



# RILEY COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

## October 2025

### Join us for the County 4-H Achievement Celebration

Join us for the County 4-H Achievement Celebration on **Sunday, October 19** at Pottorf Hall in Cico Park starting at 5 pm. Parents, guardians, 4-Hers, and siblings are welcome! Enjoy a catered meal brought to you by The Farmhouse, followed by a short award presentation starting at 5:30 pm. Please **RSVP by October 10** using the link below.

#### **Attendance Registration Link**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGx6sRRo5FUU1ShOW65Xj6wL0\\_0010QzEobQ2NXnan\\_WIsNw/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGx6sRRo5FUU1ShOW65Xj6wL0_0010QzEobQ2NXnan_WIsNw/viewform?usp=header)

### 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](mailto:brandymarie@ksu.edu) or call 785-537-6350 and she can assist you. The deadline to enroll and change projects will be May 1.

### 4-H Council Officer Applications

If you wish to be a 4-H Council Officer, applications are due **Friday, October 31 before noon**. For details on 4-H Council Officer responsibilities and for an application, please visit <https://www.riley.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources/council/index.html> You will have to download the application for it to be form fillable.

### Trips and Awards Nominations

Nominations for new 2025-2026 Trips and Award Committee members are due on **Friday, October 31**.

**Qualifications:** Any adult (leader, parents' advisory committee member, or parent) with three years exposure to the 4-H program.

**Applications can be accessed online:** <https://www.riley.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources/awards/index.html>

#### **How to Reach Us:**

Riley County Extension

110 Courthouse Plaza, RM B220

Manhattan, KS 66502

785-537-6350

John: [jajobe@ksu.edu](mailto:jajobe@ksu.edu)

Brandy: [brandymarie@ksu.edu](mailto:brandymarie@ksu.edu)

4-H Info: [4hinfo@rileycountyks.gov](mailto:4hinfo@rileycountyks.gov)

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

Friday 7:30 am to noon

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## Beyond Ready

If you have something for the 4-H newsletter, please submit it to [jajobe@ksu.edu](mailto:jajobe@ksu.edu) by the 10 of the month.

## 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.



## 2025 Kansas 4-H Leadership Weekend

The [Kansas 4-H Leadership Weekend](#) will be **November 22-23** at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch and consists of the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum and the Kansas Volunteer Leader Forum.

KYLF is for youth ages 14-18 before January 1, 2026, and KVF is for all Kansas 4-H Volunteers. KYLF will feature leadership workshops, Youth Council Elections, and opportunities to learn and have fun. The Kansas 4-H Volunteer Leader Forum will feature workshops and information to help volunteers be more effective and learn from each other. This Forum for adults is organized by the Kansas Association of 4-H Volunteers.

Again, this year, participants in both forums will [register](#) through the same system. Registration deadline is October 15, 2025, for both events. There will also be an option for coming in on Friday evening and having breakfast Saturday morning for those coming from a distance.

## Applications are Open for Kansas Youth Leadership Council and National 4-H Conference

The application for and information about the [State 4-H Youth Leadership Council](#) and [National Conference](#) is open and available now! The Youth Council Application and National 4-H Conference Application will be combined again this year, with applicants indicating if they are applying for one or both opportunities.



Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2026, may apply as a Council Rep, and those 15-18 before January 1, 2026, may apply for the National 4-H Conference.

This year's Kansas Youth Leadership Forum delegation will elect representatives from the four extension program areas (NE, NW, SE, SW) for one-year terms on the council. Up to 6 National Conference Delegates will be selected through an interview prior to KYLF, and they serve a two-year term on the council. The deadline will be October 1, 2025

## Ask Mr. Jobe About Becoming a Part of the 2028 CWF Experience



# Leaders and Parents

## September 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.).
- National 4-H Week is **October 5-11** - Promotion ideas/Implement plan within community/school
- Select your (5) new club 4-H Council Representatives at your October meeting.
- 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.
- Make plans to attend 4-H Achievement Celebration (**October 19, 5 pm** ; Pottorf Hall, meal provided, **but RSVP needed by October 10**).
- Send club and 4-H activity photos for the county-wide Achievement Celebration slideshow. Submit photos here <https://photos.app.goo.gl/tgmVSxpPwXutdYp29> (click on the add photo icons, second from the left). After you have uploaded your photo, click on it and **please add a description** under the "Say Something" in the lower right corner.

## 48 Hours of 4-H at Rock Springs Ranch State 4-H Center

We're excited to invite you to our Volunteer Workday at Rock Springs Ranch on **Friday, October 11!**

We'll kick off the day with **check-in and refreshments at 8:00 AM** in the **Johnson Administration Building**.

After that, you'll get to pick a project category and get to work with an awesome crew of fellow volunteers.

### Choose Your Project!

We've got options for everyone, whether you want to break a sweat or keep it light:

- Outdoor – High Intensity: Trail work, landscaping, repairs
- Outdoor – Low Intensity: Gardening, painting, cleanup
- Indoor – High Intensity: Deep cleaning, lifting, organizing
- Indoor – Low Intensity: Light organizing, office support

You'll be assigned a project when you arrive, so come ready to jump in where you feel most comfortable!

Please let us know you're coming by filling out this quick form:

Sign Up to Volunteer: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9\\_oJM76ebvy-MwpArAPA3IIBYx\\_ogZLA4RhWZSGogNGg1kw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9_oJM76ebvy-MwpArAPA3IIBYx_ogZLA4RhWZSGogNGg1kw/viewform)

## **Riley County Fair Survey 2025**

The Riley County Fairboard, in coordination with the Riley County Extension Office, requests feedback as we begin our annual process of evaluating the previous years' fair and look ahead for the upcoming fair to continue to "Make the Best Better!".

The survey can be found at this link: [https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5iI55ZcTRGnQ3FY](https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5iI55ZcTRGnQ3FY)

### **Some details concerning this request:**

#### **Who: Who needs to complete the survey?**

We ask that all current 4-H families involved in Riley County 4-H complete this survey only once. While we are requesting families' names when submitting a survey, your responses will not be linked to your answers (so responses will remain anonymous). This is simply to ensure we don't receive multiple responses from the same family.

#### **What: What is the purpose of the survey?**

The purpose of this survey is to receive more robust feedback from the larger group of 4-H participants. As the Fairboard and the Extension Office work together to evaluate possible changes to the 2026 fair, we want to make decisions based on feedback from participants.

#### **When: When does the survey need to be completed?**

This Survey will be open the month of October. Please complete one survey per family by **October 31st**.

#### **How: How long will the survey take to complete?**

The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete.



**Come check out the cool Riley County  
4-H display case in the Courthouse  
office 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



# **4-H Garage Sale**

## **October 17-18, 2025**

**Wreath Barn, Cico Park, Manhattan**

**We are looking for a huge selection of items  
to be donated.**

**We do not accept TVs of any kind.**

**Proceeds benefit 4-H members in Pottawatomie, Riley,  
& Wabaunsee Counties**

## **Drop Off Items on Location**

**Wednesday, October 15, 5-8 PM**

**Thursday, October 16, 10 AM - 8 PM**

## **Garage Sale**

**Friday, October 17, 9 AM - 8 PM**

**Saturday, October 18, 9 AM - Noon**

**Questions: Call John Jobe, 785-537-6350**

**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension



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, John Jobe, two weeks prior to the start of the event. 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.

**Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service**  
K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# Setting 4-H Project Goals

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Now that you have selected your 4-H projects for the year, it is important to plan out what you would like to learn and accomplish. What new skills would you like to gain? Who is going to help you along the way? Setting measurable goals will help guide you through positive 4-H project learning experiences.

## WHAT IS A GOAL?

A GOAL is ... Deciding what you want to do and learn in a 4-H project.  
A road map. It helps you get where you want to go.

Your goals should have three parts that will allow you to measure and check your progress. The three parts of a good goal, include:

- 1. ACTION** — How are you going to do something.
- 2. RESULT** — What are you going to do. Be specific!
- 3. TIMETABLE** — When are you going to do it.

This worksheet is designed to help you set your 4-H project goals. Below are some examples of well-written goals:

| Action          | Result                                                              | Timetable                 | Who Will Help Me            |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| I want to learn | about my bucket calf's nutritional needs                            | before county weigh-in.   | Dad                         |
| I want to make  | three nutritious snacks for the nursing home residents              | by our June club meeting. | my project leader           |
| I want to learn | about the aerodynamics of my rocket                                 | before the spring launch. | Mom                         |
| I want to lead  | a horse project meeting                                             | by February.              | my extension agent          |
| I want to keep  | accurate records of my photography project experiences and expenses | monthly.                  | my project leader & parents |

**CONTROL TEST:** Do your goals pass the control test? Do you have control over all parts of what happens? If you can answer "yes," then you are ready to begin record keeping. For example, "I want to win grand champion with my cookies at the county fair," does not pass the control test. A 4-H member doesn't have control over ribbon placing.

Now it is your turn. Practice writing three goals that you would like to accomplish this 4-H year. If you need help, ask an adult to assist.

| Action        | Result | Timetable | Who Will Help Me |
|---------------|--------|-----------|------------------|
| I want to ... |        |           |                  |
| I want to ... |        |           |                  |
| I want to ... |        |           |                  |

Time to begin. In the spaces provided on the next page, set your goals for each project you are enrolled in this year. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Please keep in mind that younger 4-H members will have fewer, less complex goals than older, more advanced 4-H members. A good rule of thumb is three to five goals per project for ages 7 to 10, four to eight goals per project for ages 11 to 13, and seven to 12 goals per project for ages 14 to 18.

# 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**

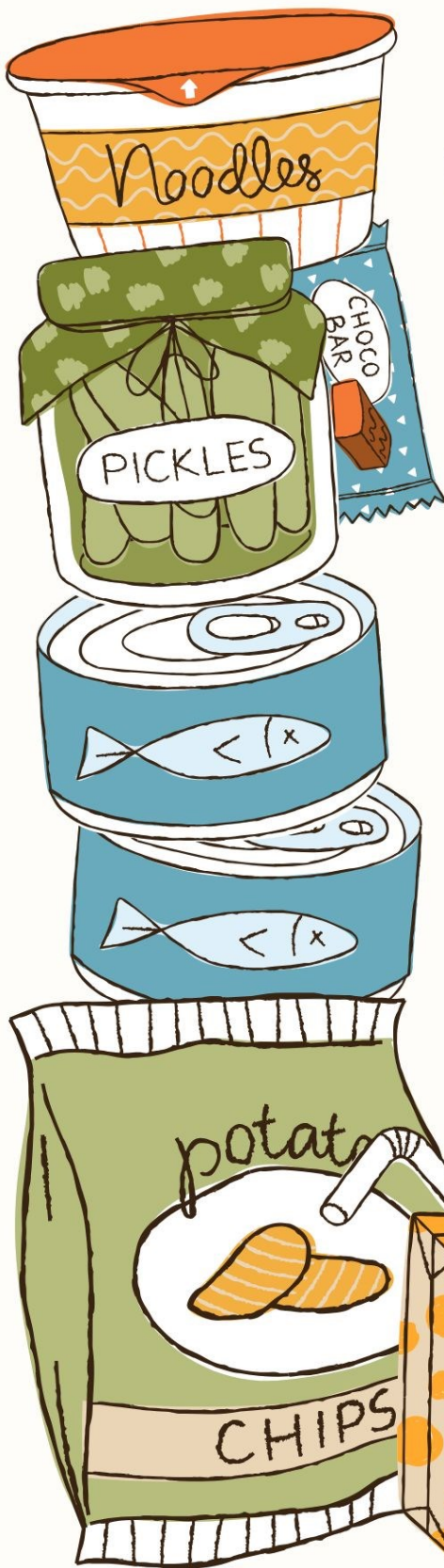
May 7 | Location TBA

**Leadership Adventure**

June 5–6 | Location TBA

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

**785-537-6350**



4-H MEMBERS AND  
FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO

# Cats' Cupboard Tour

**5:30-6:00PM  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21**

1021 Denison Ave

Food is a human right and is an immediate and tangible way to help someone.

Cats' Cupboard Initiative is a collaborative effort among students, faculty, staff, and community focused on promoting food security at K-State.

Come join us for a tour of the facilities and see how you can help combat food insecurity in our community.

Questions - contact Camilla Roberts,  
[cjroberts@ksu.edu](mailto:cjroberts@ksu.edu) or 785-313-8477

## **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 noon on October 24 [Register for 4-H Leather Craft Club](#)**

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

## October

- 1 4-H Year Begins
- 1 Online 4-H Enrollment Opens
- 1-2 Project Report Form (PRF) Screening
- 5-11 National 4-H Week
- 17-18 CWF Garage Sale/ Cico Park
- 18-19 State Dog Conference
- 19 Achievement Celebration, Pottorf
- 31 Trips/ Awards Nominations DUE
- 31 4-H Council Officer Applications DUE

## 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 EVERYTHING
- 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