



September 2026

Riley County

4-H Newsletter

Join us for the
Riley County
4-H
Achievement
Celebration

Photos
Needed for
4-H
Achievement
Slideshow

How to
Contact Us

Join us for the County 4-H Achievement Celebration on **Sunday, October 25** 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 9** using the link below.

[Riley County 4-H Achievement Celebration RSVP](#)

We need photos for the 4-H Achievement Slideshow! Please be intentional with your submissions — we have limited space, so choose up to 8 meaningful photos from each activity. Avoid submitting large batches; we won't be able to sort through them.

Photos can include:

- Club meetings
- 4-H project meetings
- 4-H Showcase
- L.I.T.
- Riley County Fair
- Citizenship in Action
- Horse, Dog or Shooting Sports
- Dog Conference
- KYLF
- ...and other 4-H events!

Please do not email photos to Brandy

Deadline: October 20

[Submit Photos 2026 Achievement Celebration Slideshow](#)

(click on the square with a "+" next to it)

Daniel: skuciusd@ksu.edu

Brandy: brandymarie@ksu.edu

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

Extension Office Closed for Labor Day

The Riley County Extension Office will be closed
Monday, September 7 in observation of Labor Day.

4-H Enrollment Opens October 1

Enrollment will open on October 1 and will be done via [4-H Online](#). You must enroll every year! You must pay the 4-H Program Fee (or receive a waiver) to be considered enrolled.

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. Contact Brandy and she can assist you. The deadline to enroll and change projects will be May 1, 2027.

Beginning January 1, 2027 we will only be sending 4-H emails, newsletters, announcement, etc to 4-Hers who are actively enrolled.

Please consider applying to be a Riley County 4-H Council Officer. This a great leadership opportunity! Officers include:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Financial Liaison (treasurer)
- Parliamentarian
- Reporter

4-H Council Officer Applications Now Available

For details on 4-H Council Officer responsibilities and for an application, please visit [2026 Riley County 4-H Council Officer Applications](#) You will have to download the application for it to be form fillable.

Applications are due October 26. You may drop them off at the Extension Office or email them to brandymarie@ksu.edu. We will confirm receipt of your application.

Riley County 4-H Ambassadors Accepting Applications

Be a Part of the GREATEST Team Ever Assembled: Join the Riley County 4-H Ambassador Team

Riley County 4-H Ambassadors promote 4-H and Extension youth programs and participation in Riley County, through the use of activities, presentations, personal connections, and media.

Responsibilities:

- Promote 4-H programs and opportunities by:
- Work as a team with Ambassadors, Advisors, and 4-H staff
- Attend scheduled meetings and activities
- Connect with younger 4-H members to inspire them to greater involvement
- Deliver presentations and programs promoting 4-H to community groups
- Create content for radio, print, and social media regarding 4-H promotion
- Recruit other teens to serve in the 4-H Ambassador role
- Serve as an Ambassador for two-year term

Skills Needed:

- Positive attitude
- Willingness to engage with youth and adults in individual conversation and public speaking venues
- Enthusiasm for the 4-H program
- Experience/knowledge of 4-H programs in Riley County and beyond
- Growing communication skills and ability to work well with diverse groups of people
- Ability to manage personal schedules, responsibilities, and commitments

Time Required:

A Riley County 4-H Ambassador position is a two-year term commitment to help maintain and pass along knowledge and experience in the program. This position, on average, requires 1-2 hours per month with additional time needed for specific activities and events.

Application instructions are posted on the Riley County 4-H website and are **DUE by September 25.**

**Riley County
4-H
Leadership
In Training
kicking off
this fall!**

Attention all Riley County 4-Hers in grades 6-8! Our Jr. High Leadership In Training (L.I.T.) program will be launching a new group this fall!

Plan to attend an information session on ~~Tuesday, September 29 from 5-7 PM at Pottorf Hall~~ to learn more about this fun, unique, hands-on opportunity!

Meeting Change! Now 7p-8:30p @ Green Valley Community Building

Questions, please contact Kristey Wiebers kwiebers@gmail.com



**Congrats to the
Riley County
Livestock
Sweepstakes
Team**

The Riley County 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes Team competed in the 2026 Kansas State 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes Contests on August 22-23, on K-State Campus.

The event was the first State 4-H Event to be held in the new Bilbrey Family Event Center. The team had a great weekend of competition, along with over 300 competitors from across the state of Kansas. The weekend includes 4 separate contests; Livestock Judging, Livestock Skillathon, Meat Judging, and Livestock Quiz Bowl. The team scores from all four contests are then averaged for total points for the weekend and overall teams and individuals are named Sweepstakes Contest winners.

Team members included: Alena W, Kate B, Luke B, Dalyn E, Mason M, Cannon H, Lakyn H, Abigail H, and Loreli M.

The Riley County Team was named the Champion Livestock Judging Team, Champion Quiz Bowl Team, and the Reserve Champion Skillathon team. Punching their ticket to participate in national contests this fall in Quiz Bowl and Livestock judging. They were also named fourth overall "Sweepstakes" Team, which is the team score from all four contests. The group had many individual successes along with all their team accomplishments as well.

If this is something that sounds interesting to you, then we encourage you to speak to Ag Agent Lindsay Shorter. She would be happy to chat more about opportunities!



4-H Achievement Pins

We encourage Riley County 4-Hers to apply for a 4-H Achievement Pin. Achievement Pins are designed to recognize 4-H members as they reach milestones throughout their 4-H journey.

[Riley County Achievement Pin Applications](#)

Achievement Pin applications are due to the Extension Office by **noon on Friday, September 18.** *Your club may have an earlier deadline.*

4-H Project Report Forms

We encourage Riley County 4-Hers to apply for a Project pin. You do this by submitting a Project Report Form. Project Report Forms are used to highlight goals, knowledge and skills learned, work accomplished, leadership, photos, etc. for a specific project.

[Riley County Project Report Form Applications](#)

[Project Report Form Tips and Tricks](#)

[Citizenship and Leadership, what's the difference?](#)

Project Report Forms are due to the Extension Office by **noon on Friday, September 18.** *Your club may have an earlier deadline.*

Other 4-H Award Applications due

Additional awards are due to the Extension Office by **noon on Friday, September 18.**

[Key Award Applications](#)

[I Dare You Award Applications](#)

[Club Seal Applications](#)

[4-H Alumni of the Year](#)

Shinning Star Volunteer Award

We encourage 4-H clubs, individual's 4-H families, or 4-H volunteers to nominate an outstanding volunteer as a "Shining Star". These volunteers will be recognized at Achievement Celebration.

Nominations are due by **noon on September 18.**

[Shining Star award nomination forms](#)

4-H Family of the Year

Do you know of a Riley County 4-H family that has gone above and beyond this past year? Nominate them for the 2025-2026 **'Family of the Year Award'**. This family will be acknowledged at Achievement Celebration. Applications are due at the Extension office by **noon on September 18.**

[Riley County 4-H Family of the Year Award](#)

Save the Date Kansas 4-H Leadership Weekend

Apply for the Kansas Youth Leadership Council and National 4-H Conference

48 Hours of 4-H

We encourage youth ages 14-18 (before January 1, 2027) to attend the Kansas Youth Leadership Weekend. It will be held **November 21-22** at Rock Spring 4-H Center.

Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. More details will be shared soon.

There will also be an opportunity for adults to attend the Kansas 4-H Volunteer Lead Forum that will be held the same weekend.

Registration deadline is October 15.

The **Youth Council and National 4-H Conference application** will be combined, 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, 2027 may apply as a Council Rep and those 15-18 before January 1, 2027 may apply for National Conference.

This year's KYLF delegation will elect representatives from the four extension program regions (NE, NW, SE, SW) for one year terms on council. Up to six National Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF and they serve a two year term on council.

Join us this fall in seeing just how much we can give back to our communities! Invite your friends, clubs, adult volunteers, and 4-H Alums too! Start planning your projects today

When: October 10-11, 2026

Who: Everyone!

What: [48 Hours of 4-H](#)



Beyond Ready



**4-H Project
Workshop or
Tour Ideas?
Let us know!**

Riley County 4-H is currently looking for passionate individuals to host project workshops or tours in the 2026-2027 4-H year.

Do you have a skill or hobby you would be willing to share with other 4-Hers across the county? Do you have a connection with a business or organization that would be interesting to tour? Contact Brandy or Daniel with ideas and suggestions, 785-537-6350.

**September
Checklist for
4-H Leaders**

- 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
- Send list of new officers, club leaders, and project leaders to the Extension Office. They may be emailed to brandymarie@ksu.edu
- 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 4-10 - How will your 4-H club and 4-H families celebrate National 4-H Week? How can you promote 4-H in your community?
- Encourage members to fill out Achievement Pin applications, Project Report Forms, Key Awards, I Dare You, etc. They are due to the Extension Office Sept 18. (Check with your club leader for your club deadline)
- 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 25, 5 pm; Pottorf Hall, meal provided, RSVP needed).

Volunteers are needed to review Project Report Form from Pottawatomie County this year. Each club is required to provide two volunteers!

Reviews will take place at the Riley County Extension office,
Wednesday, September 30 from 8 am to 5 pm and
Thursday, October 1, from 8:00 am to 8 pm.

If you are coming on Thursday after 5 pm, please ring the door bell to the left of the doors. Someone will let you in.

This is a come and go event. **No previous experience is necessary!** We can walk you through the review process and answer any questions you may have!

We are allowing books to go home with volunteers this year!
Please consider this opportunity!

Are you a Riley County 4-H youth development group seeking support funds? Consider filling out a Riley County 4-H Foundation Grant funding request. Application must be returned to the Riley County Extension office **by 5 pm on Monday, November 30.**

If your group received a grant at the beginning of 2026 you will need to fill out a grant follow-up report. Both the application and report can be found here.

[Riley County 4-H Foundation Grant and 2026 Follow-Up Report](#)
(scroll to the bottom of the page)

National 4-H Week is October 4-10. How will you celebrate?

- Work with your local city or county government to make a proclamation.
- Write a letter to the editor for your community paper
- Share your 4-H experience with your classmates, community members, social media, etc
- WEAR GREEN!

More resources can be found here <https://4-h.org/tentpoles/>

Volunteers Needed to Review 4-H Project Books

2027 Riley County 4-H Foundation Grant Applications

How will you celebrate National 4-H Week?

4-H photos are needed for the Achievement Celebration slideshow. Upload them online!



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Riley County

Scan the QR code above and add photos **before October 20**

Day 1: Go Green



Monday, October 5, 2026

On Monday of National 4-H Week, **Go GREEN** and show your 4-H state spirit! A simple, cohesive way for youth, professionals, volunteers, alumni & supporters across the country to celebrate their 4-H program being *Beyond Ready*. Wear a green hat, clothing, face paint - anything green goes. Let's paint the nation **GREEN**, on **Monday, October 5th!**

Share your Go Green moment on social and tag National 4-H, your State 4-H program, and use **#4HBeyondReady** **#National4HWeek**

Day 2: Thankful Thursday



Thursday, October 8, 2026

On Thursday of National 4-H Week, help us shine a light on all the good that 4-H does! A day to recognize all 4-H'ers who are doing good and making positive impact by helping their communities and beyond.

Share your own story or celebrate someone who is making a difference - another 4-H'er, volunteer or educator We want to know, on **Thursday, October 8th** and use **#4HBeyondReady**



4-H Garage Sale

October 16-17, 2026

Wreath Barn, Cico Park, Manhattan

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

We do not accept TVs or Books of any kind.

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

Drop Off Items on Location

No pickup services will be provided

Wednesday, October 14, 5-8 PM

Thursday, October 15, 10 AM - 8 PM

Garage Sale

Friday, October 16, 9 AM - 8 PM

Saturday, October 17, 9 AM - Noon

Questions: Call Riley County Extension Office, 785-537-6350

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2026-2027 Riley County 4-H Calendar

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
30 4-H Project Report Form Review 8 am-5 pm

October

1 4-H Project Report Form Review 8 am-8 pm
1 4-H Year Begins
1 4-H Enrollment Opens
4-10 National 4-H Week
10-11 48 Hours of 4-H
14-17 CWF Garage Sale; Cico Park
17-18 State Dog Conference
25 Achievement Celebration, Pottorf
26 Trips/ Awards Nominations DUE
26 4-H Council Officer Applications DUE

November

2 4-H Council Meeting, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
11 Veteran's Day, Extension Office Closed
30 Riley County 4-H Grant Proposals DUE
21-22 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)
26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday, Ext Office Closed
TBA Officers Training, Pottorf Hall

December

21-25 Christmas Holiday, Office Closed

January

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

February

7-8 Citizenship in Action, Topeka
15 Presidents Day, Extension Office Closed
TBA Beef Weigh-In; Fairgrounds 1-3 pm
20-21 Horse Panorama, Rock Springs
TBA Riley County Showcase, RCGS

March

TBA State 4-H Scholarship-State PRFs DUE
1 Red Wheel Sales Begin
1 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
TBA YQCA Training

April

TBA State Shooting Sports Match
TBA Discovery Days Registration DUE
TBA Fair Royalty Applications DUE

May

1 Project Add/ Drop Deadline
4 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
TBA Sheep & Goat Weigh-In/ Tagging,
TBA Fair Royalty Interview; Pottorf Hall

June

1 Horse ID Papers DUE
9-11 Discovery Days, KSU Campus
TBA State Geology Field Trip
TBA Dog Show

July

1 Fair Pre-Entries DUE
5 Independence Day, Ext Off. Closed
TBA 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
14 4-H Fashion Review
15 State Fair Livestock Entries DUE
TBA 4-H Horse Show
19 Fair Work Night, Pottorf Hall
22-26 Riley County Fair, Cico Park
27 Fairground Cleanup
30 State Fair Entry Forms DUE

August

TBA State Horticulture & Livestock Judging
25 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
TBA KJLS Entries DUE

September

6 Labor Day, Extension Office Closed
TBA State Fair Project DUE to Extension Office
9-19 Kansas State Fair
TBA Project Report Forms & Awards DUE

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