News Column for Use the Week of October 14, 2024 Marissa Hurst, 4-H Youth Development K-State Research & Extension River Valley District October 10, 2024

## National 4-H Week

Every year, October 1<sup>st</sup> brings the start of a new 4-H year. October also means the celebration of National 4-H Week. National 4-H week is a time for celebration for a new 4-H year and a time for the promotion of 4-H to new audiences. This is also a time for current 4-H members and volunteers to try to recruit more 4-H members and volunteers for the upcoming 4-H year. This year, National 4-H Week took place October 6-12, 2024.

Throughout the week, River Valley promoted 4-H in several different ways. You may have seen the Clay County Courthouse all lit up in green lights. That's right, that was in honor of National 4-H Week! All elementary-aged youth in the district received a 4-H promotional bookmark. On Wednesday, October 9, all current 4-H members, alumni, volunteers, and staff were encouraged to wear their 4-H green and their clovers for a 4-H Spirit Day! Several 4-H members even went into classrooms to bring awareness of the 4-H program to their peers.

National 4-H week comes to a conclusion with the 48 Hours of 4-H event. 48 Hours of 4-H is the opportunity for youth in Kansas to organize a service project. This weekend long event is an opportunity for 4-H members to give back to their communities with service projects ranging from canned food drives, to pet care drives, to community clean ups.

You can see more of River Valley's National 4-H efforts on our Facebook page "River Valley 4-H."

The River Valley Extension District (Clay, Cloud, Republic, and Washington Counties) has 22 different clubs that would love to have you join as a youth member or as a volunteer! Call any of our Extension Offices for more information today. Belleville at 785-527-5084, Clay Center at 785-632-5335, Concordia at 785-243-5335, and Washington at 785-325-2121.

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