



rivervalley.k-state.edu

4-H News

River Valley District

**March &
April
2024**

Congratulations to Our 2024 AIR Contest Winners

The AIR Contest is held each year at the River Valley District 4-H Club Day. The contest consists of a mock application, interview, and resume, and it introduces older 4-H members to the process of joining the workforce. This contest also gives youth an idea of potential career opportunities available in the River Valley District.

We would like to give a huge thank you to our Republic County businesses who helped sponsor and judge this event: United Bank & Trust, Polansky Seed, Inc., and Central Valley Ag.

1st Place – Kadence Henke, Republic County, Merry Meadowlarks

2nd Place – Hayden Englert, Washington County, Farmington

3rd Place – Alessia Carrales, Clay County, Lincoln Creek

4th Place – Chesnie Dickinson, Republic County, Eager Beavers

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 4-H Camp 5
- Citizenship In Action 3
- Dog Project Meetings..... 3
- Jr Beef Day 6
- Judging School Results..... 2
- Mock Dog Shows..... 5
- Project Leaders 6
- Robotics Competition 4
- Safe Sitter Course..... 6
- State Project Record Judging . 4
- Tractor Safety Course 7
- Volunteers 6
- Weigh Ins and YQCA 4



Project Entry Deadline

The deadline to have all projects entered into 4-H Online is quickly approaching. Be sure to check your 4-H Online Profile at <https://v2.4honline.com> before Wednesday, May 1st, 2024, to make sure that you are enrolled in all the correct projects. Projects that youth are enrolled in before May 2nd are the only projects that 4-Hers are allowed to participate in at your local county fair. It is always to better to have a project listed that you may want to participate in. Don't put it off until it is too late.

If you would like help with your 4-H Online account, adding, dropping or fixing addresses, contact your local 4-H Program Manager today.



K-STATE
Research and Extension

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

Kansas4-H.org

Judging School Results

During our District Club Day on February 10th, 4-H youth had the opportunity to participate in five different judging schools: Crops, Family & Consumer Sciences, Horticulture, Livestock Skill-a-Thon, and Photography. Judging schools are a great way to test your knowledge, mark off a pin application requirement, and have fun while learning!

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

Crops Sr. Division

- 1 – Paul Pachta
- 2 – Dawson Strunk
- 3 – Clayton Carlgren
- 4 – Sierra Stewart
- 5 – Mark Paillet

Crops Int. Division

- 1 – Michael Pachta
- 2 – Jacob Pachta
- 3 – Gaige Wendland
- 4 – Brady Childs
- 5 – Ruth Feight

Crops Jr. Division

- 1 – Wil Lehmann
- 2 – Cayce Hacker
- 3 – Gracie Speltz
- 3 – Roy Feight
- 5 – Lauren Carrales

FCS Sr. Division

- 1 – Bethany Demars
- 2 – Hope White
- 3 – Sarabeth Martin
- 4 – Raelynn Moore
- 5 – Ellyn Feight

FCS Int. Division

- 1 – Clara Wurtz
- 1 – Cedric Kyner
- 2 – Trevor Clark
- 3 – Jenner Lapo
- 3 – Rowan Alexander

FCS Jr. Division

- 1 – Lexie Clark
- 2 – Abby Hevelone
- 3 – Ansley Kohmetscher
- 4 – Cayce Hacker
- 4 – Gaines Wendland

Horticulture Sr. Division

- 1 – Daegen DeGraff
- 2 – Natalie Sleichter
- 3 – Gentry Hartman
- 4 – Megan Barr
- 5 – Broden Kolman

Horticulture Int. Division

- 1 – Eugene Lesslie
- 2 – Trinity Sugars
- 3 – Kade Showers
- 4 – Aurora Lesslie
- 4 – Myla Junek
- 4 – Brielle Wolf

Horticulture Jr. Division

- 1 – Ash Herberly
- 2 – Liam Englert
- 3 – Noah Hatesohl
- 3 – Dierks Davis
- 5 – Lauren Carrales

Livestock Sr. Division

- 1 – Emma Strnad
- 2 – Chesnie Dickinson
- 3 – Sean Morgan
- 4 – Gentry Hartman
- 5 – Natalie Sleichter

Livestock Int. Division

- 1 – Macee McDuffee
- 2 – Cooper Schwartz
- 2 – Gunnar Nelson
- 4 – Grainger Wendland
- 5 – Grace Demars
- 5 – Colt Strnad

Livestock Jr. Division

- 1 – Roy Feight
- 2 – Noah Hatesohl
- 3 – Bo Doll
- 3 – Lanie Doll
- 5 – Hagen Nelson
- 5 – Charlotte Valek

Photography Sr. Division

- 1 – Wyatt Sulanka
- 2 – Ava Sedlacek
- 3 – Ellyn Feight
- 3 – Stetson Gray
- 5 – Gillian Minge

Photography Int. Division

- 1 – Cedric Kyner
- 2 – Audrie Minge
- 3 – Hannah Cott
- 4 – Brandy Sulanka
- 5 – Owen Pfizenmaier

Photography Jr. Division

- 1 – Lexie Clark
- 2 – Carlie Heitman
- 3 – Abby Hevelone
- 4 – Trisha Minge
- 5 – Brooklyn Schaefer

Dog Project Meetings

Dog Project Meetings are taking place all over the River Valley District. We have several volunteers that will be leading practices, in Clay, Cloud, and Republic Counties over the next couple of months. You can choose whatever practice you would like to attend. Have Fun!

Concordia	Cloud Co. Fairgrounds Commercial Building 5:00 pm	March 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th April 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th June 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th
Clay Center	Clay County Event Center 6:00 pm	March 24 th April 21 st May 19 th June 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 30 th
Belleville	Republic Co. 4-H Building 4:00 pm	March 3 rd , 17 th , 24 th April 7 th , 21 st , 28 th May 5 th , 19 th , 26 th June 2 nd , 16 th , 23 rd
Dog Show: July 6th, 2024		

Citizenship in Action

River Valley District Staff chaperoned 12 River Valley District, one Chisolm Trail, and one Post Rock District 4-Her to Citizenship in Action (CIA) in Topeka on February 18th and 19th. CIA allows 4-Hers from the 4-H age of 13-18 (as of January 1 of the current year) to see and learn how the legislative process works as well as teach the youth the importance of actively participating in government and voicing their opinions.

Sunday afternoon the our group spent time working with 4-H'ers from across the state to discuss a House bill, which is relating to the start time of the beginning of the school year. They later had the opportunity to defend and debate on the house floor. Lisa Moser, the representative from District 106, joined the group for the banquet at the hotel. Following the banquet everyone traveled to the Capitol Building where it was time for the 4-Hers 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 end the night, the 4-Hers then had the chance to play games and show off their dance moves.

Monday morning, we met with our representatives and took a tour of the Capitol Building. We met with three Representatives from our District. 4-Hers had the opportunity to learn what was done on a daily basis and ask any questions they may have. The group also learned about the opportunity to be a Page in the Kansas Legislature. To experience this opportunity you would need to contact your local legislative representative and submit your name as a candidate.



State Project Record Judging

River Valley District will be sending one 4-H'er on to the State Project Record Judging. Chesnie Dickinson from Republic County was selected as the Northeast Region Meat Goat Project Record Winner.

Chesnie is an 11-year member of the Eager Beavers 4-H Club.

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 Chesnie. She has put in a lot of hard work to get to this point, and we will anxiously await to hear the results in April!

Chesnie, we wish you the best of luck at State Judging!



Robotics Competition

On February 17th, Robotics project members from across the River Valley District competed in a robotics competition in Palmer.

Our advanced level youth created EV-3 car robots, and our intermediate level youth utilized the Dash and Cue robots. Each of these groups had a goal to “plant” a field by attaching dry erase markers to their robots and programming them to move in the most efficient way possible. Participants started each round with \$10 and were able to earn more money based on their speed and planting coverage. Youth could also lose money by hitting fences and pivots as their robot completed its course. After 3 rounds, teams added up their money, and the results were as follows:

Intermediate: 1st – Lexie Clark, 2nd – Corban Craig & Eli Sinn, 3rd – Emmett Sinn, 4th – Trevor Clark

Senior: 1st – Justus Uffman, 2nd – Colton Doll & Evan Long, 3rd – Riley Boyer & Brady Childs, 4th – Frankie Ryser, 5th – Ethan Mosher

We want to give a huge thank you to Trevor Heitman and Dan Peters for volunteering so much of their time and talents to help this group. We appreciate your dedication to our River Valley 4-H youth!

Weigh-In Dates and YQCA

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

Goat, Sheep, and Swine Weigh In:

Clay County	April 23rd	5:30 – 6:30 pm	Clay Co Fairgrounds
Cloud County	April 25th	5:30 – 6:30 pm	Cloud Co Fairgrounds
Republic County	May 11th	9:00 – 10:30 am	NCK Free Fairgrounds
Washington County	April 15th	5:30 – 6:30 pm	Washington Co Fairgrounds

YQCA:

Clay County	June 6th	5:30 pm
Cloud County	March 11th	5:30 pm
Republic County	May 11th	11:00 am
Washington County	April 15th	7:00 pm

You can attend the weigh in or YQCA in any of the four counties that fits best into your schedule.

4-H Camp at Rock Springs

Attention Campers! Registration for 4-H Camp Summer 2024 is open and waiting for you to register for a fun filled time at Rock Springs Ranch.

There are different options and sessions available that will make it easy to find the perfect time to visit Rock Springs. There are 3-night sessions and 5-night sessions for turning 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. Two Family Camp sessions are offered in May and August.

This year there are three new camp options. Mini Camp is a two-night session that is only offered July 14th-16th. Mini Camp is for those going to be 1st-3rd graders. Ranch Camp is for our Horse enthusiasts. This camp will be June 9th-14th. Shooting Sports Camp is a perfect fit for 4-H'ers who love all things Shooting Sports. This camp will be June 23rd-28th.

The first session begins on June 2nd. Campers make so many great memories and new friends 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.

If you want to visit and tour Rock Springs Ranch, there will be an Open House on Sunday, April 21, 2024 from 1-4 pm. The Ranch is located on 735 acres in the beautiful Flint Hills, 10 miles south of Junction City KS. If you need more information about camp you can call Rock Springs at 785-257-3221.

Mock Dog Show

Please mark your calendar now as River Valley District will be offering a Mock Dog Show this year. This event will take place in Belleville at the Republic Co 4-H building on Sunday March 24th starting at 2:00 pm. Any RVD 4-H members may plan to attend. This practice of Dog Obedience and Rally will be a very helpful resource to you, so you will know what takes place at the actual RVD Dog Show on July 6th in Concordia.

Clay and Cloud counties will also be offering Mock dog shows. Dates, times, and locations are yet to be determined.



Do you know someone that would like to join our 4-H Team?

We are hiring an additional 4-H Agent.

If you would like more information, please go to:

www.rivervalley.k-state.edu

The application deadline is: 03/26/2024. K-State Research and Extension is an EOE of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans. Background check required.

Safe Sitter Course

NCK Medical Center in Concordia is offering Safe Sitter this May. Safe Sitter is designed to prepare students in grades 6-8 to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting.

The Instructor-led class is filled with fun games and role-playing exercises. Students will learn safety skills, life and business skills, childcare skills and even get to use mannequins to practice rescue skills like choking rescue and CPR!

Upcoming classes:

- May 28, 2024, 8:30am-3:00pm
- May 29, 2024, 8:30am-3:00pm

For more information or to register for a course, please fill out the form online at <https://www.nckmed.com/health-education/class/safe-sitter-course/>

Spring into Volunteering

The Association of Kansas 4-H Volunteers is hosting "Spring Into Volunteering" in Salina on the K-State Campus on Saturday, April 20. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the day will conclude at 3 p.m. This is for anyone serving as a 4-H Volunteer or considering it! The goal is for volunteers to go home recharged, excited, and ready to try some new things in their volunteer roles.

Sessions for the day include: Understanding the 4-H Thrive Model, Record Books, Facilitating Sparks in SPIN Clubs, Hands-on Learning Techniques, and more!

Registration for the day is \$20 and includes, materials, snacks and lunch! Online registration is due April 1, 2024 and the fee will be submitted to local offices. Be watching for more information and a link to register.

Project Leaders

Don't wait to get started having meetings for the project area that you signed up for. The purpose of project meetings is to provide leadership or teaching in a specific subject matter area to a small group of 4-H members and assist them to develop life skills in that project. If you want to include members in your county or even the RVD, please contact your local program manager, and she would be more than happy to send out an email to those families. Also, when hosting a project meeting, you should complete a River Valley District Project Meeting Log and forward to your program manager. The form can be found <https://www.rivervalley.k-state.edu/4-h/leaders.html> Thank you for volunteering to help our youth learn something new. We are always looking for more Project Leaders, so if you are interested call your local extension office.

2024 KSU Jr Beef Day

Several River Valley District 4-H'ers attended the final KSU Jr Beef Day that was to be held in Weber Arena on Saturday, March 2nd. Attendees and their parents attended a variety of sessions throughout the day. Willie the Wildcat even made an appearance to take a group picture with all of the 4-H'ers who attended.

Session Topics included Project Selection, Nutrition, Hair Care, Clipping, Where's The Beef- Cuts of Meat, Cattle Health, Beef Reproduction, and Showmanship. For the high school aged attendees there was a session about "Becoming a Wildcat". To end the day participants could take YQCA Training or attend a session about the State Nomination Process.

Several of the presenters were former 4-H'ers themselves and provided attendees with applicable information and hands on experiences during the sessions. A few of our River Valley 4-H'ers who attended got hands on experience during one of the Nutrition Sessions and during one of the Beef Reproduction Sessions.

The weather was beautiful, the sessions were great, and a lot was learned about the Beef Project!

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.

2024 Course Dates & Locations

April 20th – Beloit, KS
Carrico Implement

April 27th – Washington, KS
Bruna Implement

May 4th – Great Bend, KS
KanEquip

May 23rd – Salina, KS
Great Plains Manufacturing

SIGN UP: Visit <https://bit.ly/2024-tractor-safety>, 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:

Beloit, KS - Blaire Todd: blairet@ksu.edu or 785-738-3597

Washington, KS - Kaitlyn Hildebrand: khildebrand@ksu.edu or 785-243-8185

Great Bend, KS - Alicia Boor: aboor@ksu.edu or 620-793-1910

Salina, KS – 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

Regional Club Day

Ten counties make up our Northeast 4-H Region. Each county in our region will have 4-H'ers advancing to Regional Club Day following their local Club Days. The River Valley District will have several 4-H'ers advancing on to Regional Club Day.

Regional Club Day will take place on Saturday, March 23rd in Clay Center at the Clay Center Community High School.

We wish all of our River Valley District 4-H'ers who have advanced on to Regional Club Day the best of luck in their events!

RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT 4-H STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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