



FEBRUARY 2015

## Adams County 4-H Newsletter

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### February is....



# NEBRASKA 4-H MONTH

**Show your 4-H Pride by wearing a 4-H shirt on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> to help celebrate Nebraska 4-H Month.** The theme for 2015 is "#iam4H" We hope this theme inspires our youth to become involved leaders in their clubs and communities. Celebrate 4-H as youth step up and take responsibility for their future and ours. 4-H month is a great time to recruit new 4-H members, invite friends to a 4-H meeting, thank volunteer leaders and parents or local businesses who support the 4-H program.

### 4-H Geocaching starting during Nebraska 4-H Month

It's a challenge, It's a game, It's all about Fun! It is part of a world wide game dedicated to GPS (Global Positioning System) users, called Geocaching. The game basically involves a GPS user hiding "treasure" (a container and its contents), and publishing the exact coordinates so other GPS users can come on a "treasure hunt" to find it. The only rules are: if you take something from the cache, you must leave something for the cache, and you must write about your visit in the logbook. We have hidden 20 caches in Adams County for you to find. Our game will start on February 11<sup>th</sup> and continue until fair time, we hope that 4-H families will participate in our Geocaching Event, it is a great way to spend some family time. During the Adams County Fair we will reveal the logs with a winner or winners announced from finding all 20 caches. The coordinates will be listed on geocaching.com for people using the app, they will also be listed on the Adams County Extension web site and Adams County Extension Facebook Page, or you can simply pick up a list at the Extension Office. GPS devices are available for 4-H members to check out for a week at a time with a \$10.00 deposit. Good Luck and have Fun Geocaching!

### **Raising Nebraska Celebrates Nebraska 4-H Month**

In celebration of Nebraska 4-H Month, Raising Nebraska is hosting a 4-H Day on Saturday, February 7, 2015 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. All 4-H youth, families, and volunteers are invited to attend this free event. Guests will enjoy interactive hands-on stations focused on 4-H programs and enjoy Raising Nebraska as they explore and discover information about Nebraska agriculture. Raising Nebraska is an interactive experience like no other. From science and innovation, to community and culture, and even the global economy, Nebraska's agricultural experience touches everyone. Through this incredible 25,000-foot interactive exhibit, you actually become part of it – in ways you never imagined and that you'll never forget. Raising Nebraska is located in the Nebraska Building on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds at 501 E Fonner Park Rd, Grand Island, NE 68801. For more information on Raising Nebraska, visit [www.raisingnebraska.net](http://www.raisingnebraska.net).

### **Tri-City Storm 4-H Night**

Join Buffalo County 4-H in celebrating Nebraska 4-H Month during group night at the Storm game! Tickets are only \$8, with free kid's tickets for each paid adult. 4-H'ers please wear a 4-H T-Shirt! Make sure to bring a full sized bottle of shampoo or conditioner or a canned food item to the game! The Storm and Buffalo County 4-H have partnered up to donate all items brought to the game to local charities. To order tickets, Contact Andrew Snyderman @ 308-338-8144 or [andrew@stormhockey.com](mailto:andrew@stormhockey.com)

### **Office Closed**

In observation of Presidents Day, the Adams County Extension Office will be close on February 16.

### ***Thank You***

Thank you to all who made the 4-H Council's Soup Supper a huge success. The chicken noodle, chili, and desserts were delicious. A special thank you goes to the 4-H Council fund raising committee for taking charge of the event along with the business sponsors. The CWF baskets were beautiful and unique, along with outstanding decorated cakes for the cake auction. A special thank you to Randy Ruhter from Ruhter Auction for being the auctioneer. Also a huge THANKS to all the 4-H'ers, leaders, council members and volunteers for making the 2015 4-H Kick-Off and Shooting Sports Kick Off a successful event.

### **Meet Steve**

Hello Adams County 4-H! My name is Steve Landon and I am the new 4-H Educator. I am very excited to have joined the wonderful Extension staff here in Hastings and am anxious to meet you. A little about myself, I grew up in a small town of Greenwood, Nebraska on a diversified crop farm. During my youth period, I was a 4-H member in Lancaster County where I showed livestock, crop displays and cooking. I attended University of Nebraska-Lincoln and received both my BS in Diversified Agriculture and MS in Leadership Education. After college, I began my career within Extension in Washington County (Blair) where I had been for seven years as an Extension Assistant.

### **Note from the Office regarding 4-H Online Enrollment**

As most of you know the Extension staff across Nebraska is going through a change, we are changing to a "new" enrollment system called 4-H Online. Please be patient with this process, plans are to send out enrollment packets with complete instructions in February and have an "special enrollment event" with help available to make this enrollment process less painful in March. Watch for more details.



## **Leaders & Parents Corner**



### **Junior Leader News**

The Adams County 4-H Junior Leaders will meet for on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Bowling Alley, please bring \$2.00 for dues. Anyone is welcome to join the Junior Leader's Club that is 12 years old and will be 13 by January 1, 2015, or is 13 years or older now. You must be an active member of the Adams County 4-H program by being a member of an organized 4-H club or an Independent member. Junior Leaders do a lot of fun, learning and leadership activities. Some of the activities the club does are: pancake feed and food booth at the county fair, helping with Leader's Banquet, along with helping members and younger 4-H'ers with 4-H projects and being positive role model for younger 4-H'ers. Bring a friend and make new friends. Also you are eligible to earn a scholarship. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Shaw (402-756-6636) or the Adams County Extension Office (402-461-7209).

## **SAVE THE DATES!**

### **Pre-Fair Entry Forms – Deadline is Monday, June 15**

#### **2015 Adams County Fairfest Dates**

Its official! The 2015 Adams County Fair is **July 15 to July 20**. Static Exhibits will be entered Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> and Livestock check-in the evening of Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. Livestock Auction will be Monday, July 20<sup>nd</sup>. Livestock show schedule will be the same as last year. A calendar for other contests and events will be in the enrollment packets to be sent out mid February.

### **Leader & Volunteer Forms**

Forms were mailed out in December, have you filled yours out yet? Please remember to fill out and Return ASAP.

### **Giving Your Best On-line Program (Science Behind Your 4-H Project)**

Pump up the fun and educational value of your 4-H experience through science! Science is a valuable and interesting part of everything we do. Learn simple techniques to bring scientific concepts to the forefront of different 4-H projects in a variety of areas. Make plans to join a FREE, live web-based program designed for 4-H volunteers, leaders, parents and youth development professionals. Five separate web-based programs are being offered to benefit science enthusiasts, 4-H volunteers and parents as they enroll in 4-H, hold 4-H club meetings and expand 4-H activities into their communities. Register online at: <http://4h.unl.edu/givingyourbestwebseminars>. Once you are registered you will receive an email with the webinar link and additional information related to each program. Participate from your home or anywhere you have access to the internet. Each program will meet on-line for one hour to help connect parents and volunteers to pertinent youth development knowledge. Choose to participate in one or all of 5-different web-based programs on the following dates from Noon to 1:00 p.m. CST.

- February 10 Crop Science
- February 24 Design My Place
- March 10 Entomology
- March 24 What's on Your Plate?
- March 31 Child Development

All programs will be presented by area UNL 4-H Youth Development Extension Educators.

### **First Lego League Volunteers Needed!**

Get on board with one of the fastest growing 4-H projects – Robotics! On-site volunteers are needed at the Nebraska First Lego League Tournaments. Dates/locations include:

- February 21, 2015 – Championship held in Ashland (Strategic Air & Space Museum)

Learn more at <http://4h.unl.edu/firstvolunteer>.

### **4-H Council Information**

#### ***January 4-H Council Happenings:***

- Shooting Sports – Archery
- Revisions of Bylaws
- New Adams County 4-H T-shirt design

#### ***February 4-H Council Agenda Items:***

- March Beef Weigh Day
- Clover Kid Projects
- Quality Assurance Update
- 4-H Scholarship

### **Youth Information**

#### **Recruiting youth for 2016 & 2019 CWF Conferences**

***Please take note we have changed the year we are going!***

Youth who are 15 to 18 years old in the years of 2016 & 2019 are invited and welcomed to sign up for a trip of a lifetime! Youth will experience the cities of Chicago, New York City, Washington D.C. and more. We will stay at the 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland for a week of the Citizen Washington Focus Conference. If you are interested in attending any future conferences, please contact UNL Extension in Adams County at (402)461-7209. It is never too early to sign up. **Mark your calendar for the next meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.**

#### **Scholarships Available**

Seniors and even some juniors in high school should be looking at scholarships to continue their education. There are numerous agricultural companies, organizations and colleges that offer scholarships to students who have long term career goals in agriculture. There are of course a lot of local and county scholarships and in addition to these you will there are a lot of national scholarships, as well as numerous ag scholarships offered at the state level. Now is the time to put together a good resume – it helps! It also helps to have a good cover letter to include with your application.

#### **Scholarships on the Web:**

- <http://brownfieldagnews.com/site-map/scholarships/>
  - Agricultural Scholarships and can be found at <http://www.agriculturescholarships.us/>
- all kinds of scholarships can be found at: <http://www.nextstudent.com/directory-of-scholarships>

**Nebraska 4-H Scholarships** -- there are several statewide Nebraska 4-H scholarships. Go to [www.ne4hfoundation.org/scholarships.htm](http://www.ne4hfoundation.org/scholarships.htm) for a list and more information. Deadline is March 1.

- **CASNR Scholarship** - Any graduating senior planning to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln CASNR with an ACT of 26 or higher may be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship. Contact Ron or Steve for more details.
- **Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards** -- two scholarships to UNL College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources or College of Education and Human Sciences. Note: Deadline is March 15.
- **Ag. Scholarship** -- The Hastings Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee is offering a scholarship for students with at least a C average pursuing a college or university education and major in an agricultural field. The student must attend a 2 or 4 year college or university within Nebraska to qualify. Please contact the Extension Office to receive an application form.
- **Adams County 4-H Council** – Two \$500 scholarships (one male & one female) for a Senior pursuing a 2 or 4 year degree. Please contact the Extension Office to receive a form. Due April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Governor's Agricultural Excellence Awards**

The Nebraska 4-H Foundation and the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) are pleased to again offer the Governor's Agricultural Excellence Awards sponsored by the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) which recognize 4-H clubs for individual work and community service. Since 1997, twenty-five clubs have been recognized each year. Recognition in the form of \$500 checks are issued to the club's treasury to be used as described in the award application. A public presentation of the checks will be made to the winning clubs during the PASE/Life Challenge Event on UNL East Campus on Monday evening, June 29, 2015.

Clubs may use the award dollars for many different programs including: community workshops or conferences, club trips or tours, community improvement projects, campus visits, fair grounds enhancement, inter-generational programs, and the development of a youth council. While the majority of the clubs choose a project that benefits many others in their community some have chosen to celebrate their success by providing more experiences for club members. Applications are available on-line at [www.ne4hfoundation.org](http://www.ne4hfoundation.org). The application deadline is March 2, 2015. Email applications to Desirae TePoel at the 4-H Foundation office at [dtepoel2@unl.edu](mailto:dtepoel2@unl.edu). Please indicate in the subject line that it is a Governor's Ag Excellence Application.

### **4-H Appreciation Day at the Omaha Children's Museum**

In celebration of Nebraska 4-H Month, the Omaha Children's Museum is sponsoring a 4-H Appreciation Day on **Saturday, February 21, 2015**, from 9am-5pm. ALL Nebraska 4-H members, parents and volunteers are invited to enjoy FREE admission for the general exhibits plus the special ag literacy exhibit "Once Upon a Farm" at the Omaha Children's Museum on Saturday, February 21, from 9am-5pm. This is a \$11 value per person! The OCM just asks that 4-H members, parents and volunteers wear 4-H shirts (with a 4-H clover) as their proof of 4-H membership for FREE admission. In addition to the FREE admission, the OCM is offering a discounted membership (discount code: UNL4H) to Nebraska 4-H families. The Omaha Children's Museum is located at 500 South 20th Street, Omaha, NE 68102. For more information about the Omaha Children's Museum and the special exhibit, go to: <http://www.ocm.org/>

### **Project Information**



### **Shooting Sports**

#### **Calendar for Adams County Shooting Sports Activities:**

- Shooting Sports Starts – Week of January 26<sup>th</sup>
- Shotgun Starts – March 7<sup>th</sup>
- Shooting Sports Picnic – April 12<sup>th</sup>

### **Madison County 4-H Indoor 3-D Archery Shoot**

Saturday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> at the Madison County Fairgrounds in Madison, NE.  
Continuous registration and line.

- Saturday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am-12:00pm check in-- 4-H and Youth only. (ages 8 and up)  
12:00pm – 5:00pm check in-- Open to the public.
- Sunday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am – 2:00pm check in-- Open to the public.

Cost:

\$8.00 – YA, Youth and cubs, \$15.00/adults, \$27.00 for family of 3 or more.

For more information contact: [norfolkarcheryclub@hotmail.com](mailto:norfolkarcheryclub@hotmail.com)

### **Seeking 4-H Shooting Sports National Championship Participants**

Nebraska will be hosting the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships at the Heartland Public Shooting Park and Events Center in Grand Island on June 21-26, 2015. This event will involve 4-H youth from across the nation competing in nine disciplines. These include: Compound Archery, Recurve Archery, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, .22 Rifle, .22 Pistol, Shotgun, Muzzleloading, and Hunting Skills. Nebraska has selected or will be selecting teams to represent our State in shotgun, recurve archery, compound archery, air pistol, smallbore pistol and air rifle. However, we are still seeking eligible youth interested in participating in the 2015 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships in the following discipline areas – muzzleloading, smallbore rifle and hunting skills. Participants must have passed their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1 of the current year and may not have passed their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1 of the current year in which the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships is held. More details will be available at a later date. 4-H youth who are interested in participating in one of the above discipline areas are requested to complete the “4-H Shooting Sports National Championships Interest Form.” This form can be found at - <http://4h.unl.edu/shootingsportsforms>. Deadline to complete and return this form is March 1, 2015. Participants will be notified by one of the Nebraska coaches with more details after the deadline.

### **2015 Nebraska State BB Gun & Air Rifle Championships**

The Nebraska State 4-H BB Gun & Air Rifle Championships will be held March 14-15 at Broken Bow High School in Broken Bow, NE. State BB Gun competition will be held On Saturday, March 14 and State Air Rifle competition will be held on Sunday, March 15 at the high school. Pre-registration is required for both events. Registration information and entry forms can be found at - <http://4h.unl.edu/shootingsportseventcalendar>.

## **Clover Kids**

### **What is Clover Kids?**

Clover Kids is a 4-H program for children ages 5-to 7- years old as of January 1 of current year. Children participate in hand-on activities designed to build lots of different life skills!

### **New for Clover Kids**

The Adams County 4-H Council has voted to add two new Projects to your 2015 Project selection they are:

- Clover Kids Bucket Calf
- Halter Lamb

Please enroll in the appropriate project. These animals will be shown in special classes at the fair.

A list of guidelines will be available at the Adams County Extension Office. Please feel free to talk to Julie regarding these new exhibits.

## **Communications**

### **Photography Themes for 2015**



#### **• UNIT II: NEBRASKA PHOTOGRAPHY CAREER EXHIBIT PRINT:**

Explore a career as an editorial photographer. Editorial photographers take pictures that highlight the topics being written about in books, magazines, and newspapers. Editorial photos should be creative, powerful images that tell an intriguing story. Let's tell a story about why we love our Nebraska communities. Capture editorial **photos that tell a story about your Nebraska Community.**

- **UNIT III: NEBRASKA PHOTOGRAPHY CAREER EXHIBIT PRINT:** Explore a career as a commercial photographer. Commercial photographers take pictures that are used for promotional purposes. Commercial photographs are often used in print and online communication materials (advertisements, brochures, flyers, web sites, social media banners, direct email messages, etc.). Capture commercial photos that **tell the story of 4-H in your Nebraska community; photos should show the Nebraska 4-H Program in action.**

### **Speech, PSA, & Performing Arts Contest**

If your love is public speaking or entertaining an audience this contest is for you! Now is the time to start gearing up for this contest. You can register until March 16<sup>th</sup> and the contest is on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 p.m. Classes available are:  
Speech for Jr. Int. Sr.

PSA for Jr. Int. Sr.

Performing Arts – Drill or Dance Routine (Individual or Group), Song Group, Combo or Band, Individual Vocal, Individual Instrumental, Whole Club Performance, Duet – Vocal, Duet – Instrumental, Other: such as one-act plays, musical performances, pantomimes etc.



### **Family and Consumer Science**

#### **Quilts of Valor Challenge / National Quilts of Valor Day**

Nebraska 4-H youth, families, and/or volunteers are being asked to participate in a statewide community service effort by creating and donating quilts to the service men and women who are protecting our country and who are “touched by war.” The quilts will be collected and given through the Quilts of Valor Foundation. Mark your calendar Adams County 4-Hers along with Hastings Quilt Guild will be holding a **special quilting event** to promote the **National Quilts of Valor Day on February 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Julie’s Xpressions & Calico Cottage – 743 West 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Please call the Adams County Extension office at 402-461-7209 and reserve your space for the workshop there will be no charge for this workshop and lunch will be provided.

#### **Life Challenge**

**An organizational meeting will be on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room at the Adams County Office Building.** Please call (402) 461-7209, if you are willing to make a time commitment to the Adams County Challenge team. The Life Challenge Contest dates are official, June 29 & 30 at UNL, East Campus. You will have a good time while you learn. If you need more details, contact Julie at the Adams County Extension Office.

#### **Fashion Board Meeting**

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, March 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room** for this meeting. The Fashion Board is open to any 4-H'er, 12 years and older involved in Clothing and Consumer Education. The purpose of this board is to enhance personal development in clothing selection and construction, build leadership skills, and explore career choices in the fashion industry.

### **Reverse Applique Workshop**

Reverse appliqué, made popular by Natalie Channin of Alabama Channin, is a technique that involves hand stitching shapes on two layers of fabric. The top layer of fabric between the stitching is cut away to reveal the color underneath. Alabama Channin uses reverse appliqué on garments, but in our Workshop, we will be making home decor pillows with an envelope back. Through this workshop, you will learn: the "running stitch", cutting and serging on knit fabric, and envelope back pillow finish. The joint (Clay, Thayer, Nuckols and Adams county workshop will take place on Friday, March 13 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Clay County Fairgrounds in Clay Center. Please bring a sack lunch. Sign up for the workshop online at <http://go.unl.edu/rev-applique> or by calling your local Extension office. This workshop will be taught by Jacie Milius. Workshop fee \$25.00 (supplies included); please make checks payable to Clay County 4-H Council.

### **The STEAM Clothing Series**

This new series of curricula looks at clothing in a whole new way - from the points of view of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Youth will experience the cyclical processes of science, engineering, and design. They will also be introduced to the technology available in sewing and how math fits into clothing construction.

**These new projects will take the place of current Sewing For Fun, Clothing 1 & 2, Decorate Your Duds, Sewing for You and Tailoring.**

- ***Beyond the Needle***: youth will learn all about the 'A' in STEAM Clothing -- the Art! This youth manual includes activities for three skill levels: beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Youth will learn the design basics and create a portfolio to exhibit samples made to practice specific techniques. Then, youth will be able to create their own fabulous embellishments and treatments on garments. If you love art, then this STEAM Clothing manual is for you! *Beyond the Needle replaces Decorate your Duds.*
- ***STEAM Clothing 1: FUNDamentals***, youth will gather the tools they'll need to begin sewing, understand textiles through fun science experiments, learn beginning math and engineering techniques in clothing construction, and take their skills a step further, investigating businesses, service learning projects, and modeling. *FUNDamentals combines Sewing For Fun & Clothing 1.*
- ***STEAM Clothing 2: Simply Sewing***, youth will prepare for more advanced sewing techniques and projects, conduct more advanced textile science experiments, focus on advanced engineering techniques, add finishing touches and style to garments, and market and calculate prices of products. This curriculum is a combined leader/youth guide, with pages to print/copy for youth to complete as part of the activities.
  - ***STEAM Clothing 3: A Stitch Further*** —replaces *Challenging Patterns and Challenging Fabrics* (*Sewing For You and Tailoring* projects), youth will learn the advanced, couture techniques used by designers to create unique garments. Youth will take the science of textiles a step further, and learn to sew garments with challenging patterns and fabrics, learn couture sewing techniques, and learn how to sell your professional-looking garments and accessories. This curriculum is a youth guide, with pages for youth to complete as part of the activities. *A Stitch Further* builds upon the skills developed in *Simply Sewing* and *FUNDamentals* and continues the development of the portfolio. This curriculum is available in both a printed and digital version.

**You will be able to take the Beyond the Needle project and only 1 Clothing level project, do not try and sign up for Beyond the Needle, Clothing 1 and Clothing 3 this will not be allowed.**

## Environmental Ed & Earth Science

### Special Gardening Project – Reserve Your Seeds

The Special Garden Project is a way to offer 4-H members the chance to grow unusual and fun projects in their gardens. This year it is focused on the crisp, White Satin Carrot. White Satin Carrots is a uniquely white carrot that has many uses. The pure white roots hide underground beneath tall green tops. It will take on average 68 days from planting to harvest. This crop allows you to have two harvests in one year! The seeds can be directly planted outside early spring, April-May. A fall crop can be planted in June-August for a later harvest.

4-H'ers enrolled in the Special Garden Project will:

- Receive seeds for the White Satin Carrot (one 'packet' per youth) in mid April.
- a newsletter about: planting & growing carrots, carrot problems & insects, exhibiting carrots, recipes, and careers
- 4-H members are able to enter the roots in the horticulture class and other projects in the Special Garden Project Class at County Fair and State Fair.

We have **ordered a limited number** of seed packets. Each 'packet' will have enough seeds for the youth to plant a 6' row. The **cost is \$1.00 per family packet**. If interested in the project, please contact the Adams County Extension Office at (402) 461-7209. **Please note:** that in Adams County you will still need to enroll in one of the regular horticulture projects and the Special Gardening Project to participate in this activity.

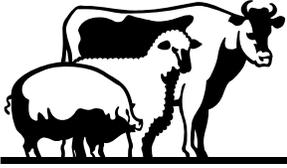
### Flower Barrel Workshop and Pick –up

Learn the basics of growing eye catching flower barrels at a workshop, **Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, from 7-8 p.m. at the Community Service Building on the Fairgrounds**. The workshop is open to all 4-H'ers interested in planting a barrel for the 2015 County Fair. Flower barrel (container gardening) culture is both fun and rewarding. Learn about soil requirements, design and color, plant selection, fertilization and care of flower barrels. University of Nebraska-Lincoln Master Gardeners will conduct the workshop. Barrels will be available for pick-up following the workshop. This will be the only time available for pick-up. Please call if you cannot attend so other arrangements may be made. Be sure to sign up to attend this workshop at the UNL Extension Office in Adams County by Friday April 17<sup>th</sup>.



### 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Innovative Youth Corn Challenge

Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Corn Board are offering the fourth Innovative Youth Corn Challenge contest. This contest, open to 4-H members (age 10 & older as of Jan. 1st) or FFA members (in-school members), guides participants through all aspects of corn production, as well as agricultural careers related to corn production. As a team, youth will be challenged to implement a production practice different than normal to determine if they increased their yield. Economics and sustainability of the practice will also be considered. Yields, cropping history, and production information will be collected in the Corn Yield Challenge management summary. Cash prizes and plaques will be given to the first, second, and third place teams. First place will receive \$1,000, second place will receive \$500, and third place will receive \$250. Sustainability, crop scouting and "extra mile" awards will also be given, each worth \$200. To participate in 2015, youth must complete and return an entry form by March 15th to the Fillmore County Extension Office in Geneva, NE. Forms can be downloaded at [cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities](http://cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities). For more information, contact Brandy VanDeWalle at [brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu](mailto:brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu), Aaron Nygren at [anygren2@unl.edu](mailto:anygren2@unl.edu) or Amy Timmerman at [atimmerman2@unl.edu](mailto:atimmerman2@unl.edu).



## **Livestock**

### **Beef Weigh Day – Only 1 date left! Mark your Calendars!**

The last Beef Weigh Day is scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Animal Clinic, from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Exhibitors planning on showing Market Beef at fair will need to weigh

their beef Animals include:

- Market Steers
- Market Heifers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Bucket Calves (Steers & Heifers)
- Beef Carcass Contest possibles

If you plan on showing a heifer that you are questioning whether to show it as a market heifer or a breeding heifer please be sure to weigh her in as a market animal, you may change it to a breeding heifer later by using the proper tag or tattoo(required for State Fair) prior to Livestock Identification Day (June 1, 2015).

Also remember, these are the only times that DNA will be taken for State Fair and AK-SAR-BEN. The cost of this is \$6.00 each. The cost of each ear tag is \$1.00

Please do not make arrangements for any vet work to be done on your animals during this time.

With the two weigh days, your animals will still be eligible for rate of gain and/or carcass contest, the animals starting weigh date will simply be counted from the day weighed in.

### **2015 Horsin Around**

2015 Horsin Around will be February 28 – March 1, 2015, in the RB Warren Arena of the UNL Animal Science Complex on East Campus. Featured trainer will be Jeff Mellott of Andover, KS.

### **4-H Horse Stampede**

The 2015 4-H Horse Stampede has been scheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2015 and entries due to the Adams County office by Friday, February 13, 2015. So, mark your calendars!!



For more information on stampede please go to the animal science extension horse webpage:

<http://animalscience.unl.edu/web/anisci/ANSCEExtensionEquine4HHorseStampede> to find a schedule, entry forms and contest rules. The following events are scheduled for 4-Hers to participate in:

- (New Event) Public Speaking Contest - Public Speaking Contest topics must be related to Nebraska 4-H Strategic Plan topics (include information related to at least one of the 5 Significant Outcomes: 4-H Strategic Plan Outcomes - - 4-H Science, Agricultural Literacy, Career Development/College Readiness, Citizenship and Leadership, and Healthy Living.
- Demonstration Contest
- Art Contest
- Horse Bowl Contest
- Photography Contest

### **\*New Event \* Companion Animal Challenge**

The 2015 4-H Companion Animal Challenge will be held in conjunction with the Horse Stampede is scheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2015 and entries due to the Adams County office by Friday, February 13, 2015. So, mark your calendars!! This event will allow youth to compete in companion animal events without their animals. The 4-H Companion Animal Challenge will include the following events:

- Demonstrations
- Quiz Bowl
- Art
- Photography
- Skill-a-thon

Rules and entry forms can be found online at: <http://animalscience.unl.edu/ansc4-h-companion-animal-challenge>



### Horse Show Dates

**2015 District Horse Show Dates & Locations** – all level testing required for participation in district horse show plus Horse ID sheets must be completed by May 8.

June 1 – Bridgeport

June 16 – Ord

June 11 – Valentine

June 17 – Wayne

June 15 – McCook

June 18 – Seward

2015 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Show July 13-16, 2015

### UNL Extension Horse Judging Workshops

There will be three Horse Judging Workshops to be held this winter. These are targeted to current and potential Nebraska 4-H Horse Show judges, coaches and advanced judging team members.

**February 3, 2015** Ord, NE

**February 17, 2015** Buffalo Co. Extension, Kearney, NE

**February 24, 2015** Douglas/Sarpy County Extension, Omaha, NE

For more information contact the Extension Office

### Dog Obedience Classes

Dog Program Obedience classes offered by Adams County Extension will begin with an informational meeting on Monday, March 2, 2015. This meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the Activities Building at the Adams County Fairgrounds. Objectives of the meeting include a discussion of the overall dog program, a demonstration of obedience performance expectations and an opportunity to enroll for the year. Thus, if you plan to participate in the dog program, you are highly encouraged to attend. Please **do not** bring your dog to this first meeting. The cost is \$10.00 to participate in the dog classes. Vaccination record forms for all participating dogs will be distributed and must be completed by a veterinarian or person providing the shots before beginning the classes. Requirements for participation are: 1) Enrollment in 4-H and in the dog project, 2) Vaccination form completed and 3) Class fee paid to the Extension Office before attending any class. The actual classes will begin at the fairgrounds on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

### Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo – Save the Date!

The Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo will be held at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Hastings on **May 1 and 2, 2015**. The schedule will be similar to that of 2014 including competitions, demonstrations, education clinics, and fun. The competitions will include obedience, showmanship, rally, and agility. The program will begin with fun activities on Friday evening and continue on Saturday with the competitions and demonstrations. Please put this on your calendar so we can once again have good local representation.

### Spring Rabbit Show

Rabbit exhibitors mark your calendars for another opportunity to learn and practice your showmanship. Lancaster County is hosting a spring rabbit show on Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center in Lincoln. For more information, call Bob at 402-525-8263.

### PASE

The PASE dates are official, June 29 & 30 at UNL, East Campus. Please mark your calendars if you are interested in participating in the PASE Contests. Please let Steve or Julie at the Extension Office (402)461-7209 know if you are interested.

## **UNL Red Letter Days**

Excited to make your college decision? Red Letter Days are an opportunity for you to explore college life at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln during your senior or junior year of high school.

While you are there, you'll get to:

- Explore campus with a current UNL student as your guide
- Check out your academic interest area's facilities
- See what it's like to live in a residence hall
- Learn how to get involved on campus
- Find out important admissions, scholarship and financial aid information

Red Letter Days have been scheduled for:

- February 6, 2015 - All Majors
- February 16, 2015 - All Majors
- February 27, 2015 - All Majors
- March 13, 2015 - All Majors
- March 16, 2015 - All Majors
- April 13, 2015 - All Majors
- April 17, 2015 - All Majors

The cost is \$10 per person. For more information visit <http://admissions.unl.edu/visit/on-campus/red-letterdays.aspx>

## **What Project Should I Take?**

Selecting the right 4-H projects can be one the hardest parts of a 4-H project. There are so many to choose from and different levels for many. Careful planning and decision making up front will increase member satisfaction, improve completion and reduce frustrations. A resource to help you make a decision is the *Project Resource Central Guide* available on the web at: <http://4h.unl.edu/4hcurriculum/projectresources> . The Project Resource Central is a guide that lists the projects and resources with a brief description of all the projects available in Nebraska 4-H. The key to selecting projects is do not pick too many projects. Accepting responsibility is an important 4-H life skill. Completing a project is a good way for a 4-H'er to demonstrate he or she can accept responsibility. It is better to complete one project than to enroll in too many, become overwhelmed and not complete any. Parents and club leaders might encourage their members to do more work in a few projects than just a tiny amount in many different projects. Often there are related projects that members might enroll in – such as foods and horticulture, home environment and woodworking, or horse and veterinary science. Selecting the right level and knowing when to move on. Many of the projects have several levels. The *Project Resource Central* guide gives a level suggestion for each project unit, but more important is the ability of the individual member. Many areas have beginning, intermediate and advanced project units that allow for progression from year to year. Parents and members need to find the best level for each child. Older members may start at a higher level if the beginning projects are too elementary for them. It is suggested to not be in a beginning level project and an advanced level. For example, avoid being in Six Easy Bites and Foodworks or Woodworking I and III. It is also suggested to progress to the next level after you feel you have accomplished your current level or have been in that level for several years. If you need help selecting which level you need to be in please contact the Adams County Extension Office.

**Here are a few questions to consider when selecting a project.**

- What do you like to do for fun?
- What do you want to learn?
- What do you already know about your interest area(s)?
- How many years have you taken this project or project level?
- What do you need to complete your projects? (space, equipment, supplies, financial resources?)
- How much time do you have to commit to the project?
- Who can help you with the project?

**What do you learn in 4-H?**

4-H participants learn practical skills such as fitness, meal preparation, rocket building, clothing care, animal and human nutrition, first aid, woodworking, gardening, and many other skills through the more than 150 projects available. Other skills that are defined as life skills are a part of every 4-H project. These skills are used every day of our lives and include:

- solving problems
- communicating
- preparing for a career
- serving others
- choosing healthy lifestyles
- managing change and challenges

The 4-H organization wants its members to receive more from their projects than ribbons, trophies, trips and monetary gains. The 4-H program wants its members to acquire project knowledge and life skills. Many youth based organizations have worked to instill life skills in young people through various activities, but 4-H youth development professionals have evidence that 4-H programs benefit participants by helping them develop valuable life skills that will enable them to become better citizens. According to the research, members use the responsibility skills they developed from 4-H projects to complete homework assignments, be on time at work, and care for younger siblings. These skills are benefiting youth in school, at home, and on the job to be more dependable, confident and qualified individuals. In particular, knowledge gained from raising 4-H animal projects assisted students in their understanding of biology, physiology, and genetic.

# 4-H Calendar

## FEBRUARY

February 2 4-H Council @ 7:00 p.m.  
February 5 Extension Board @ 7:00 p.m.  
February 7 National Quilts of Valor Day (QOV Workshop) @ 10:00 a.m.  
February 10 Ag Society Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.  
February 11 Wear your 4-H T-shirt Day  
February 16 Extension Office Closed – Presidents Day  
February 17 Life Challenge Organizational Meeting @ 5:30  
February 28 – March 1 Horsin' Around

## MARCH

March 2 4-H Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.  
March 2 Dog Obedience Organizational Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.  
March 5 Extension Board Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.  
March 8 CWF meeting @ 3:30 p.m.  
March 8 Fashion Board Organizational Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.  
March 9 Dog Classes Start @ 7:00 p.m.  
March 10 Ag Society Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.  
March 14 4-H Stampede  
March 22 Speech, PSA & Performing Arts Contest @ 1:30

Please Check the Adams County Web site at <http://www.adams.unl.edu/> for current calendar information

## 2015 4-H Council

Scott Hinrichs – Pres.	Michael Schukei – V.Pres.	Shannon Frink – Sec.	Wryan Wright – Tres.
Lynn DeVries	Ange Shipman	JR LEADER REPS:	Doug Nienhueser – Chamber
Mike Eckhardt	Kathleen Stromer	Chase DeVries	of Commerce Rep
Kirk Feeney	Morgan Trausch	Morgan Stromer	Twila Bankson – Ag Society
Bryce Katzberg	Lori Vorderstrasse	Brenda Tran	Rep
Brett Mohling	Amy Wilson		

**Please take time to THANK these above individuals for their hard work and dedication to the Adams County 4-H Program!!!**

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