



# RILEY COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER February 2025

## Fair Royalty Program

Please encourage older 4-H members to apply! Applications are available NOW. Fill one out today by visiting [www.riley.ksu.edu](http://www.riley.ksu.edu) (4-H → Forms/Resources → Other Resources). Contact the office if you have any questions. **Applications are due back to the Extension office by Monday, April 7, 2025 with interviews in June.**

## 4-H Showcase Event 2025

Our 4-H Showcase event date will be **February 22, 2025**. Once again we will be 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. Breakfast items will be available.

## Riley County 4-H Scholarships Available

State and local scholarships are now available at [www.riley.ksu.edu](http://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 Thursday, February 6**. If you have questions about filling out the applications, please do not hesitate to call John at the Riley County Extension Office for assistance 785-537-6350.

## State 4-H Scholarships Available

The Kansas 4-H Scholarship for the 2025 academic year can be found here <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).

## Important Enrollment Announcement

We are sending out project specific letters and emails. If your 4-Her is not enrolled, you will **not be receiving this important information**. We encourage you to enroll and double check project enrollment today! Here are links to guides to help you with [enrollment](#) and [adding/deleting projects](#).

### 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 -5 pm  
Friday 7:30 am - noon

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The Riley County Extension Office will be closed on Monday, February 17.



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 2024-2025

Monday, November 4, 2024; Monday, January 6, 2025; Monday, March 3, 2025; Monday, May 5, 2025; Monday, June 30, 2025; Monday, August 18, 2025 (Labor Day is September 1)

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

## 4-H TRIPle E Excellent Exchange Experience

Did you know that there is a multi-county 4-H Interstate Exchange Trip group that 4-H youth can join?

4-Hers who are 12 years old or will be by June 10 this year, through those who are 18 4-H age on January 1 are eligible. Our group has recently planned, organized, fund-raised for, and participated in very fun, successful, enjoyable, educational, and awesome road trips to Ohio in 2023 and North Carolina in 2024, where we stayed with 4-H families there to learn about their customs, lifestyle, 4-H activities, and toured educational, historical sites in their states, plus en-route.

For the week of July 6 THIS summer, we will be hosting 4-Hers and their chaperones from North Carolina and Pennsylvania, then in 2026 we will travel to Eastern Pennsylvania. They are very excited to travel here and to host us next year!!!

We are currently seeking more 4-Hers and families to become involved in our program. The only cost is a \$75 application fee per 4-Her, and requirement to help with fundraisers when we have them. Travel expenses are covered by 4-H TRIPle E, and admission fees to visit attractions are paid by our group when we host, and by the other state when we travel there.

If your family might be interested, please contact Cherie Trieb at 785-844-0781 to discuss your questions and concerns, plus to be added to our list for meeting reminders.

If any Clubs would like a program about this for a 4-H Meeting or other events, please contact me to arrange with our members.

PLEASE plan to JOIN us at our next meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 7:00 PM at Green Valley Community Center, Green Valley Road, Manhattan. Please plan to arrive early, if this is your 1st meeting.

Please note: There is a need to host adult chaperones, so if you don't have a 4-Her in your family to serve as a host, but you would like to become involved in our program by hosting an adult 4-H parent or leader, please let me know!!!

## Beef Tagging and Weigh In 2025

**Market Beef** -- Riley County 4-H beef weigh-in and tagging will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 15 at the Riley County Fairgrounds. All market beef animals (both steers and market heifers) that will be shown at the Riley County Fair must be weighed and tagged on this date.

**Heifers – Reminder: NEW LAST YEAR** –All commercial (unregistered) breeding heifers need to be tagged by May 1. We prefer that you bring them to the tagging event on February 15. Registered heifers must be owned by June 15 and registered in the 4-Hers name by June 15 if they are to be shown in the registered classes. (If there is a chance you might not get registration papers by June 15, then we recommend having them tagged with an official 4-H ear tag by May 1.)

**Bucket Calves** – Bucket calves must be born between January 1 and May 1, and need to be tagged with an official 4-H ear tag by May 15. They don't have to come to weigh-in (but they can). They may be tagged at home with a non-family member verifying the tagging. Stop by the Extension Office to get a tag. We also have a tagger you may borrow.

## To Continue Receiving 4-H Emails and Newsletter—please act!

Starting in early March, we will be transitioning to using 4-H Online for all email communications. This will include newsletters, reminders, announcements, and more. Emails will only be sent to families who are currently enrolled in 4-H.

To ensure you continue receiving these important updates, please complete the enrollment process as soon as possible. [Enrollment Guide PDF](#)

If your 4-Her has aged out of the program but you'd still like to receive 4-H emails, please let me know, and we'll make sure you remain on the list.

## YQCA Program

The YQCA program is a national, multi-species youth livestock quality assurance program available for youth 7-21 years of age. The program focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and character development. This is annual training, as the learning modules change each year. The curriculum grows with young people as they advance through the program.

In the absence of an agriculture agent, Riley County 4-H youth will be recommended to receive certification online at: [yqcaprogram.org](http://yqcaprogram.org).

**7-year-olds must receive training in person.** For those youth or others who wish to have an in-person option, information for that can be found below.

**Who needs to attend?** – All Riley County 4-H members exhibiting **market livestock** (beef, sheep, swine, goats) at the county fair must attend a quality assurance training annually to receive valid certification. Also, **all exhibitors** attending the Kansas State Fair or KJLS must be certified annually.

### **Riley County Certification Options**

Online Course - \$12/child – youth complete age-specific knowledge builders, skills labs, and quizzes online at their convenience. It must be completed on a computer with high-speed internet access; Google Chrome is encouraged for best compatibility.

Test-out Exam – It is only available online for 12 and 15-year-olds (first year of the intermediate and senior age divisions). Youth have one opportunity to pass a 50-question exam.

### **Registration Instructions**

A help video and pdf document can be found at the following link. Also, don't hesitate to call our office with any questions: [YQCA Registration Help Page](#)

### **In-person Classes**

The only option for certifying seven-year-old members is through instructor-led classes. There are two options this year for attending an in-person class. In-person classes are \$3 per child

- Attending an in-person class after a Junior Producer Day in Manhattan  
On March 1 and March 22: after Junior Producers days, an in-person YQCA class will be offered. [Find details on this page.](#)

If you are wanting to attend the YQCA class only, please let Lexi Hayes know at: [adhayes@ksu.edu](mailto:adhayes@ksu.edu)

- Attending at a neighboring county.  
Many of our neighboring counties will be offering YQCA classes in person. If you would like this, reach out, and we can help you locate class times and locations as many dates are still being set.

Question? Please contact Daniel at [skuciusd@k-state.edu](mailto:skuciusd@k-state.edu)

# Leaders and Parents

## Consider in February

- 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 22; 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
- Start the conversation about exhibiting at county fair with new families
- Encourage older 4-Hers to run for Fair Royalty (see page 1)

## Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge (YEC) 2025

Are you a high school-age youth living or attending school in Riley County? Have you ever had an idea for a business or product, but haven't had the outlet or guidance to put together a business plan or prototype? Well HERE is your chance to make it happen...and earn some MONEY!

In partnership with the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, Riley County Extension, Network Kansas, SPARK and generous donations from local donors, we will be hosting our 8th Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge (YEC) event on Wednesday, March 12 at the Manhattan Town Center Mall. Participants will have the opportunity to compete against other young entrepreneurs for \$3,000 + in cash.

The competition consists of (3) components including; the submission of a simple business plan, the creation of a tabletop trade show booth, and finally a 5-6 minutes formal presentation in front of a panel of judges. All three of these components will be judged based on a specific set of predetermined criteria.

If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, I would love to get you started by sharing event specifics, including the scoring rubrics used by judges, but also the template for creating a solid business plan.

To recap, if you're high school age, living or attending school in Riley County, are interested in business or entrepreneurship, and are willing to create a business plan, tradeshow booth, and present a 5-6 minute presentation, you will have the chance to win a portion of the \$3,000 + in cash. Call the Riley County Extension office or email me at [jajobe@ksu.edu](mailto:jajobe@ksu.edu) to get started today.

## Riley County 4-H and Red Wheel Fundraiser

Riley County 4-H is excited to offer Red Wheel products as a fundraiser! A variety of items are available, including pizza, enchiladas, pretzel bites, kitchen accessories, dip mixes, and more. Some items can be shipped directly to your home, while others will be delivered by a Riley County 4-H member.

Funds raised will support 4-H club activities, community service projects, and more.

To place an order or learn more, please contact a Riley County 4-H member or the Riley County Extension Office by March 25. Thank you for supporting Riley County 4-H!



## Kansas State Youth Livestock Program

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Save the Date! K-State will be hosting a spring meat judging contest on April 5, 2025. This will be a great educational opportunity for youth to hone their skills. Stay tuned for registration details.

**KANSAS STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**INVITATIONAL  
MEAT JUDGING  
CONTEST**

**APRIL 5, 2025**

**WEBER HALL  
REGISTRATION OPENS AT 7:00AM  
CONTEST BEGINS AT 8:00AM**

**REGISTRATION INFO TO COME  
QUESTIONS TO ERIN BEYER  
ERBEYER@KSU.EDU**



## Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Scholarship

YQCA is excited to announce the 2025 Scholarship Program available to high school seniors and students enrolled in a 2-4 year university or certification program.

You must be a high school senior up to 21 year of age. You also must have an active YQCA certification at the time of application (2025) and have had active YQCA certification the previous two years (2023, 2024). As a high school senior, the essay question regarding your future plans to enter the agriculture industry or commitment to a university will be considered for eligibility.

**Applications open January 1, 2025 and close February 17, 2025.** For more information, visit <https://yqcaprogram.org/local/scholarship-program.php>

## 2024-2025 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 using the 4-H Online log in page.

Completed your enrolment, but need to add projects? Click on the link [Editing 4-H Projects](#)

## **Riley County Fair 2025 Open Class Challenge “Scenes of Riley County”**

Join us for the Riley County Fair 2025 Open Class “Scenes of Riley County” Challenge. This year the Riley County scene will focus on “**People of Riley County**”. All pictures must be taken in Riley County and a description of the person(s) 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 2025 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.



# 2025 Riley County 4-H Calendar

## February

- 6 Local Scholarships DUE by 5 to Ext. Office
- 16-17 Citizenship in Action, Topeka
- 15 Beef Weigh-In; Fairgrounds 1-3 pm
- 17 Presidents Day, Extension Office Closed
- 22 Riley County Showcase, RCGS
- 22-23 Horse Panorama, Rock Springs
- TBA State Horse Judging
- TBA 4-H Ambassador Training, Rock Springs

## March

- 1 State 4-H Scholarship and State PRFs DUE
- 1 Red Wheel Sales Begin
- 3 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hal
- Late March Red Wheel Sales DUE to your club

## April

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

## May

- 1 Project Add/ Drop Deadline
- 3 Sheep & Goat Weigh-In/ Tagging, Hurlburt Arena, 5-7 pm
- 5 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
- 30 Dog Fair Pre-Entry Deadline
- TBA Discovery Days, KSU Campus
- TBA Emerald Circle Banquet

## June

- 1 Horse ID Papers DUE
- 7 Dog Show (Disciplines TBA)
- 19 Juneteenth, Extension Office Closed
- 28 Dog Show (Disciplines TBA)
- 30 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
- TBA State Geology Field Trip
- TBA Fair Royalty Interview; Pottorf Hall

## July

- 1 Fair Pre-Entries DUE
- 4 Independence Day, Ext Off. Closed
- 15 State Fair Livestock Entries DUE
- 17 Fair Fashion Review
- 19 4-H Horse Show
- 21 Fair Work Night, Pottorf Hall
- 22 4-H Photography Judging
- 22 4-H and Cloverbud Pet Show
- 23 4-H Visual Arts Judging
- 23 4-H and Cloverbud Foods Judging
- 24-28 Riley County Fair, Cico Park
- 29 Fairground Cleanup

## August

- 1 State Fair Entry Forms DUE
- 15 KJLS Entries DUE
- 18 4-H Council, 7 pm Pottorf Hall
- TBA State Horticulture & Livestock Judging

## September

- 1 Labor Day, Extension Office Closed
- 4 State Fair Project DUE to Extension Office
- 5-14 Kansas State Fair
- 19 Project Report Forms & Awards DUE

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