



RILEY COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

November 2025

2025-2026 4-H Enrollment and Re-Enrollment

Enrollment and re-enrollment opened on **October 1** and will be done via [4-H Online](#). If you have forgotten your password, 4-H Online can set you up with a temporary one. If you have forgotten your email log-in, PLEASE do not create a second account. Instead, contact Brandy brandymarie@ksu.edu or call 785-537-6350 and she can assist you. The deadline to enroll and change projects will be May 1.

Leadership in Training (L.I.T.)

Do not miss out on the newest (and coolest) program offering for 4-Hers in our area. We are engaging youth grades 6-8 in a fun, engaging, and strategic thinking, teaching skills around team building/ belonging, leadership, citizenship, community service, and historical perspective.

Join us on this amazing adventure as we look to “Make the Best Better”. Our next session of the (6) will take place at Rock Springs Ranch on Saturday, November 8 from 9 am- 1 pm. Each participant will have the opportunity to participate in a ropes course, team building activities, and as well as engagement from our Riley County 4-H Ambassador team. Lunch will be provided.

?Anyone interested will need to register using the link below, so we can begin to arrange transportation options for our participants. Just as a reminder, the entire program is \$50, with everything else being covered for the remainder of the year. Please consider joining us on this ADVENTURE!

Rock Springs Session Sign Up

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rvEBEo4bvWeAc3G09HI463LPiy3ImF_Ml-wFF5Usvo/edit?usp=sharing

November 8- Meet in morning/ lunch at RSR

January 3- Citizenship/ Community

March 12- Etiquette

May 7- Communication focus/ interview skills

June 5-6 Evaluation of program/ group work/ travel

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The Riley County
Extension Office will
be closed on
**Tuesday, November
11** in observance of
Veterans Day

If you have
something for the
4-H newsletter,
please submit it to
jajobe@ksu.edu
by the *10 of the
month.*

How to Reach Us:

Riley County Extension

110 Courthouse Plaza, RM B220

Manhattan, KS 66502

785-537-6350

John: jajobe@ksu.edu

Brandy: brandymarie@ksu.edu

4-H Info: 4hinfo@rileycountyks.gov

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 7:30 am to 5 pm

Friday 7:30 am to noon

4-H Council Dates for 2025-2026

Monday, November 3, 2025; Monday, January 5, 2026; Monday, March 2, 2026; Monday, May 4, 2026; Monday, July 6, 2026; Monday, August 31, 2026.

Each club is allowed to have 5 voting representatives: 3 youth and 2 adults.

Now Accepting Credit Card Payments!

We're pleased to announce that the Extension Office is now able to accept credit card payments for 4-H-related fees and services! This added payment option offers more convenience for our 4-H families. You can now use most major credit cards to pay for: Event registrations, project registrations, and more!

Payments can be made securely in person, in the office, or over the phone. For some of our events, the link to pay will be in the confirmation email.

Please note: A 2.5% convenience fee will be added to all credit card transactions to help cover processing costs.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the Extension Office—we're happy to assist!

2026 Riley County Foundation Grants

Are you a Riley County 4-H youth development group seeking support funds? Consider filling out a Riley County 4-H Foundation funding request application. Application must be returned to the Riley County Extension office, 110 Courthouse Plaza, Rm B220 by **Noon on Friday, November 21**. Recipients will be notified after the first of the year as to the status of their request.

Applications can be found online at <https://www.riley.k-state.edu/4-hfoundation/> bottom of page.

If your group received a grant at the beginning of 2025 you will need to fill out a grant follow-up report <https://www.riley.k-state.edu/4-hfoundation/> bottom of page.

4-H Showcase Event 2026

Our 4-H Showcase event date will be announced in the coming month. Hopefully we will once again gather in mid to late February at Riley County Grade school, with events beginning at 8:30 am and we should be done by 3:00 pm. As part of the event we will have photography, horticulture, and FACs judging. **For this years event we will offer a project showcase expo in the gymnasium for the first time ever!** Registration will open to 4-Hers in December so check back in with us. Start the planning process now for the February event. See you there!

4-H Project Day Ideas?...Let us Know.

Riley County 4-H is currently looking for passionate individuals to host project days during the next year. Do you have a skill or hobby you would be willing to share with other 4-Hers across the county? In addition, we are always looking for touring ideas for 4-Hers and families. Contact Brandy or John if this is of interest, 785-537-6350.

Take on the Heaviest Onion Challenge for Fair 2026

Congratulations to Brianna Britt on winning the Largest Pepper Challenge at the 2025 Riley County Fair. Next years fair will look to host the heaviest onion (any kind) contest. Contact the Riley County Extension office if you have any questions, 785-537-6350.



Leaders and Parents

November Checklist

- Check club mailbox at the Extension Office
- Highlight key points/deadlines from the 4-H newsletter & calendar at club meeting
- Elect Club Officers and 4-H Council Representatives
- Have members sign up for club committees
- Send list of new officers, club leaders, and project leaders to the Extension Office.
- Announce to club parents that you are recruiting project leaders and other volunteers (Parent Advisory Committee, New Family Coordinator, etc.).
- Work with Club Officers/Parents to make club handbook with member/leader contact info, monthly meeting information (date/time/project talks/demonstrations). A copy should be given to each family.

STEM Community Service Opportunity 2025

Please join us on **Wednesday, November 19 at Pottorf Hall from 6-7:30 pm** as we rally around a local community service opportunity. 4-H volunteer Lisa Brummett will lead the charge in assembling simple STEM activities that will be donated to Toys for Manhattan in time for Christmas.

This is a great community service project for our younger 4-Hers. Please consider coming out to help!

Kansas Beef Expo Livestock Judging 2025

The Kansas Beef Expo livestock judging contest is back for 2025. The contest will be on Friday, December 12, at the state fairgrounds in Hutchinson. This livestock judging contest is an all-cattle contest. If any Riley County 4-H youth are interested in judging at the beef expo, reach out to Riley Co. Ag Agent Lindsay Shorter at lindsayshorter@ksu.edu. As more information is released, we will share it with interested parties.



Beyond Ready

Save the Date

2026 K-STATE JUNIOR PRODUCER DAYS



Beef
MARCH 7



K-STATE
Research and Extension



Sheep
APRIL 11



RILEY COUNTY 4-H

Performing Arts

JOIN US FOR PERFORMING ARTS PROJECT EVENTS ALL YEAR.

you do NOT have to be enrolled in performing arts to participate

Sunday – Nov. 16, 2025 – 5-6 pm – @GVCC

"Take the Stage!" (Introduction to Performing Arts)

Sunday – Dec. 14, 2025 – 2 pm – @Manhattan Arts

*FIELD TRIP – **additional ticket purchase to see *Annie* at MAC*

Sunday – Jan. 25, 2026 – 5-6 pm – @GVCC

"The Power of Story" (Acting & Improv Skills)

Sunday – February 22, 2026 – 5-6 pm – @GVCC

"Find Your Voice" (Music, Speech, and Expression)

Sunday – March 29, 2026 – 5-6 pm – @GVCC

"Move to the Music" (Dance & Movement for the Stage)

Sunday – April 3, 2026 – 2 pm – @MHS

*FIELD TRIP – **additional ticket purchase to see *Newsies* at MHS*

GVCC – Green Valley
Community Center
3770 Green Valley Rd,
Manhattan

*for questions or to RSVP – contact
morganroberts51210@gmail.com*



JOIN US FOR A CLASS ON

*Fall Holiday Floral
Arrangement*



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
5:30 PM

MANHATTAN HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE
(NORTH SIDE OF BUILDING)



Are You Ready For a RABBIT?

Come learn what it takes to get started in the 4-H rabbit project and its many benefits. Or, if you're already started and want to learn more, come ask questions and learn from and with other experienced members.

Why rabbits?

The rabbit project offers all of the perks and learning opportunities of an animal project without the overhead!

- Develop responsibility in caring for an animal
- Learn the science around animal nutrition, anatomy, and basic vet care
- Improve skills while communicating about interests

Other advantages of rabbit projects:

- Limited space needed (no acreage or fencing necessary)
- Can be raised "in town"
- Easily maintained
- Minimal mess
- Reasonable expenses for feed and supplies

Interested? Come learn more!

This group will be led by **Alena Wiebers**, a 9-year Riley County 4-H member in the rabbit project, 2024 state winner in the 4-H rabbit project, and competitor in national-level youth educational contests.



Riley County 4-H Rabbit Project Group

WHO: Anyone interested in the rabbit project

WHAT: Introductory Meeting

WHEN: **NEXT DATE TBA**

WHERE: Pottorf Hall Clover Room

Leadership in Training

(Riley County 4-H Middle School Leadership Program)

Why Join?



Leadership
& teamwork



Communication



Adventure &
overnight trip



Community
service

**Cost: \$50 for all
6 sessions**

(First session is FREE!)

When & Where?

**Session 1 – Kickoff &
Info Night**

Sept 25 | 7–8:30 pm
Pottorf Hall

Leadership in Action

Nov 8 | Morning

Community Engagement

Jan 3 | Location TBA

Professional Growth

Mar 12 | Location TBA

Communication Skills

May 7 | Location TBA

Leadership Adventure

June 5–6 | Location TBA

**Call the Riley County Extension Office
with questions at**

785-537-6350

Leathercraft Project Club Coming Back Again!!

We are excited to again offer a 4-H Leather Crafting Club. Clay Rose and Janie Dunstan, both 4-H parents, will be leading the group. Parents welcome to stay throughout the meeting as long as they do not detract from the learning process.

Who : We are looking for youth that are either beginners or consider themselves intermediate-skilled leather crafters. **The club is open to all youth, but anyone 10 and younger will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. New leatherworkers must also have an adult regardless of age.** Classes will be taught to the student's level of skill. Advanced leather workers are also welcome!

When: Meeting will begin at **6 pm** and end no later than **8 pm**.

October 28

November 25

December 16

January 27

February 24

March 31

April 28

May 26

Where: Pottorf Hall; Clover Room (1710 Avery Ave; Manhattan)

What: We will start with about 20 minutes of education on a leather related topic and then work on a project. As we get further into the project, I will have selected students prepare a short 5-minute class on a leather related topic to instruct at the following meeting.

You will learn:

- History of leather, sources of leather, different tanning techniques, and definitions
- How to select the right leather for your project
- How to use the basic tools you will need
- How to prepare leather for stamping
- How to create a basic stamping design
- Leather finishing
- Leather edge finishing / burnishing
- Leather Hand-Stitching
- How to figure the cost of your project

Cost: be \$15 per student to help offset the cost of tools and materials. After that, the 4-H youth will be responsible to buy leather and other materials for individual projects. Practice leather will be provided free of charge.

Limited to 15 participants. If you are unable to attend after the first few meetings, please let us know! There will be a wait list, and someone can take your spot.

Register and pay before Nov. 20 by calling the Riley County Extension office.

If you wish to pay with credit card, please use the **link in your confirmation email**. If you wish to pay by check, please make it payable to "Riley County Extension." We are open Monday through Thursday 7:30 am to 5 pm and Friday 7:30 am to noon. There is an after-hours drop box to the left of the building doors. Please write Riley County Extension the envelope and include a note of what you are paying for.

2025-2026 Riley County 4-H Calendar

November

3 4-H Council Meeting, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
 11 Veteran's Day, Extension Office Closed
 21 Riley County 4-H Grant Proposals DUE
 22-23 KYLF
 27-28 Thanksgiving Holiday, Ext Office Closed
 TBA Officers Training, Pottorf Hall

December

22-26 Christmas Holiday, Office Closed

January

1 NYE Holiday, Ext. Office Closed
 5 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
 16 NE Area PRF Screening, Pottorf Hall
 19 MLK Jr. Day, Extension Office Closed
 23 State Horse Judging
 TBA 4-H Showcase Pre-Entry DUE
 TBA State and Local Scholarships DUE

February

15 Citizenship in Action, Topeka
 16 Presidents Day, Extension Office Closed
 21 Beef Weigh-In; Fairgrounds 1-3 pm
 21-22 TBA Horse Panorama, Rock Springs
 TBA Riley County Showcase, RCGS

March

1 State 4-H Scholarship and State PRFs DUE
 1 Red Wheel Sales Begin
 2 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
 Late March Red Wheel Sales DUE
 TBA YQCA, 6-8 pm, Clover Room

April

18 State Shooting Sports Match
 25 Red Wheel Pick-Up, Pottorf Hall 9-9:30 am
 TBA Discovery Days Registration DUE
 TBA Fair Royalty Applications DUE

May

1 Project Add/ Drop Deadline
 4 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
 4 Sheep & Goat Weigh-In/ Tagging,
 Hulbert Arena, 5-7 pm
 TBA Dog Agility Workshop
 TBA Fair Royalty Interview; Pottorf Hall
 TBA Emerald Circle Banquet

June

1 Horse ID Papers DUE
 3-4 Discovery Days, KSU Campus
 12-14 State Geology Field Trip
 TBA Dog Show (Disciplines TBA)
 TBA Dog Show (Disciplines TBA)

July

1 Fair Pre-Entries DUE
 4 Independence Day, Ext Off. Closed
 6 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
 15 State Fair Livestock Entries DUE
 15 Fair Fashion Review
 18 4-H Horse Show
 20 Fair Work Night, Pottorf Hall
 21 4-H Photography Judging
 21 4-H Pet Show
 21 Cloverbud Judging (No Clothing/ Fashion
 Revue)
 22 4-H Visual Arts Judging
 22 4-H Foods Judging
 23-27 Riley County Fair, Cico Park
 28 Fairground Cleanup

August

4 State Fair Entry Forms DUE
 15 State Horticulture & Livestock Judging
 31 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
 TBA KJLS Entries DUE

September

7 Labor Day, Extension Office Closed
 10 State Fair Project DUE to Extension Office
 11-20 Kansas State Fair
 18 Project Report Forms & Awards DUE

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