



RILEY COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

December 2023

2023-2024 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. You must be enrolled by May 1 to exhibit at the Riley County Fair.

4-H Showcase Event 2024

Once again we will be at Riley County Grade School on Saturday, February 17. Events will begin 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. Breakfast and lunch items will be on hand on that day. Registration will open to 4-Hers in December so check back in with us. Start the planning process now. See you there!

Riley County 4-H Scholarships Available

State and local scholarships are now available at www.riley.ksu.edu —> 4-H Youth Development —> Forms and Resources —> Scholarships

All state and local scholarships need to be turned into the Riley County Extension office **by 5 pm on Friday, February 2**. If you have questions about filling out the applications, please do not hesitate to call John or Brandy at the Riley County Extension Office for assistance 785-537-6350.

State 4-H Scholarships Available

The Kansas 4-H Scholarship for the 2023-2024 academic year should be posted after the first of the year <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>

Youth who should be applying for this scholarship should be in their Senior year in High School OR OLDER (there are scholarships available for former 4-Hers who are Freshman-Senior in Post-Secondary Education and some that are available to Vet Med Students).

Area Project Report Form Due Dates

Project Reports attending the NE-AREA screening need to be turned in to the Riley County Extension office by **5 pm on Friday, January 5**.

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-Friday; 8-5 pm

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The Riley County Extension Office will be closed **Monday, December 25** for the Christmas Holiday



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

4-H Council Dates for 2023-2024

Monday, November 6, 2023; Monday, January 8, 2024; Monday, March 4, 2024; Monday, May 6, 2024; Monday, July 1, 2024; Monday, August 26, 2024.

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

Importance of Attending 4-H Council

Our Riley County 4-H Council serves as a vital component to our month-to-month programming here in our area, but also allows club representative to take vital information back and report to their club. 4-H Council plans and implements county-wide events, oversees funding request, and votes to make necessary changes to our program as they see fit. Each club is allowed to have (5) voting representatives (3) youth and (2) adults. I would strongly encourage you to exercise that right throughout the year. You don't have to be a Council Representative to attend. It is open to all 4-Hers and parents. The 4-H Council dates are **ABOVE**.

Tagging Commercial Females ****NEW INFO****

All unregistered females exhibited at the 2024 Riley County Fair need to be tagged with an official 4-H ear tag by May 1. This includes beef, sheep, goats, dairy, dairy goats, and swine. This is a new rule for all species except swine – tagging was already required for all gilts.

Beef and dairy exhibitors should plan to bring females to the beef tagging event on February 24, 2024. Sheep and goats should come to the tagging event on May 6, 2024. (The fair book says May 1 but sheep and goat tagging has historically been the first Monday in May, which is May 6 in 2024. You get 5 extra days this year.) Swine may be tagged at home prior to May 1.

2024-25 State 4-H Scholarships and the Vanier Family Scholarship Changes

The 2024-25 scholarship process for State 4-H Scholarships and the Vanier Family Scholarship Program has been streamlined. This process has been designed to encourage more 4-H'ers to apply for these scholarships by simplifying and combining the process. Evaluation criteria has also been included to provide transparency throughout the entire process. Please note several of the larger changes listed below:

1. Applicants will provide a cover letter and resume as part of their application – the same resume may be used for both scholarship processes. Applicants are encouraged to have a separate cover letter for the State 4-H Scholarships from the Vanier Family Scholarship Program.
2. Evaluation materials are provided to increase the transparency of the process.
3. References do NOT submit a letter of recommendation – they will be asked to answer several short answer questions about the applicant. These questions can be found on the Kansas 4-H website (<https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/scholarships.html>).

For questions about the scholarship process, please reach out to Sarah Keatley at keatley@ksu.edu or call 620-366-0035.

Seed Planting Workshop

For the 2024 Riley County Fair, we will once again host a vegetable growing challenge. We have selected the “Largest Tomato” for this year's event. In preparation for getting our tomato's started, we will host a seed planting workshop on March 23rd, from 10 – 11 am on Pottorf Hall. The event is free to anyone interested. Seeds will be available at the event.



[2024 4-H Horse Panorama](#)

The 2024 4-H Horse Panorama is scheduled for January 27, 2024, at K-State Salina, a schedule of events is located on the [4-H Horse Panorama website](#). 4-H Horse members are encouraged to register to participate in Horse Bowl, Hippology, presentations, and more.

Horse Bowl encourages young people to develop knowledge of equine-related subject matter. This contest develops alertness, self-confidence, and knowledge in a competitive setting, surrounded by an attitude of friendliness and fairness.

Senior Horse Bowl members must sign-up as a team of at least four team members with all members age 14 by January 2, 2024. The senior teams will compete in a double elimination bracket.

Open Horse Bowl is available for all youth participants. Those youth registering for Open Horse Bowl will compete individually with other youth from across the state for a fun, educational experience. Be sure to read the updated rules to familiarize yourself with changes for 2024.

Senior Horse Bowl Teams and Open Horse Bowl participants are being asked to submit possible questions. These are not required but encouraged. A senior team can submit 5-10, and open individuals can submit 2-4 questions each. These questions will be vetted before being added to the contest. This allows youth to learn content through the writing process, the possibility of having their question used during their round, as well as revamping our aged bank of questions over the next several years. Resources and question structure can be found in the contest rules.

Hippology is an educational activity for youth who wish to demonstrate their knowledge of equine-related subject matter in a friendly, competitive setting. This contest enhances decision-making and provides an opportunity for the participants to work cooperatively with others.

Virtual contests for 2024 will be Photography, Logo Design, Ad Layout, Poster and PowerPoint. Exhibits must be submitted via email to klnordyke@ksu.edu by January 20, 2024. Participants in virtual contests need not be present at Horse Panorama to participate in the virtual contests. Members participating only in virtual contests will not be charged a registration fee. More information about the virtual contest can be found on the Panorama event webpage.

****New for 2024**** A first-timers opportunity will be provided for youth to explore hippology. Adults who volunteer to assist with the day's events can register at a reduced rate.

The 2024 4-H Horse Panorama registration will be completed through Qualtrics at the link provided on the 4-H Horse Panorama website. Adults and additional youth attending must also register. Registration is due January 2, 2024. Payment must be made by check.



Leaders and Parents

Consider in December

- Encourage families enroll/re-enroll via 4-H Online
- Make sure families are receiving emails from the Extension Office (at least weekly)
- Create club goals for the new year
- Start talking to families about attending the Annual Showcase event (February 17; RCGS)
- Encourage seniors to apply for county and state 4-H scholarships
- Invite Mr. Jobe to a club meeting
- Make sure 4-H Council Reps are attending meetings as voting representatives of your club
- Check on progress/needs of committees & parent volunteers/leaders.
- Encourage project leaders to begin hosting project meetings (even if it needs to be virtually)
- Make sure 4-H Council Reps are attending meetings as voting representatives of your club.
- Start the conversation about exhibiting at county fair with new families

Welcoming New Families

As new families come into your club, please make sure you have assigned someone to greet these families and make them feel welcome. Feeling welcome can be the difference between a family staying with the 4-H program for years to come, or dropping out after a few meetings. New Family Handbooks are available at the Extension Office to share with your new families.

4-H Dog Judges Training and Certification in January

The annual training and recertification for 4-H Dog show judges will be January 26-28 at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds in the Northeast area of Kansas. This is a 5-year certification. All 4-H dog shows must have certified judges for members to qualify for the State Fair Dog Show. There is a reduced cost for leaders/members who want to observe but not become a judge. Registration will be out soon and located on Kansas4H.org website under events.

Registration Open for K-State Junior Producer Days

The 2024 K-State Junior Producer Day dates have been set and registration is now open! We are excited to host families on campus again this spring! The K-State Junior Beef Producer Day will be Saturday, March 2, with K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day scheduled for Saturday, March 16. Both events will be hosted in Weber Arena on the K-State campus in Manhattan. These events are one-day educational events for families to learn more about the selection and management of a specific specie. Beef and sheep events are hosted in even years, with swine and meat goat days in odd years. Youth, adults, extension agents, project leaders, and volunteers of all ages and skill levels are invited to attend! Presentations will be provided by K-State faculty, staff, students, extension agents, former exhibitors, and guest speakers. Topics will range from selection, to nutrition, to meat science, reproduction, health, clipping and grooming, and showmanship.

This is a family learning event! Everyone who plans to attend must register, including both youth and adults. The cost is \$20/person by the deadline, or \$25 after the deadline, for both events. Only those who register by the appropriate deadline will receive a t-shirt. Junior Beef Producer Day registrations are due February 12, with Junior Sheep being due February 26. Registration is open now and can be completed online using this link: <http://bit.ly/ksuasiregister>. Junior Producer Day event registrations are non-refundable.

For more information, contact Lexie Hayes at adhayes@ksu.edu or 785-532-1264.

Riley County Fair 2024 Open Class Challenge

“Scenes of Riley County”

Join us for the Riley County Fair 2024 Open Class “Scenes of Riley County” Challenge. This year the Riley County scene will focus on “**Windmills of Riley County**”. All pictures must be taken in Riley County and a description of the windmill and location must be included on the back of the photo. The winning photo will receive a special ribbon and will be hung in the Riley County Courthouse for one year. Cropping is allowed, but no digital manipulation. Only **ONE** entry per person. Please refer to the 2024 Riley County fair book for additional requirements when it comes out. Contact the Riley County Extension office with any questions about the challenge 785-537-6350.



2023-2024 Riley County 4-H Calendar

December

- 7 YQCA Training, 6-7:30 pm; Pottorf Hall
- 25 Christmas Holiday, Office Closed

January

- 1 NYE Holiday, Ext. Office Closed
- 4 YQCA Training; 6-7:30 pm; Pottorf Hall
- 8 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
- 10 YQCA Training; 6-7:30 pm; Pottorf Hall
- 11 NE Area PRF Screening, Pottorf Hall
- 15 MLK Jr. Day, Extension Office Closed
- 27 Horse Panorama, Rock Springs
- TBA 4-H Showcase Pre-Entry DUE
- TBA State and Local Scholarships DUE

February

- 17 Riley County Showcase, RCGS
- 19 Presidents Day, Extension Office Closed
- 24 Beef Weigh-In; Fairgrounds 1-3 pm
- TBA State Horse Judging
- TBA Citizenship in Action, Topeka

March

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

April

- Early April Red Wheel DUE to Club Leaders
- TBA Fair Royalty Applications DUE
- 20 Red Wheel Pick-Up, Pottorf Hall 9-9:30 am
- 20 State Shooting Sports Match
- TBA Discovery Days Registration DUE

May

- 1 Project Add/ Drop Deadline
- 6 Sheep & Goat Weigh-In/ Tagging,
Hulburt Arena, 5-7 pm
- 6 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
- TBA Discovery Days, KSU Campus
- TBA Fair Royalty Interview; Pottorf Hall
- TBA Emerald Circle Banquet

June

- 1 Horse ID Papers DUE
- 1 Dog Show (Disciplines TBA)
- 5-7 State Geology Field Trip
- 19 Juneteenth; Office Closed
- 22 Dog Show (Disciplines TBA)

July

- 1 4-H Council, 7pm Pottorf Hall
- 1 Fair Pre-Entries DUE
- 4 Independence Day, Ext Off. Closed
- 15 State Fair Livestock Entries DUE
- 18 Fair Fashion Review
- 20 4-H Horse Show
- 22 Fair Work Night, Pottorf Hall
- 23 4-H Photography Judging
- 23 4-H and Cloverbud Pet Show
- 24 4-H Visual Arts Judging
- 24 4-H and Cloverbud Foods Judging
- 25-29 Riley County Fair, Cico Park
- 30 Fairground Cleanup

August

- 2 State Fair Entry Forms DUE
- 10 State Horticulture & Livestock Judging
- 15 KJLS Entries DUE
- 24 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall

September

- 2 Labor Day, Extension Office Closed
- 4 State Fair Project DUE to Extension Office
- 6-15 Kansas State Fair
- 20 Project Report Forms & Awards DUE

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