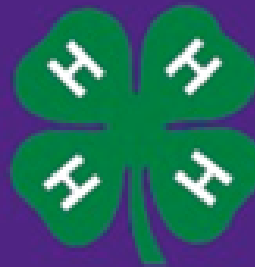


# Kansas



THE 4-HC PLOT

## 4-H NEWS

River Valley District

November-December, 2015 - 75th Edition

### JESSICA CLARK JOINS WASHINGTON OFFICE STAFF

Hello 4-H families! My name is Jessica Clark and I am the new District 4-H Program Manager in the Washington office. I officially started on October 5<sup>th</sup> and am very excited for the opportunity to be involved in the 4-H program again!

I am very proud of and grateful for my 4-H upbringing. I was raised in the western Kansas town of Sharon Springs, near the Colorado border (Wallace County). I was extremely involved in the 4-H program there for 10 years. My family then moved to Marysville the summer before my senior year of high school, where I completed my final year in 4-H and received my Key Award. I was involved in a wide variety of projects including Foods & Nutrition, Clothing Construction & Buy-manship, Arts & Crafts, Photography, Reading, Geology, Woodworking, and Leadership.

I attended Kansas State University where I studied Social Work and Family Studies & Human Services. I returned to Marysville and worked as the head photo center specialist at Walmart for 5 years. I married Will Clark from Blue Rapids in May 2014. He works at the Beattie Farmers Union Co-op, Blue Rapids branch. We have two children, Trevor, age 2 ½, and Lexie, who is almost 6 months old. For the past 3 years, I have been a stay-at-home mom. We currently live in Hanover. In my spare time, I enjoy baking, reading, watching movies, playing board and card games, and traveling to unique places & events within the great state of Kansas with my family.



I look forward to meeting and getting to know many of you as the new 4-H year begins! 4-H has definitely evolved over the years in the digital age and I am excited to learn the program anew. Feel free to stop by the Washington Extension Office, call me at 785-325-2121, or e-mail me at [jesserin@ksu.edu](mailto:jesserin@ksu.edu) with any questions, comments, or ideas. Together, let's continue "To Make the Best Better"!

### RE-ENROLLMENT REMINDER

Another new 4-H year has started! Please take the time to re-enroll your family in 4-H! "How to" links can be found on the River Valley District website at [www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h](http://www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h).

Under the "Join 4-H/Re-Enroll" tab, you will find the link to enroll on 4-H Online. There are also enrollment brochures for step-by-step instructions for first time 4-Hers and for re-enrolling 4-Hers.

This year, we hoped to have the bulk of 2016 enrollment completed by October 15<sup>th</sup>, so if you have not completed your enrollment, please do so at once. By the time you have received this newsletter, we have already started Shooting Sports! Unless the enrollment has been completed online, we won't know that your family plans to be in 4-H or what projects they are enrolling in.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact your local RVD Extension Office.



## STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Do you want to keep up with what is going on in 4-H in the River Valley District? We would like to reach out to as many people as possible so we ask that you check out our website at [www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h](http://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h). You can find a lot of information to read, forms to print off, and any upcoming events.

If you are a Facebook user, "Like" our page, River Valley 4-H. We post reminders of upcoming activities and events across the district.

Also, if your club does something they would like shared with others in the district, please send a photo and some information to your county program manager or to [river-valley4h@ksu.edu](mailto:river-valley4h@ksu.edu) to be shared on our Facebook page.

While some clubs have their own Facebook page as a means of communication with members, please remember to use our website and Facebook page to stay informed!



## ATTENTION SENIORS—SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The State 4-H Scholarship Application is due in your local RVD Office Monday, January 25, 2016. Reminder that the extension offices in our district close at 4:30pm.

4-Hers need to complete the scholarship application which can be found on our website at [www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h](http://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h) under Forms & Resources and Scholarships.

There are very specific instructions on the first page of the scholarship. It is important that these directions are followed. There are additional requirements for the listed specific scholarships.

You will need transcripts, letters of recommendation, and an agent's signature to complete your application, as well as the additional requirements.

Get started on your scholarships now! Don't wait till the last minute to complete your application!!

### Local Scholarships

There may be local scholarships available in your county. Check with your River Valley Extension District office to see what local scholarships are available and what applications and additional requirements are needed to apply!

## VOLUNTEER SCREENING

### Brand New Volunteers

A volunteer that is new to the River Valley District may get a volunteer application from the local extension office or from the River Valley Website ([www.rivervalley.ksu.edu](http://www.rivervalley.ksu.edu)) under the 4-H Youth Development page under Volunteers and Leaders. When completed, this application must be brought to your local extension office. A DCF form will be given to the volunteer for a background check and a short interview will be conducted. A 4-H Online account will need to be created and online orientation will also need to be completed. After all paperwork is finished it will be reviewed by a screening committee and volunteers will be appointed by the River Valley Extension Board. All new club leaders, project leaders, junior leaders, ambassadors and camp counselors need to complete this process.

### Appointed Volunteer Renewal Applications

The volunteer screening process requires that each year all volunteers appointed by the extension board complete a renewal application. The renewal application can be found on the River Valley Website or hard copies are available in the extension office. The renewal applications can be turned into your club leader or your home River Valley District extension office. A criminal background check will be conducted on each appointed volunteer every three years. Volunteers will receive a link to a website and a navigation guide to complete the online form.

## RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT 4-H AMBASSADORS

Would you like to become a 4-H Ambassador? River Valley District Ambassadors work together with a team of 4-Hers within their county and an adult advisor to develop a public information program to promote 4-H within their county and our district .

Ambassadors must be a high school freshman to the age of 18. Applications are available at any RVD extension office or online at [www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h](http://www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h) under Ambassadors & Jr. Leaders.

The deadline for applications is Tuesday December 1, 2015 to your local extension office. Ambassadors can apply for a one or two year term. All applications will be reviewed and then a time will be set to conduct interviews.

The State Ambassador Training is February 19-20, 2016 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Attendance is expected.

## SHOOTING SPORTS INFORMATION & SCHEDULE

All Shoots and Meetings will be held at the Cloud County Fairgrounds.

### Safety Meetings

4-Hers must attend one safety meeting before they can participate in a shoot. **ONE PARENT MUST ATTEND A SAFETY MEETING WITH THEIR CHILD.** For first year 4-Hers, instructors must be able to determine if they are physically able to do each discipline. Before you can participate in a shoot, you must have completed your online enrollment and be enrolled in the Shooting Sports project.

Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Safety Meeting – 2:00pm

Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Safety Meeting – 2:00pm

Following both safety meetings, there will be a shoot. However, youth must attend a safety meeting first.

### Shoots

Washington and Clay County 4-Hers will start at 2:00pm. Republic and Cloud County 4-Hers will start at 3:00pm.

<b>Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016</b>	<b>Shoot</b>
<b>Sunday, February, 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016</b>	<b>Shoot</b>
<b>Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016</b>	<b>Shoot</b>
<b>Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016</b>	<b>Shoot *</b>
<b>Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016</b>	<b>Shoot *</b>
<b>Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016</b>	<b>Fair Shoot</b>

**\*ALTERNATE DESIGNATED FAIR SHOOT DATES—see more information below!**

### Fair Shoot

To participate in the Fair Shoot, each 4-Her must complete four regular shoots prior to the Fair Shoot. If a member is unable to attend the June 5<sup>th</sup> Fair Shoot, we are giving them the option to designate Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> or Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. However, once a 4-Her has designated a Fair Shoot day, they will not be able to change that date.

In order to be eligible to be a county champion, 4-Hers are required to participate in the following at the Fair Shoot:

- Seniors must do four out of five disciplines.
- Juniors must do three out of four disciplines.

NOTE: If a 4-Her chooses to do all disciplines at the Fair Shoot, only their top three or four scores will be used per their age division. The lowest discipline score(s) will be dropped.

### Weather

If we have to cancel a shoot due to inclement weather, we will put an announcement on area radio stations, send an e-mail to all 4-H families with youth enrolled in Shooting Sports, and post it on the River Valley 4-H Facebook page.



### Fees

There is a one-time charge for participating in Shooting Sports, prices depending on which disciplines the 4-Her is participating in. These fees must be paid prior to youth participating in their first shoot.

- \$10 for Archery, BB, and Air Rifle**
- \$25 for Shotgun**
- \$10 for Small Bore Rifle**

### Additional Information

Youth must be completely enrolled on 4-H Online prior to their first shoot.

At each shoot, 4-Hers must sign in with the coordinator and receive their name badge. The name badge must be turned back in at the end of the shoot.

All River Valley 4-Hers are welcome to join in the Shooting Sports fun! Questions can be directed to your local River Valley Extension District office, John Forshee (Clay Center), Denise Swenson (Concordia) or Ronda Wilson, Shooting Sports Coordinator.

## ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATIONS

County Achievement Celebrations are coming up! We are proud of all the accomplishments our 4-Hers obtained this past year! Don't forget to join us to help celebrate!

- November 1 River Valley District Cloud County Achievement Celebration—Cloud County Fairgrounds, 5pm
- November 7 River Valley District Clay County Achievement Celebration—United Methodist Church, 6:30pm
- November 8 River Valley District Republic County Achievement Day—4-H Building, 2pm
- November 21 River Valley District Washington County Achievement Banquet—WS Co. High School, 6:30pm

## **4-H COUNCIL MEETINGS**

November, December, January

### **CLAY COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL**

Monday, December 7, 2015

7:45 P.M.

Extension Office Meeting Room

### **CLAY COUNTY JR. LEADERS**

Monday, December 7, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Extension Office Meeting Room

### **CLAY COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADORS**

Monday, December 7, 2015

6:30 P.M.

Extension Office Meeting Room

### **CLOUD COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL**

Monday, January 25, 2016

7:00 P.M.—Executive Board

7:30 P.M. — Council Meeting

Courthouse Meeting Room

### **REPUBLIC COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL**

Tuesday, January 11, 2016

7 P.M.

4-H Building

### **WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL**

Monday, December 14, 2015

7 P.M.

First National Bank, Washington



PLEASE REFER TO THE  
**4-H EVENTS DATE BOOK**  
FOR DATES OF MONTHLY MEETINGS

## **SHOOTING SPORTS FUNDRAISER**

The Cloud County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited is co-sponsoring a fundraiser for the River Valley 4-H Shooting Sports Program this year. Our program has been the beneficiary of funds from this group for the past couple of years. These funds have helped to offset the costs of our growing Shooting Sports Program. Two years ago the DU Chapter and our shooting sports members sold knife sets with the proceeds going into an endowment for the River Valley Shooting Sports with the Midway USA Foundation. Each year since then, we have received over \$1400 in earnings from that account to help support our program. The goal with this fundraiser is to continue to grow that endowment with the hopes of reducing or eliminating the costs families incur to participate in the shooting sports program.

Donations for the fundraiser are \$20 each. At the end of the fundraising period, each donor's name will be put into a drawing for a Winchester Model 70 Super Grade Rifle valued at \$1,200. The drawing will be held December 15th. Winners must be 18 years of age. Each 4-Her enrolled in the project should sell a minimum of one ticket. The top ticket sellers will receive the following awards:

Highest seller - \$30 off their Shooting Sports registration fees

2<sup>nd</sup> highest seller - \$20 off their Shooting Sports registration fees

3<sup>rd</sup> highest seller - \$10 off their Shooting Sports registration fees

Stop by your local Extension Office to pick up your tickets to sell. All ticket sales must be returned to your local Extension Office by December 1, 2015. Checks should be made payable to Ducks Unlimited. If you have questions, please contact John Forshee at the Clay Center office, Denise Swenson at the Concordia office, or Ronda Wilson, the River Valley District Shooting Sports Coordinator.

### **REMINDER!**

**RIVER VALLEY EXTENSION DISTRICT  
OFFICE HOURS**

**7:30AM-12:30PM**

**and**

**1:30PM-4:30PM**

## CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS

Want to take a road trip across the USA stopping to see Philadelphia, Gettysburg, the Liberty Bell and more with other 4-Hers? June 16th - 27th, 2016 are the dates for the 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus trip. This is a fantastic trip where you will meet, learn, share, and tour with youth from other states. River Valley District already have some youth signed up!

You will walk in places that have made history and places that are making news today. Visit Capitol Hill, government departments, historic sites, and memorials. Get a close-up view of the political process and meet with the Kansas Congressional and Senate delegations to discuss legislative issues. Workshops and assembly groups will discuss possible solutions to domestic and international problems and learn life skills.

This trip is open to responsible and mature youth ages 15-18 years of age by January 1, 2016. They must be able to demonstrate leadership and personal qualities of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. There are approximately 50 spots available, but it fills up fast! Registration is currently open and applications will be accepted until January 15, 2016 or until all spaces are filled. Applications are reviewed as they are received.

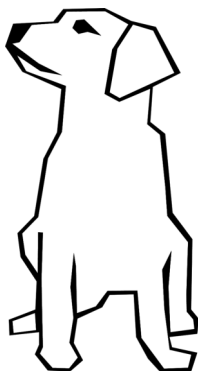
A \$250 nonrefundable deposit will complete your application. Total cost of the trip is \$1,625 and final payment is due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please go to the Kansas State 4-H website for more information at [www.kansas4-h.org](http://www.kansas4-h.org) and click on "4-H Events Registration" in the green box on the right hand side of the page.

## DOG PROJECT CLASSES

Are you considering enrolling in the dog project? Is this your first or tenth year in the dog project? Interested in just learning more about the dog project? Join Danny McReynolds and Megan Murdock to learn more about Obedience, Showmanship, and Rally and to practice with your dogs!

Dog classes will be held every Sunday at 5:00p.m at the Cloud County Fairgrounds Commercial Building beginning on Sunday, January 10, 2016.

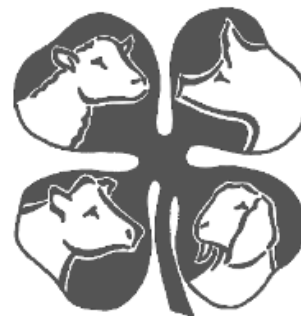
If you have any questions regarding the dog project or these classes, please contact Denise at the Concordia office to get in contact with Danny and Megan!



## SPRING WEIGH IN DATES

Spring will be here before we know it and that means that livestock will be ready for weigh-in!

**No tagging will be allowed to be done at home this year for any species.**



### 2016 Beef Weigh-In:

March 6	Belleville, 81 Livestock, 2-4pm
March 6	Concordia, Fairgrounds, 5:30-6pm
March 12	Washington, Animal Health Center, 9-10:30am
March 12	Clay Center, Salava Vet Clinic, 9-10am

### 2016 Sheep, Swine, and Goat Weigh-In:

April 18	Concordia, Fairgrounds, 4-6pm
April 20	Washington, Fairgrounds, 4-6pm
May 4	Clay Center, Fairgrounds, 4-6pm
May 7	Belleville, Fairgrounds, 9-10:30am

## HORSE CARE 101

The 4th Annual Kansas Horse Council Educational Seminar, Horse Care 101, will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 7:45am-4:30pm at Weber Arena on the K-State Campus. Special speaker will be Casy Winn, K-State Rodeo Coach.

The schedule includes: A live demonstration on Ground Manners, Basic Communication, and Training Techniques featuring Casy Winn. Dr. Elizabeth Santchi will present information on radiographs and lameness detection. Hands on labs and activities for young attendees will be held in the afternoon. A panel discussion including representatives from the Intercollegiate Horse Show Assn., US Pony Club, North American Trail Riding Conf., Kansas Hunter/Jumper Assoc., and the Ft. Leavenworth Hunt Club will be available to answer questions.

Tickets include lunch, refreshment breaks, and a welcome bag.

Registration fees: Students-\$15, Adults-\$30. To register or for more information call: 785-532-4528 or email: [vmce@vet.k-state.edu](mailto:vmce@vet.k-state.edu) **Must be registered by Nov.6th. Space is limited! Payment must be received to secure a spot. No onsite or day-of registrations. No exceptions!**

## REVIEW 2015-2016 REQUIREMENTS NOW

Now is the time to check what requirements you need to fulfill during this new 4-H year, whether it is on a Pin Application, the Fair Livestock Premium Sale/Project Auction Requirements form or your 4-H club seal report.

As the Achievement Celebrations in each county are soon approaching, you will receive your achievement pin you earned in the 4-H 2014-15 year for attending a majority of your club meetings, presenting a speaking presentation (Show & Share, Project talk, or Demo/Illus Talk) at a meeting, exhibiting a project, and completing your 4-H record book plus any additional requirements per application.

There are nine different pins from the Membership pin to the Gold Guard pin you can achieve through your 4-H years, along with the Key Award, the highest 4-H award.

All pin applications, Sale/Auction Requirement forms, and the Club Seal Report can be found on our website at [www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h](http://www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h) or you may obtain these forms from your local extension office.

## DISTRICT CLUB DAY

District Club Day has been set for Saturday, February 27th, 2016 at Republic County High School in Belleville. Entries for District Club Day will be due to your local extension office by Wednesday, January 27th, 2016. Star looking ahead and planning your entries now! If you have any questions, contact your local extension office.



## 4-H EVENTS & DATE BOOK

The River Valley District 4-H Events & Date Book has been added to the website at [www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h](http://www.rivervalley.ksu.edu/4-h) under the Join 4-H/Re-Enrollment tab. You may also obtain a book at your local extension office. This book will help all families look ahead over the next year in 4-H and plan!

## DISTRICT 4-H E-MAIL

Do you have a 4-H question but not sure who to contact? The River Valley District now has a 4-H e-mail address! You may contact us at [rivervalley4H@ksu.edu](mailto:rivervalley4H@ksu.edu) with any questions, concerns, or comments!

Also, please send pictures and updates of what your club is doing in the River Valley District so we can share it on our Facebook page!

## PIN APPLICATIONS

There has been some confusion on pin applications in the past and the 4-H staff has continued to have similar questions this year.

1. These pin applications are for 4-H participation. Please keep this in mind when filling out your application. While we are proud that our 4-H members participate in other organizations, events and activities that you do with those other organizations will not count towards your 4-H pin application.
2. Other than a few exceptions, you do not have to get your pins in any specific order. There are a few pin applications that a requirement is another pin so obviously you will need that specific pin before applying for these pins.
3. Pin Applications and the Key Award are two separate awards that you can receive. Therefore, you are able to receive a pin and the Key Award the same year.
4. On the pin applications where a requirement is recognition at Achievement Celebration, this must be individual recognition. While you are a part of your club's achievements, if your club is recognized, you are not able to use this for your personal pin application.

We understand that these pin applications may be confusing at times so we stress that you contact your local 4-H staff with questions! We are here to help!

## DISTRICT 4-H STAFF CONTACT INFO

Monica Thayer	4-H Youth Development Agent
<a href="mailto:mthayer@ksu.edu">mthayer@ksu.edu</a>	785-325-2121
Denise Swenson	4-H Program Manager
<a href="mailto:dswenson@ksu.edu">dswenson@ksu.edu</a>	785-243-8185
Diane Kussman	4-H Program Manager
<a href="mailto:dkussman@ksu.edu">dkussman@ksu.edu</a>	785-527-5084
Jessica Clark	4-H Program Manager
<a href="mailto:jesserin@ksu.edu">jesserin@ksu.edu</a>	785-325-2121
Karen Langvardt	4-H Program Manager
<a href="mailto:klangvar@ksu.edu">klangvar@ksu.edu</a>	785-632-5335

## WS COUNTY ACHIEVEMENT BANQUET

Any Washington County Community Leader, Project Leader, Historian, 4-H Member or Parent that has photos of any 4-H group or activity, please email them to Ambassador, Claire Ohlde, for the Achievement Banquet Presentation to [purplecat\\_1999@hotmail.com](mailto:purplecat_1999@hotmail.com).



## 4-H CALENDAR OF EVENTS RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT



### NOVEMBER:

- 1 4-H Club Financial Reviews due to Extension Office
- 1 River Valley District Cloud County Achievement-Cloud County Fairgrounds, 5pm
- 7 River Valley District Clay County Achievement Celebration-United Methodist Church, 6:30pm
- 8 River Valley District Republic County Achievement Day-4-H Building, 2pm
- 20-22 KYLF & KVF, Rock Springs
- 21 River Valley District Washington County Achievement Banquet– WS Co. High School, 6:30pm

### DECEMBER:

- 1 River Valley District Ambassador Applications Due
- 7 Clay County River Valley 4-H Ambassadors 6:30pm, Jr. Leaders 7pm, Council 7:45pm
- 14 Washington County River Valley 4-H Council, 7pm, First National Bank

### JANUARY: 2016

- 8 Northeast Area KAP Screening, Pottorf Hall, Manhattan
- 11 Republic County River Valley 4-H Council, 7pm, 4-H Building
- 15 Citizenship in Action registration due
- 15 Citizenship Washington Focus registration due
- 24-25 4-H Horse Panorama, Rock Springs
- 25 State 4-H Scholarship Applications due to local extension offices
- 25 Viola Bauer, 4-H Development Fund, and Rundle Scholarships Due to Clay Center River Valley Office
- 27 River Valley District Club Day Entries Due to local offices
- 30-Feb.1 State 4-H Dog Judging Training
- 31 NEA Leadership Event, 8am to 5pm

### FEBRUARY:

- 1 Clay County River Valley 4-H Ambassadors 6:30pm, Jr. Leaders 7pm, Council 7:45pm
- 8 Washington County River Valley 4-H Council, 7pm, First National Bank
- 15-16 Citizenship in Action, Topeka
- 19-20 Kansas 4-H Ambassador Training, Rock Springs
- 27 River Valley District Club Day, Republic County High School

### MARCH:

- 6 Beef Weigh In-Belleville, 81 Livestock, 2-4pm
- 6 Beef Weigh In-Concordia, Fairgrounds, 5:30-6pm
- 8 Regional Club Day Entries Due
- 12 Beef Weigh In-Washington, Animal Health Center, 9-10:30am
- 12 Beef Weigh In-Clay Center, Salava Vet Clinic, 9-10am
- 19 Regional 4-H Club Day, Clay Center Community High School
- 28 Cloud County River Valley 4-H Council, Courthouse Meeting Room, 7:30pm

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact John Forshee, Director, River Valley Extension District #4, 322 Grant Avenue, Clay Center, KS 67432. Phone 785-632-5335.



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Research and Extension

**River Valley 4-H**



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**Belleville Office – Republic County**

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Belleville, KS 66935-2242  
785-527-5084

**Clay Center Office – Clay County**

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

**Concordia Office – Cloud County**

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

**Washington Office – Washington County**

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

[RiverValley4H@ksu.edu](mailto:RiverValley4H@ksu.edu)

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