



Adams County 4-H Newsletter

News Directory

Upcoming Events to Remember	Page 1
Thank you & Congratulations	Page 2
Leaders & Parents Corner	Page 2 - 3
Youth Information	Page 3 - 4
Project Information	Page 4 - 7
Shooting Sports, Family & Consumer Science, Clover Kids, Communications, Environmental Ed & Earth Science Livestock, Horse, Dog	Page 7 - 10
4-H General Information	Page 11-12
UNL	Page 12
4-H Calendar	Page 13
Contact Information	Page 14

FEBRUARY

February 2	4-H Council
February 5	Extension Board
February 9	Ag Society Meeting
February 10	Wear your 4-H T-shirt Day
February 15	Extension Office Closed
February 21	CWExperience Meeting
February 23	Life Challenge Organizational Meeting
February 27	Quilts of Valor Workshop

February is....



NEBRASKA 4-H MONTH

Show your 4-H Pride by wearing a 4-H shirt on Wednesday, February 10th to help celebrate Nebraska 4-H Month. The theme for 2016 is “4-H Grows Here.” 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.

Office Closed

In observation of Presidents Day, the Adams County Extension Office will be close on February 15.

Enroll Today!

Youth can start enrolling in 4-H by going to <https://ne.4honline.com> and sign in by using the email address that you used to create your account last year. If you can't remember your password select the option “I forgot my password.” If brand new to 4-H, go to <https://ne.4honline.com> and select “I need to set up a profile.” There is an enrollment fee of \$5 please pay this when enrolling by cash or check to the Adams County Extension Office. The enrollment will not be complete until the Extension Office has received the enrollment fee and the online enrollment has been submitted. Step-by-step instructions for enrolling can be found on our website. If you have any problems or questions, please call Gwen or Twila at 402-461-7209.

Leader & Volunteer Forms

This year leader and volunteer enrollment will be done online. Please go to <https://ne.4honline.com>. If you already have a family account, please use that email address when signing in. If you/family are brand new to 4-H in 2016, please select "I need to set up a profile." If you need assistance in completing your enrollment please contact the office.

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 Ryan 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 2016 4-H Kick-Off and Shooting Sports Kick Off a successful event.

Leaders & Parents Corner



Junior Leader News

The Adams County 4-H Junior Leaders will meet at Perkins (Good Samaritan Village) on February 14th at 2:00 p.m. to play bingo with the residents. Anyone is welcome to join the Junior Leader's Club that is 13 years old or older by January 1, 2016. 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).

4-H Council Information

January 4-H Council Happenings:

- Finalize Kick Off & Soup
- Supper Committee Sign up
- NE 4-H Month Plans

February 4-H Council Agenda Items:

- Livestock Action items
- FFA
- March Beef Weigh Day

SAVE THE DATES!

2015 Adams County Fairfest Dates

Its official! The 2016 Adams County Fair is **July 20 to July 24**. Static Exhibits will be entered Monday, July 18th and Livestock check-in the evening of Tuesday, July 19th. Livestock Auction will be Monday, July 25th. 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.

STEM Volunteer Opportunity-FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

Have you heard of *FIRST* LEGO League? *FIRST* LEGO League introduces youth ages 9-14, real-world engineering challenges by building LEGO-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. FLL teams, guided by their imaginations and adult coaches, discover exciting career possibilities and, through the process, learn to make positive contributions to society. The FLL program is well underway for the 2015-2016 "**TRASH TREK**" Season. The TRASH TREKSM Challenge asks teams to explore the hidden but fascinating world of trash, from collection, to sorting, to smart production, and reuse. They must also invent a solution to help our trash problem and create their own LEGO MINDSTORMS[®] robot to accomplish trash-themed "missions" on a playing field, and show how well they practice *FIRST* LEGO League Core Values. We would love to have you volunteer for one of our events! Information regarding volunteer positions and the Nebraska *FIRST* schedule can be found at <http://4h.unl.edu/firstvolunteer0>. All volunteers **MUST** register with *FIRST* via the [Volunteer Information Management System \(VIMS\)](#). As part of the [FIRST Youth Protection Program](#), volunteers will be screened with a background check. **Please note: You do not need to provide your SSN nor pay the \$2.50.** Once you log into [VIMS](#), you will be able to indicate the event you are able to attend as well as your preferred volunteer position(s). *FIRST*, and specifically FLL in Nebraska, is successful because of the wonderful volunteers at these events. We could not provide this experience for these students without the dedication from amazing people like you. We are ALWAYS looking for new volunteers so spread the word! Questions? Please Contact Brandy Wagner at bwagner5@unl.edu or at 402-472-9023

Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop Offered in Lincoln

A Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop is scheduled for February in Lincoln. It will be held February 13-14 at the Nebraska Game & Parks Outdoor Education Center in Lincoln. The deadline to register for the Lincoln session is February 2nd.

Volunteers have the opportunity to become certified as an adult (21 years and older) or apprentice (14-20 years old) leader. Four project areas will be offered at the Lincoln Workshop - rifle, pistol, muzzleloading, and archery. There is a minimum number of participants needed to offer these disciplines at the workshops. Workshop participants will learn under expert instruction from members of the Nebraska State 4-H Shooting Sports Training Team. The registration fee is \$100.00 per person for initial certification and \$90.00 per person that are currently a certified instructor and are adding an additional discipline. This fee includes meals, supplies and program materials. Participants must make their own lodging arrangements. Registration on Saturday runs from 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. For more workshop information and registration link, go to the 4-H Shooting Sports web page at <http://4h.unl.edu/shootingsportseventcalendar>, contact Steve Pritchard at (402)395-2158 or (308)536-2691.



Youth Information

Recruiting youth for 2016 & 2019 Citizenship Washington Trip

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. If you are interested in attending any future conferences, please contact NE Extension in Adams County at (402)461-7209. It is never too early to sign up. **Meeting have been scheduled for the 2016 trip attendees the February meeting is the 21st at 4:00 p.m. in the assembly room.**

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://brownfieldnews.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>
- **Scholarship Quest** - High school seniors looking for another great resource which contains over 2000 scholarships applications. Please go to the following link to see which scholarships are available: <https://www.educationquest.org/resources/scholarshipquest/>
- **Nebraska 4-H Scholarships** -- there are several statewide Nebraska 4-H scholarships. Go to www.ne4hfoundation.org/scholarships.htm for a list and more information. Deadline is March 1.
- **NACEB Scholarship** – Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards Scholarship Program Application is available at the Extension Office, Due by March 15.
- **Adams County Fairfest Foundation** – Stop by the Extension Office or the Fairgrounds Office to pick up the application.
- **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 1st.
- **FCE Scholarship** – Stop by the Extension Office to pick up this application.
- **CASNRR 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.

Project Information

Shooting Sports



Calendar for Adams County Shooting Sports Activities:

- Shotgun Starts – March 5th
- March 19-20 State 4-H Air Pistol Championships (Broken Bow)
- April 2-3 State 4-H BB Gun & Air Rifle Championships (Wayne)
- April 23-24 State 4-H Clay Target Championships (Grand Island)
- Shooting Sports Picnic – April 24th

For more information on how to pre-register for the events listed above, contact the Extension office.

Seeking Shooting Sports Ambassadors

The Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports program is accepting applications now through February 11 for the new Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador Program. This program will be dedicated to leadership development in Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports youth. Through an annual leadership seminar, participants will learn life skills, public speaking and communication skills, as well as quality leadership traits that can be applied to their 4-H projects and student career. For more information, please contact the Extension Office.

Clover Kids

What is Clover Kids?

Clover Kids is a 4-H program for children ages 5-to 7- years old. 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 2016 Project selection they are:

- Clover Kid Poultry
- Clover Kid Rabbits

These animals will be shown in special classes at the fair. Check the enrollment packet for more information and the correct project name that you need to enroll in to be eligible to show at fair.

A list of guidelines will be available at the Adams County Extension Office. Please feel free to talk to Steve or Julie regarding these new exhibits. Also the Council has increased the no. of Projects you can take to 6.

Family and Consumer Science

Life Challenge

An organizational meeting will be on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 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 19 - 21 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 20th at 6:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room at the Adams County Office Building** 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.

Quilts of Valor Workshop – February 27th

Quilting to Honor and Comfort our Wounded. If you love to make quilts or would you like to try your hand at making them, then this workshop is for you. Mark your calendar for this starting date, we will be adding numerous sewing sessions to complete a group project that will be donated to the Quilts of Valor Foundation and then be given to wounded military personnel. The February 27th workshop will be held from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and the March 26th workshop will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Julie's Xpressions – 743 West 2nd. This will be a come and work (at any time for any length of time) at no cost for the workshop. Please call the Adams County Extension office at 402-461-7209 and reserve your space for the workshop.

Communications

Photography Themes for 2016



UNIT II: NEBRASKA EXHIBIT PRINT: “4-H Grows Here” campaign. Capture photos of people and places that illustrate 4-H growing and thriving in Nebraska! Your photos should tell a story about how “4-H Grows Here” in your local community. Please print and include the 4-H Grows Here! logo in your photos. The logo can be accessed at

<https://unl.box.com/s/krptc9q2f2yxkxcpyc6q6flx6ni6z7mo>.

UNIT III: NEBRASKA EXHIBIT PRINT: “4-H Grows Here” campaign. Capture photos of people and places that illustrate 4-H growing and thriving in Nebraska! Your photos should tell a story about how “4-H Grows Here” in your local community. Please print and include the 4-H Grows Here! logo in your photos. The logo can be accessed at <https://unl.box.com/s/krptc9q2f2yxkxcpyc6q6flx6ni6z7mo>.

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 7th and the contest is on March 13th 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.



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 colorful, Jazzy Mix Zinnia. This cultivar comes in shades of burgundy-red, red, yellow, and orange with cream, red, or yellow tips. The 1-2” blooms are fully-double and semi-double. These zinnias are a great cut flower that can get 20-26” tall. On average it will take about 75-85 days for the plants to bloom. We have **ordered a limited number** of seed packets. 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 need to enroll in one of the regular Floriculture projects and the Special Gardening Project to participate in this activity in 2016.

4-H Members enrolled in the Special Garden Project will:

- * Receive a ‘packet’ of Jazzy Mix Zinnias (one packet per youth) in March
- * Receive a newsletter about: Planting & growing zinnias, Zinnia problems & insects, Harvesting & using zinnias and Exhibiting zinnias
- * Be able to enter this unique flower at County and State Fair

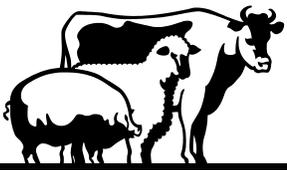
Flower Barrel Workshop and Pick –up

Learn the basics of growing eye catching flower barrels at a workshop, **Wednesday, April 20th, 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 2016 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 15th.



Fifth Annual Innovative Youth Corn Challenge

Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Corn Board are offering the fifth 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 2016, 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, Aaron Nygren at anygren2@unl.edu or Amy Timmerman at atimmerman2@unl.edu.



Livestock

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

The last Beef Weigh Day is scheduled for March 5th at the Animal Clinic, from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Exhibitors planning on showing Market Beef at fair will need to weigh their beef. Animals include:

- Market Steers
- Market Heifers
- 2nd Year Bucket Calves (Steers & Heifers)
- Beef Carcass Contest possibles – **Carcass Contest has changed this year (after fair) this allows the same animal you show at county fair to be in the carcass contest.**

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, 2016). **New in 2016 is the EID tags which are required for State Fair and AKSARBEN ONLY EXHIBITORS. The cost of the EID tags is TBA.** The cost of each County Ear Tag is \$1.00 Also remember, this is the only time that DNA will be taken for State Fair and AK-SAR-BEN. The cost of this is \$6.00 each. Beef weighed in December will need an EID tag and DNA taken at this time if you now want them eligible for State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben.

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.

Carcass Contest Changes

New for 2016 the Beef Carcass Contest, Sheep Carcass Contest and Swine Carcass Contest will be **held after the Adams County Fair**. This will allow exhibitors to enter their animals shown at the Adams County Fair for this contest. This contest has a limit on the number of 4-Hers that can participate due to the amount of space at the locker. If you are interested in this contest **you must pre-register for it by April 15th**. Participants will be on a first come/first serve basis. Beef and Sheep are required to be weighed at Beginning Weigh Days. Participants are required to sign up for the species project that they are participating in. As in the past an interview and record book will be part of the scoring. If you have any questions please call Steve or Julie at 402-461-7209.

Animal Science Educational Series

The next workout will be held at Scott and Cindy Hinrichs on February 7 at 2 p.m. where the group will be learning about livestock evaluation. Please note that the month of February is usually cold, so please wear appropriate clothes as we will be outside for majority of the workout. If you're interested in being part of the group, please email steve.landon@unl.edu so that you're updated on other animal science opportunities.

Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic Beef Shows

The 25th Annual Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic is February 13-21, 2016. The event is held at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds in Kearney, Nebraska. **Reminder 4-H Youth Exhibitors: Junior Show Entry form mailed to Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic office (PO Box 607, Kearney, NE, 68848). The entry form needs to be mailed by February 5, 2016.**

- Friday, February 19th: 6-9 p.m. Check-in
- Saturday, February 20th: 8-9 a.m. Check-in; 2:30 p.m. Showmanship
- Sunday, February 21st: 8:30 a.m. Breeding Heifer Show; 9:00 a.m. Market Beef Shows

Specific youth rules, regulations and information can be found on the web at:

http://cattlemens.org/youth/junior_show.html).

Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic Cattle Judging Contest

I would like to invite anyone who would like to participate in the eighth Annual Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic beef judging contest held on Saturday, February 20. This contest will consist of at least eight classes of cattle with bulls, heifers and prospects. The contest will consist of two divisions: Senior 4-H/FFA and Junior 4-H. **If you're interested, please contact Steve Landon by February 4, as pre-registration needs to be mailed by February 5.**

2016 Poultry Update

On January 1, 2016, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture lifted the ban on poultry shows, fairs, and exhibitions that was put in place last spring to prevent the spread of the highly pathogenic H5N2 Avian Influenza that found its way into poultry and other livestock.

Quality Assurance Training

Quality Assurance Educational Programs are **State Mandated** for all youth who exhibit **beef, sheep, swine, goats, poultry, rabbits and dairy animals** (Adams County exempts Clover Kids). To fulfill the following age appropriate requirements:

- **Youth ages 8 - 10** can attend a yearly quality assurance program (face to face) or complete three online modules.
- **Youth ages 11 - 14** can attend a yearly quality assurance program (face to face) or complete three online modules or can take and pass a test that will fulfill their requirements until they are 15.
- **Youth ages 15 - 18** can attend a yearly quality assurance program (face to face) or complete three online modules or can take and pass a test that will fulfill their requirements for the rest of their 4-H career.

Online modules can be found at (<http://campus.extension.org/>) or Adams County will offer a face to face yearly quality assurance program for youth (all ages). **Face to Face trainings and online modules will have a \$5 fee to cover costs. The dates of the Face to Face Trainings are Sunday, March 13 at 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday, June 1 at 6:00 p.m. Both trainings will be held in the Community Service Building on the fairgrounds.**

New for Adams County Livestock Exhibitors in 2016!

Any livestock exhibitor who chooses to sell an animal at the County Fair auction is required to have their own Premise ID. The Premise ID is the location of where the individual or immediate family keeps their animals. This is a free application by calling 1-800-572-2437. The individual who will be taking the call will ask you for the following questions:

- Address where the mail is received (home address)
- Address where animals are located (if different than above)
- If no address is available, please provide driving directions from the nearest highway or GPS coordinates
- Contact Name
- Contact Phone number
- Email address (optional)

If you have questions, please contact the Extension office @ 402-461-7209

4-H Horse Stampede

Mark your calendar for March 12, 2016 at the Animal Science Complex on UNL's East Campus. Entries are due to county offices on Feb. 12th.



Contests include: Demonstrations (individual and team), Public speaking, Quiz bowl, Photography and art contests. More information available at: <http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth#tab32> If you have questions, please contact Lena Luck lena.luck@unl.edu

Companion Animal Challenge:

The second 4-H Companion Animal Challenge will be held on March 12, 2016 at the Animal Science Complex on UNL's East Campus. It provides youth a chance to participate in a variety of contests that do not require animals, but allow youth to learn more about their dog or other companion animals. Entries are due to county offices on Feb. 12th. Contests include:

- Demonstrations (a presentation where youth demonstrate how to complete a task or related to the care of their companion animal)
- Photography and art contests (open to all companion animal projects)
- Dog Skill-a-thon
- Dog quiz bowl

The youth who participated in the event last year said that it was fun and they learned a lot. Youth do not need to be experts to participate in the event. More information available at: <http://go.unl.edu/4hcac> If you have questions, please contact Lisa Karr-Lilienthal lkarr-lilienthal2@unl.edu



Horse Show Dates

2016 District Horse Show Dates & Locations – all level testing required for participation in district horse show plus Horse ID sheets must be completed by May 13.

June 13 – Kearney

June 16 – Leigh

June 14 – Chadron

June 17 – Bloomfield

June 15 – McCook

June 21 – Lincoln

2016 Fønner Park State 4-H Horse Show July 10 -14, 2016

Dog Obedience Classes

Dog Program Obedience classes offered by Adams County Extension will begin with an informational meeting on Monday, March 7, 2016. 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 14th 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 **April 22 & 23, 2016**. The schedule will be similar to that of 2015 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.

What Project Should I Take?

Selecting the right 4-H projects can be one of 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.

University of Nebraska Red Letter Days

Are you 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. Each Red Letter costs \$10 per person. For more information visit <http://admissions.unl.edu/visit/on-campus/red-letter-days.aspx>

At this open house event, you'll get to:

- Explore campus with a current UNL student as your guide
- Attend academic informational sessions
- See what it's like to live in a residence hall
- Learn about ways to get involved on campus
- Find out important admissions, scholarship and financial aid information

The following dates have been scheduled:

- February 5, 2016
- February 19, 2016
- February 26, 2016
- March 4, 2016
- March 18, 2016
- April 1, 2016
- April 15, 2016

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

As you know Adams County Extension is the local connection to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and would like to encourage all high school students to go to <http://www.unl.edu/prospective/> by exploring opportunities that the Huskers may provide. Information within this link to explore are scholarships, financial aid, tours with students and staff and much more.

4-H Calendar

FEBRUARY

- February 2 4-H Council – Assembly Room @ 7:00 p.m.
- February 5 Extension Board – Assembly Room @ 7:00 p.m.
- February 9 Ag Society Meeting – Fairgrounds @ 7:30 p.m.
- February 10 Wear your 4-H T-shirt Day
- February 15 Extension Office Closed – Presidents Day
- February 21 CWExperience Meeting – Assembly Room @ 4:00 p.m.
- February 23 Life Challenge Organizational Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.
- February 27 Quilts of Valor Workshop @ 2:00 p.m.

MARCH

- March 3 Extension Board Meeting – Assembly Room @ 7:00 p.m.
- March 5 Beef Weigh Day – Animal Clinic @ 11:00 a.m.
- March 7 4-H Council Meeting – Assembly Room @ 7:00 p.m.
- March 7 Dog Obedience Organizational Meeting - Fairgrounds @ 7:00 p.m.
- March 8 Ag Society Meeting – Fairgrounds @ 7:30 p.m.
- March 12 4-H Horse Stampede – Lincoln
- March 12 Companion Animal Challenge - Lincoln
- March 13 Speech, PSA & Performing Arts Contest – Fairgrounds Community Service @ 1:30 p.m.
- March 13 Face to Face Quality Assurance Training – Fairgrounds Community Service @ 3:00 p.m.
- March 14 Dog Classes Start - Fairgrounds @ 7:00 p.m.
- March 20 CWExperience meeting – Assembly Room @ 4:00 p.m.
- March 20 Fashion Board Organizational Meeting Assembly Room @ 6:00 p.m.
- March 26 Quilts of Valor Workshop @ 10:00 a.m.

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

2016 4-H Council

Bryce Katzberg – Pres.	Mike Eckhardt – V.Pres.	Shannon Frink – Sec.	Kirk Feeney – Tres.
Lynn DeVries	Jim Murman	JR LEADER REPS:	Doug Nienhueser – Chamber of Commerce Rep
Brian Everhart	Ange Shipman	Grace Eckhardt	Twila Bankson – Ag Society Rep
Cindy Hinrichs	Kathleen Stromer	Morgan Stromer	
Megan Krous	Lori Vorderstrasse	Maddie Swain	
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!!!

Contact Information

Adams County Extension Office
515 West 3rd Street
Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: (402) 461-7209
Fax: (402) 461-7210
Web: <http://www.adams.unl.edu/>
E-mail: adams-county@unl.edu
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNLExtensionAdamsCounty>



Nebraska Extension Adams County Staff

Ronald C. “Ron” Seymour, Ph.D. ron.seymour@unl.edu
Steve Landon – steve.landon@unl.edu
Julie Ochsner – julie.ochsner@unl.edu
Gwen Rodocker – gwen.rodocker@unl.edu
Twila Bankson – twila.bankson@unl.edu
Deb Unterseher – deb.unterseher@unl.edu
Brianna Frickenstein – brianna.frickenstein@unl.edu
Karren Carnes – karren.carnes@unl.edu

