



rivervalley.k-state.edu

4-H News

River Valley District

March &

April

2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Babysitting Clinic..... 6
- 4-H Camp..... 6
- CIA..... 3
- District Club Day..... 5
- Dog Project Meetings..... 3
- Horse Project 5
- Judging School Results..... 2
- School Enrichment 5
- 4-Her Spotlight 2
- State Project Record Judging . 4
- Tractor Safety.....7

2023 AIR Contest



Congratulations to our 2023 4-H AIR Contest Winners!

The AIR contest is held at River Valley 4-H District Club Day. The mock application, interview, and resume contest is designed to expose older 4-H members to the job application/interview process, as well as potential careers available in the River Valley District.

A huge thank you to our Washington County businesses who helped sponsor and judge this event, Washington Veterinary Clinic, Brick Street Financials - Thrivent, Blue Valley Insurance Agencies, and Bruna Implement Company.

- 1st Place – Bricen Benyshek, Cloud County, Hopewell Corners.
- 2nd Place – Ella Pachta, Republic County, Novy Munden
- 3rd Place – Kadence Henke, Republic County, Merry Meadowlarks
- 4th Place – Moyra Barnes, Cloud County, Hollis Hustlers

Project Entry Deadline

Be sure to check out your 4-H Online profile at <https://v2.4honline.com> before Monday, May 1st to make sure that your family is enrolled in the correct projects. Please double check that phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses are correct also.

The projects that youth are enrolled in as of May 2nd are the only projects they will be eligible to participate in at the county fair. Please don't put it off until after the deadline; after May 1st it will be too late.

If you need any assistance with your 4-H Online account or with adding or dropping a project, contact your local 4-H Program Manager.



K-STATE
Research and Extension

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

[Kansas4-H.org](https://kansas4-h.org)

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

Judging School Results

During our District Club Day on February 18th, 4-H youth had the opportunity to participate in five different judging schools: Crops, FCS, Horticulture, Livestock Skill-a-thon, and Photography. Judging schools are a great way to test your knowledge, mark off a pin application requirement, and to have fun while learning.

We are excited to announce the top 5 district-wide winners in each division.

Crops Senior Division

- 1 – Jonathan Wright
- 2 – Carissa Kolle
- 3 – Clayton Carlgren
- 3 – Ella Pachta
- 4 – Gabriel White
- 5 – Daegen DeGraff

Crops Inter. Division

- 1 – Gaige Wendland
- 1 – Grainger Wendland
- 2 – Brady Childs
- 3 – Gracen Wendland
- 4 – Michael Pachta
- 4 – Paul Pachta
- 5 – Natalie Sleichter
- 5 – McKennon Lehman

Crops Junior Division

- 1 – Roy Feight
- 2 – Dalton Klenda
- 3 – Charlie Strnad
- 4 – Ansley Kohmetscher
- 4 – Kate Wenzl
- 5 – Henley Tiemeyer

FCS Senior Division

- 1 – Moyra Barnes
- 2 – Bethany Demars
- 3 – Hope White
- 4 – Sarabeth Martin
- 5 – Janae Wolf
- 5 – Amber Kolle

FCS Inter. Division

- 1 – Jalyn Fahey
- 2 – Jenette Begnoche
- 2 – Gracie Speltz
- 3 – Rowan Alexander
- 3 – Evan Long
- 4 – Marci Taddiken
- 5 – Aubrie Rogge

FCS Junior Division

- 1 – Lexie Clark
- 2 – Lyndee Bray
- 3 – Abigail Hevelone
- 4 – Charlie Strnad
- 4 – Roy Feight
- 5 – Colt Hager

Horticulture Sr. Division

- 1 – John Freeborn
- 2 – Daegen DeGraff
- 3 – Frankie Snapp
- 4 – Broden Kolman
- 5 – Kylie Stone

Horticulture Inter. Division

- 1 – Warren Roady
- 2 – Grace Demars
- 3 – Daniel Freeborn
- 4 – Scouten Baker
- 5 – Kaydre Kolman

Horticulture Jr. Division

- 1 – Myla Junek
- 2 – Blakely Carlgren
- 3 – Dalton Klenda
- 3 – Roy Feight
- 3 – Madelyn Wilson
- 4 – Ansley Kohmetscher
- 4 – Lexie Clark
- 5 – Kate Wenzl
- 5 – Charlie Strnad

Livestock Senior Division

- 1 – Sean Morgan
- 2 – Taley Murdock
- 3 – Kylie Stone
- 4 – Gentry Hartman
- 5 – Jordi Fahey

Livestock Inter. Division

- 1 – Gaige Wendland
- 1 – Reed Kohmetscher
- 1 – Dawson Strunk
- 1 – Kayce Stone
- 2 – Gracen Wendland
- 3 – Anna Wilgers
- 3 – Clayton Strunk
- 4 – Dalton Strnad
- 5 – Lee Lacy

Livestock Junior Division

- 1 – Ansley Kohmetscher
- 1 – Roy Feight
- 2 – Paizlee Uffman
- 3 – Macee McDuffee
- 4 – Dierks Davis
- 4 – Isaac Wurtz
- 5 – Lexi Clark
- 5 – Dalton Klenda

Photography Sr. Division

- 1 – Joni Begnoche
- 2 – Gus Rice
- 3 – Payton Fahey
- 4 – Kady Toole
- 5 – Bricen Benyshek

Photography Inter. Division

- 1 – Mallie Brown
- 2 – Justus Uffman
- 3 – Emily Avery
- 4 – Ellyn Feight
- 5 – Scouten Baker

Photography Jr. Division

- 1 – Adam LeDuc
- 2 – Chase Sandman
- 3 – Brooklyn Robeson
- 3 – Lexie Clark
- 4 – Dessa Jedlicka
- 5 – Roy Feight

Dog Project Meetings

Going to Project Meetings are fun, but what's even better is when you can take your BEST friend that has four legs. Yes, if you want to attend Dog Care and Training classes they are taking place across the River Valley District. We have three awesome volunteers – Frankie McGee (Clay), Danny McReynolds (Cloud), and Tammy Wickstrum (Republic) that have scheduled the meetings listed below. You can choose whatever location that works best for your family.

Clay Center	Lincoln Elementary Playground	Starting every Sunday from June 4 – July 2	6:00 pm
Concordia	Cloud Co. Fairgrounds	Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26 Apr. 2, 16, 23, 30	5:00 pm
	Commercial Building	June 4, 11, 18, 25 July 2	
Cuba	Community Hall or City Park	Saturdays Mar. 4 and Mar. 18th	3:00 pm

River Valley District Dog Show - July 8th at Cloud County Fairgrounds Commercial Building

RVD 4-H'ers Travel to Topeka for Citizenship in Action

River Valley District Staff chaperoned 18 4-H'ers from across the district to Citizenship in Action in Topeka, KS on February 19th and 20th. This event allows older 4-H youth to see and learn how our Legislative process works as well as teaching our youth the importance of actively participating in government and voicing their opinions.

Sunday afternoon RVD 4-H'ers spent time working in groups with other 4-H'ers from across the state to discuss bills that they would later have the opportunity to defend and debate on the House Floor. Lisa Moser, the representative from District 106 joined the River Valley group for the banquet at the hotel. Following the banquet everyone traveled to the Capitol Building where it was time for the 4-H'ers to put into use what they had learned earlier in the afternoon with their group in the Senate and in the House of Representatives. To conclude the evening the 4-H'ers had the opportunity to go swimming, play games, and show off their dance moves in the Sunflower Ballroom.

The next morning everyone gathered for a buffet breakfast before returning to the Capitol Building to meet with their representatives and take a tour of the Capitol Building. The River Valley 4-H'ers were permitted to sit in on a hearing for a bill that Senator Elaine Bowers was defending. This was a fantastic learning experience and very cool to watch! To conclude the day a box lunch was provided before 4-H'ers headed home.

Citizenship In Action provides the opportunity for our 4-H'ers to watch the Legislative Process in action and provide our kids with a front row seat to how it all works. We hope that this experience will inspire these 4-H'ers to become involved and make a difference in their community, county, and state government!



RVD Sends Six 4-H Seniors on to State Project Record Judging

River Valley District had six 4-H'ers advance to be State Project Record Finalists in eight different project areas. To become a finalist, youth must receive champion standings at the county level and the Northeast area judging. This is quite the accomplishment to make it this far and we are so excited and proud of these individuals. They have put in a lot of hard work to get to this point, and we will anxiously await the results in April! We wish you all the best of luck at State Judging!

Congratulations to the following individuals for being named State Project Award Finalist!



Chayla Maichel

Clay County
Family Studies
11 year member
Lincoln Creek 4-H Club



Daegen DeGraff

Cloud County
Fiber Arts, Foods & Nutrition,
and Photography
9 year member
Hollis Hustlers 4-H Club



Amber Kolle

Washington County
Geology
9 year member
Linn Livewires 4-H Club



Clayton Carlgren

Republic County
Horse
11 year member
Eager Beavers 4-H Club



Aubrey Stahlman

Cloud County
Poultry
10 year member
Hopewell Corners 4-H Club



Zachary Piroutek

Republic County
Woodworking
11 year member
Discovery 4-H Club

State Horse Project Changes

In September 2022, the State 4-H Office released rule changes in the horse project for the 2023 4-H year. To read the complete rule changes please visit <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animal-science/horse/index.html>. We have ordered NEW updated Horse Show Rule books. Please go to your local Extension office to receive yours. Each book will be \$8 or we can print off certain pages from the website PDF. (Read pages 16, 17, & 18 in the Rule Book for complete information on “Entering the State Fair Horse Show”.

Qualifications to compete and the Kansas State Fair 4-H Horse Show:

1. Completed Horse ID Form—**Due June 1st**
Completed means: turned into Extension Office and Signed by Agent
2. Qualified in identified group below at a horse show.
Horse Shows include 4-H County Fair, NCK District Horse Show, Open Class, Local Associations, or AQHA, APHA, NRHA, etc.
Group 1 Halter, Showmanship
Group 2 Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Hack, Saddleseat Pleasure, Saddleseat Equitation
Group 3 Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail
Group 4 Ranch Rail, Ranch Pattern, Ranch Trail, Reining
Group 5 Barrels, Poles, Flags
3. Complete Kansas 4-H Equine Webinar Safety Episode AND take Quiz before completing the State Fair Entry.
4. 4-Hers should complete the Kansas 4-H State Fair Horse Qualifying Affidavit & upload it with their State Fair Entries. (This must be signed by the show secretary/manager of the show you qualified in.)
5. Complete Online Entry Information for the Kansas 4-H Horse Show via ShoWorks by **August 1st**

Level Testing:

Beginning in 2023, the Kansas 4-H Horse Achievement Levels will no longer be required to participate at that State Fair 4-H Horse Show

School Enrichment

Dear 4-H Parents and School Teachers,

K-State Research and Extension has a long tradition of providing school enrichment programs to classrooms across Kansas. The River Valley District is excited to provide these opportunities to school districts in Clay, Cloud, Republic, and Washington counties. We offer programs in areas of Agriculture, Foods and Nutrition, STEM, Horticulture, and much more. Our goal is to provide positive youth development with educational, hands-on activities. The River Valley District also offers custom programs. We have eight agents in the areas of Adult Development and Aging, Horticulture, Ag and Natural Resources, Community Vitality, Food and Nutrition, Livestock, Family Resources, and 4-H Youth Development.

We want to provide programming that will give our youth the opportunity to gain life skills that will last long after graduating high school. Our goal is to provide educational programming in a positive, fun and engaging way. Our 4-H Staff has the following programs as well as custom programs to fit your classroom needs.

Steve the Sphero	K—2nd Grade	1 Hour
Exploring Architecture	3rd—5th Grade	1 Hour
K’Nex Cars	3rd—5th Grade	1 Hour
Paleontology	K—2nd Grade	1 Hour
Dash Robots	3rd—8th Grade	1 Hour
Flight and Aerodynamics	4th—7th Grade	1 Hour

To learn more about these programs or other programs we offer, please contact Macy Hynek at mhynek@ksu.edu or 785-527-5084.

District Club Days

River Valley District held their yearly District Club Days event in Washington KS on Saturday February 18th at the Washington Co High School. This is an opportunity that gives 4-H members to tell others about their 4-H projects and demonstrate their talent and abilities by performing project talks, demonstrations, speeches, skits, music, dance, and parliamentary procedure. We were very pleased to see that our entries were up by 68 from last year. This shows that families are seeing the importance of 4-H by presenting in front of others is an important life skill. We have heard many teachers say they can tell which students are 4-H members in their classrooms because they have done some kind of speaking presentation before. We would like to say congratulations to each and every one of you, and wish the best of luck to the members that were awarded the top purples. Top purples will have the opportunity to advance on to Regional 4-H Days on March 25th in Clay Center, KS.

Building Blocks of Babysitting

Being a babysitter is a great opportunity, whether just for one evening or the entire summer, but caring for a child is also a very big responsibility. Attend “Building Blocks of Babysitting” so you have the foundation to be the best babysitter possible. Topics covered will include ages and stages of children, basic first aid and emergency procedures, activity ideas, and more! Kaitlin Moore, Macy Hynek, and Jordan Schuette, Extension Agents for the River Valley Extension District, will offer Building Blocks of Babysitting in each of the counties in the River Valley District to youth that have completed 6th grade and higher. The cost is \$10 to attend and is payable the day of the event! Pre-registration is open now. Please call your local extension office to register today.

Tuesday, March 14 9am-12pm
Clay Center - 4H Building
785-632-5335

Wednesday, March 15 12pm-3pm
Washington - FNB Basement
785-325-2121

Thursday, March 16 9am-12pm
Concordia - Distribution Center
785-243-8185

Friday, March 17 9am-12pm
Belleville - 4H Building
785-527-5084

4-H Camp at Rocksprings Ranch

Registration for 4-H Camp Summer 2023 is off and running at Rock Spring Ranch. There are different options and sessions available that will make it easy to find the perfect time to send your 4-H'er to camp. There are 3-night sessions and 5-night sessions for rising 3rd graders up to high school seniors. For 4-H'ers between 10th and 11th grade there are the Leaders In Training (LIT) sessions. High School Seniors can apply to be Counselors in Training (CIT) for 5- or 6-night sessions. If your 4-H'er is not quite ready to go off to camp all by themselves there are two Family Camp sessions that are offered in May and September. The first session of 4-H Camp begins on June 4th.

There are so many great memories and new friends to be made at 4-H Camp. Your 4-H'er is sure to have a great time at Rock Springs Ranch. To find more information and to register your 4-H'er or Family for camp you can follow this link <https://www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org/sessions-rates/> With the different camp sessions there are also different fees. When you complete your registration for camp you can select “Pay By May 1st” this allows people to make payments instead of having to pay in full when registering. Be sure to check with your 4-H Club and your Extension Office to see if there are any scholarships offered by your county to 4-H'ers who attend 4-H Camp.

River Valley Youth Spotlight

Submitted by: Bricen Benyshek

I am a Junior at Concordia Jr./Sr. High School, and enrolled in classes at Cloud County Community College and I just started my 11th year as a 4-H member. The years have flown by, but I have thoroughly enjoyed the ride. Two of my favorite projects have been Photography and Swine. This year I am excited to work with my dog Tilly and take her to dog obedience clinics.

4-H has given me numerous leadership experiences. This year I am the President of my club for the second year in a row, President of Cloud County 4-H Council and a second year 4-H ambassador. This past summer I was honored as the Cloud County Fair King. I have also participated on the State Photography and Family Consumer Science judging teams. These leadership roles that I have taken on while in 4-H have given me the skills I need to be prepared for higher education and life in general. It's taught me how to be an effective leader, develop confidence in myself and be a better public speaker. 4-H gives youth learning opportunities while teaching valuable life skills.

Along the way, I have met new people and worked with a variety of 4-Her's from across the district and state.

I have tried to live up to the 4-H motto “To Make the Best Better” in all that I take on in life. I strive to be a productive citizen that makes a positive impact on my community and to make the world a better place to live.



Safe Tractor & Machinery Operation Training

This program is a collaboration with K-State Research and Extension Districts: Post Rock, Midway, Cottonwood, CKD, and River Valley.

The National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program (NSTMOP) is designed for 14- and 15-year-olds seeking employment in production agriculture.

Core content areas include:

- Safety basics
- Agricultural hazards
- Tractors
- Connecting and using implements
- Materials handling

Students are certified after successfully passing a 50-question test at the training and doing both an operating skills test and a driving test administered by the employer.

2023 Course Dates & Locations

April 22nd – Russell, KS
Russell County 4-H
Building

April 29th – Beloit, KS
Carrico Implement

May 25th – Salina, KS
Great Plains Manufacturing

SIGN UP: Visit https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dbgroLW4gPx947c, scan QR code, or call an agent listed below!

MANUAL COST: \$15 – Pick up at your local Extension Office

BRING: Your course manual and enrollment form. Pay and pick up your course manual at your local Extension Office. Please pick up your manual PRIOR to the course.

Contacts:

Russell, KS - Craig Dinkel: cadinkel@ksu.edu or 785-472-4442
Alicia Boor: aboor@ksu.edu or 620-793-1910

Beloit, KS - Blaire Todd: blairet@ksu.edu or 785-738-3597
Kaitlyn Hildebrand: khildebrand@ksu.edu or 785-243-8185

Salina, KS – Jay Wisbey: jwisbey@ksu.edu or 785-309-5850
Justine Henderson: jwh04@ksu.edu or 785-392-2147

Scan to register!



K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means for communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the event contact **Justine Henderson** two weeks prior to the start of the event at (785-392-2147). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.



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

Address Service Requested

Weigh-In Dates and YQCA

Just a friendly reminder that Weigh-Ins and YQCA trainings are quickly approaching.

Beef Weigh In

Clay County	March 11th	9:00 am—11:00 am	Salva Vet Clinic
Washington County	March 11th	9:00 am—11:00 am	Animal Health Clinic
Republic County	March 19th	2:00 pm—4:00 pm	Belleville 81 Livestock Sale Barn
Cloud County	March 19th	5:30 pm—7:00 pm	Cloud County Fairgrounds

YQCA

Cloud County	March 13th	7:00 pm	Cloud County Fairgrounds
Washington County	April 19th	7:00 pm	Washington County Fairgrounds

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