairgrounds – Concordia
8/13		State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest	Manhattan, KS

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Address Service Requested

Going to College Next Year? — Scholarships Available

Are you a high school Senior or a college student planning to enroll in the fall 2022 semester? There are over 50 different 4-H scholarships available to help fund higher education. Visit this website, <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>, to learn more about these scholarship opportunities. All applications with supporting documents and references letters must be submitted online no later than March 1st, 2022. Some counties may have local scholarships available too. Make sure to be watching for more information as it becomes available.

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