



DECEMBER 2011

Adams County 4-H Newsletter

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DECEMBER

December 1	Extension Board Meeting
December 3	The Great Cookie Exchange Workshop
December 5	4-H Council Meeting
December 10	Clover Kids "Winter Fun" Workshop
December 13	Ag. Society Meeting
December 24	Christmas Eve
December 25	Christmas
December 26	Extension Office Closed

WINTER WORKSHOPS

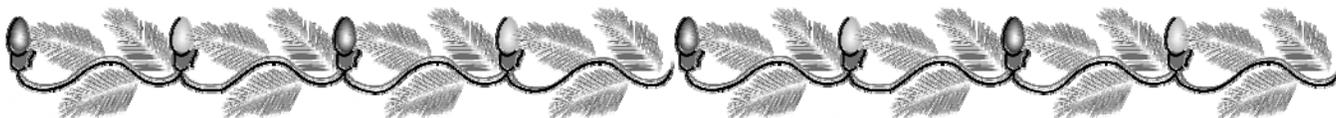
Join us for the fun!

- **The Great Cookie Exchange** – Saturday, December 3rd from 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Adams County Fairgrounds, Activities Building – East Kitchen, Ages 8 and up. It wouldn't be holiday time without cookies! This is your chance to come and bake with other 4-H'ers, we will bake and decorate various cookies. Everyone will go home with a sample plate of all the cookies that are baked. Fee - \$15.00. Please pre-register by calling the Adams County Extension Office (402)461-7209 by November 30th.
- **"Winter Fun"** – Saturday, December 10th from 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the assembly room of the Adams County Office building. Ages 5 – 7. Come and explore Clover Kid Projects with a winter twist. We will have sessions to create, learn and experiment while having fun with our make and take projects. Fee - \$12.00. Please pre-register by calling the Adams County Extension Office (402)461-7209 by December 2nd.

Extension Office Closed

The Adams County Extension Office will be closed December 26th and January 2nd. Between December 27th and 30th please call ahead to check on hours.

*Happy Holidays
From all of us at the
Adams County Extension Office*



Leaders/Volunteer Banquet & Achievement Night

A special thank you goes out to Twila Bankson, and Julie Ochsner for preparing the delicious meal at the Leader/Volunteer Banquet. The Jr. Leaders and their adult leader, Marilyn Shaw did an outstanding job of decorating and helping with the meal. Thanks to the area dance teams for their wonderful entertainment. Without the dedicated leadership that is provided, the Adams County 4-H program would not be as successful as it is. Receiving special awards that evening were: Mike Harmon, Bill Niles and Connie Niles for 15 years of service, Jocelyn Rundle and Fran Wallace for 20 years of service, Larry Ackerman for 30 years of service, and Sue Brown for 40 years of service and dedication to the 4-H program. Achievement Night provided opportunity for another fantastic display of the skills and talents that the Adams County youth demonstrate in the county, state and on the national level.

Please Pick up Record Books, Career Portfolio and Awards left from Achievement Night and Leaders Banquet. Remember to fill out your Thank You notes and bring them to the office so that you can get your actual award.

Do you have a Premium Check at the Adams County Extension Office?

Premium checks were available for pick-up on September 15th. Once again, for those youth who are members of organized 4-H Clubs, you will need to get your premium money from your club leader. Independent members are able to pick-up checks themselves. Please remember the checks are only good for 90 days. The last day to cash yours is December 12.

Congratulations!

4-H Achievement Night in Adams County was very successful.

- **Golden Clovers** – Trevor DeVries and Adam Heier
- **Outstanding Leadership** – JD Ochsner
- **Tribland King and Queen Nominees** – Matthew Hermann and Danielle Trausch
- **4-H Event Scholarship** – Hastings Chamber of Commerce – Jay Kort and Danielle Trausch
- **Larry Draper Scholarship** – JD Ochsner
- **County Awards from their Career Portfolio/Awards Book** – Sarah Barfknecht, Matthew Hermann, Danielle Trausch, Steven Hermann, Jay Kort, Rachel Kort, JD Ochsner, Sydney Shetak.
- **District Nominations from their Career Portfolio/Awards Book** – Danielle Trausch and Jay Kort.
- **10 Year 4-H members** – Brandon Bankson, Crystal Barfknecht, Creighton Buhr, Garrett Bunde, Selena Burbach, April Crandell, Megan Gangwish, Clay Harmon, Gabe Harmon, Adam Heier, Ashley Herringer, Breanna Jacobitz, Carli Johnson, Chelsi Johnson, Cole Mangers, Harrison McMahon, Chad McWhirter, Danielle Nordby, Grahm Schneider, Katelyn Shriver, Elaine Streff, and Kaylee Wolfe.
- **Club Herdsmanship** – Beef - Wanda Drovers, Horse - Blue Valley Blazers, Sheep/Goat – Wanda Drovers, Swine – Blue River Champs
- **ONEOK Energy Marketing Donation** – 4-H Council
- **Friend of 4-H** – Terry & Lynn DeVries, given by Adams County Jr. Leaders

More Congrats!

- Congratulations to Jarod Brockman, Calvin DeVries, Trevor DeVries and Ryan Pavelka for attending and competing in the National 4-H Poultry Conference in Louisville, KY. In Poultry Judging, the team placed 13th overall with 20 teams competing consisting of 81 individuals. Trevor DeVries placed 9th in Market Eggs and the team placed 9th in Market Eggs. The team also participated in the Avian Bowl where they placed 11th.

More State Fair & Ak-Sar-Ben awards – they were omitted in the October & November Newsletters

- State Fair: Grand Champion Swine Premier Exhibitor – Lacey Uden
- State Fair: Top four Premier Presentations & one of the top Agriculture Presentations – Lacey Uden
- Ak-Sar-Ben: Feeder Calves – Bailey Hinrichs: 1 Purple and 1 Blue, Brock Hinrichs; 1 Purple
- Ak-Sar-Ben: Swine – Lacey Uden: 2 Blues, Reserve Champion, Premier Exhibitor, Carcass- 2 Blues
- Ak-Sar-Ben: Horse – Ali Stark: Blue –Jr. Barrels, Purple – Jr. Pole Bending, Red Jr. Western Horsemanship, Red – Jr. English Pleasure
- Ak-Sar-Ben: Quiz Bowl Team consisting of Calvin DeVries, Trevor DeVries, Ryan Pavelka and JD Ochsner: 2nd place

Leaders & Parents Corner

Junior Leader News



The Adams County 4-H Junior Leaders will meet on Sunday, December 11th, at 4:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room at the Adams County Office Building, for their Annual Christmas Party. Members are to bring a \$5 gift for the gift exchange, we will be having a pizza party. We are still recruiting members! Anyone that is 12 years old and will be 13 by January 1, 2012, or is 13 years or older now, is welcome to join. 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, help with Leader's banquet, help members and younger 4-H'ers with 4-H projects and are a 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!

- **4-H Kick off – January 8th has been postponed until a later date**

- **4-H Soup Supper Fund Raiser**

The 4-H Council will be holding their annual fundraiser on **January 29, 2012 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** Please mark your calendars now and plan on attending. The CWF youth will be having their cake auction and basket raffle at this event.

- **2012 Adams County Fairfest Dates**

Please mark your calendars the dates have moved forward one week!

Its official! The 2012 Adams County Fair is July 18, 2012 to July 22, 2012. Static Exhibits will be entered Monday, July 16th and Livestock check-in the evening of Tuesday, July 17th. Livestock show schedule will be announced soon.

4-H Council Information

November 4-H Council Happenings

- Due to no quorum, no motions were passed.
- Topics discussed were:
 - Postponing 4-H Kick-Off
 - T-shirt design
 - Requesting workshop ideas

December 4-H Council Agenda Items

- 4-H Access Update and Enrolling process
- Shooting Sports Plans
- 2012 Tentative Calendar
- Nebraska 4-H Month

4-H Club of the Month

The Nebraska 4-H Foundation along with the Nebraska 4-H Ambassadors put together a new program for Nebraska 4-H Clubs. Any 4-H club can nominate themselves to be the "Club of the Month" by the second Friday of the month. Each month, a winner will be chosen and will receive a \$50 cash card from the Nebraska 4-H Foundation and a certificate which can be displayed. Also, the Club of the Month's story will be displayed on the 4-H Foundation's website, Facebook and Twitter and a news release will be sent out to their local newspaper. Nomination forms can be found on the Adams County 4-H page at <http://adams.unl.edu>. Please send the nomination forms to: ne4hambassadors@unl.edu

Name the Former 4-H Building on the New Nebraska Innovation Campus

An exciting opportunity is available to all of Nebraska 4-H to contribute suggestions for the name of a building which will be a permanent legacy to the thousands of young people who showed their exhibits at the fairgrounds in Lincoln. Located on Nebraska Innovation Campus, the former 4-H building will be the center point of a development of research partnerships that carries Nebraska forward for the next 100 years. The focal point of research on Innovation campus will be food-fuel-water, all key to the lifeblood of Nebraska agriculture. Suggest names for this building online at <http://go.unl.edu/tkr>. The board of directors of Nebraska Innovation Campus will select a permanent name for the former 4-H building that honors the past and leads Nebraska to a successful future. The survey pool will close on **December 1, 2011**. Enter several ideas as an individual, a family, a 4-H club, or as a group of friends. Let's make a permanent legacy available for Nebraska 4-H and agriculture!

FIRST LEGO League Events – Learn the Contest by being a Volunteer

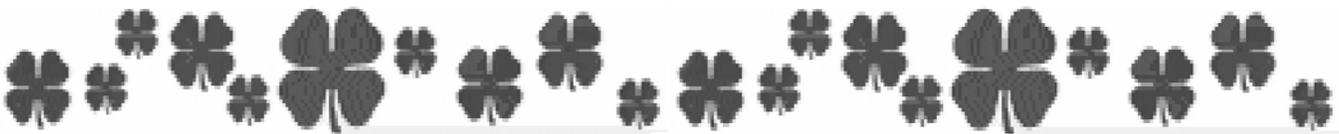
Are you interested in learning more about the FIRST LEGO League? Then volunteer for one tournament or all four. *Many volunteers are needed to make each event a success.* There is a volunteer role for anyone who would like to help out, from setting up, to judging, to serving as a team escort. Some jobs need a bit of technical expertise, where others are perfect for anyone interested. High school youth (ages 14+) are welcome to volunteer too. Locations and dates are:

- December 3 – Omaha Qualifier
- December 10 – Lincoln Qualifier
- January 7 – Kearney Qualifier
- February 18 – Nebraska Championship, Ashland

To volunteer, visit the FLL Volunteer information page: <http://4hset.unl.edu/4hdrupal/node/638> to register and complete the Volunteer Screening and FLL Release Forms by *two weeks before* the event. Send both forms to the address indicated on the Volunteer Screening form. If you're not able to volunteer, you're invited to attend the event and cheer on the teams. For questions please contact Kathy Morgan, FLL Event Coordinator, at kmorgan3@unl.edu or 402-472-5027.

Ag. Society Election

The Adams County Agriculture Society held a county vote on November 15th to fill three vacancies on the Adams County Ag. Society Board. The individuals elected for the positions are: Twila Bankson, Rick Consbruck and Lee Hogan. Congratulations to these three individuals.



Youth Information

2012 4-H Enrollment

Watch your mail for the 2012 4-H Enrollment Form and Pick a Project that will be mailed out in January.

2013 Citizen Washington Focus

What is Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF)? It is a living and learning educational experience in citizenship for youth ages 15 – 19. Youth will travel to the nation's capital to have an interactive classroom with workshops, seminars, and field trips. Traditionally, Adams, Clay, and Webster County 4-H'ers have joined together to take the trip. Of course, if you know other 4-H'ers from other counties that are interested in joining us, they are more than welcome to come along! If you are interested, feel free to call Beth Maricle at (402)461-7209.

Mark Your Calendar

2012 PASE and Life Challenge events will be held June 25-26 on East Campus in Lincoln.

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 Conservation Scholarships:** Nebraska Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Foundation will award five scholarships: each will be \$750 to \$1,000. We have a copy of the application in our office. Application and materials are due to Paul D. Smith, 1024 Dale Drive, Lincoln, NE 68510 - Phone: 402-483-1031. It is due by December 5, 2011.
- **Pork Producers Scholarship for College Students:** Interesting in becoming a part of the mentoring program? The Nebraska Pork Producers Association wants you to be a part of the Pork Mentoring Class of 2012. If you are connected to agriculture and believe in the future of the pork industry, apply today! \$500 scholarships are available for college-age students who have an interest in the pork industry – you don't have to be a pork producer! You can even earn college credit to help get you one step closer to graduating. Applications are due December 5th. This is an opportunity you don't want to miss! Email completed applications to Kyla@nepork.org or mail them to: 7441 O Street, Suite 104 Lincoln, NE 68510
- **Careers in Agriculture Scholarship Program:** Winfield Solutions, LLC is once again providing a “Careers in Agriculture Scholarship Program Scholarship” worth \$1,000 will be awarded to **10 high school seniors and 10 first or second-year college students** who demonstrate scholastic achievement, leadership in agriculture and a perceived ability to contribute to agriculture in the future. The Careers in Agriculture Scholarship Program is available to high school graduating seniors and first or second year college students pursuing two- or four-year degrees in agronomy, crop production, or closely related fields. To qualify for the program, a student must: Be a high school senior, graduating in spring of 2011, or be a college freshman or sophomore; Demonstrate leadership abilities and academic performance; Complete an application including two character references; and Write essays describing the importance of farmer cooperatives, and why he or she is interested in an agricultural career. You can find further information on this program <http://www.landolakesinc.com/utility/news/company/ECMP2-0154615>

Scholarships Continued:

• College Scholarships for Adams County 4-H Members:

- *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.
- *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.
- **CASNR Scholarship** --Any graduating senior planning on attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln CASNR with an ACT of 26 or higher may be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship. Contact Ron or Beth for more details.

Rural Youth Loans

As you begin looking for your project for next year, you may want to consider an opportunity that is available to you. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency makes operating loans of up to \$5,000 to eligible individuals between the ages of 10-20 to finance income producing, agriculture-related projects. The individual must be participating in 4-H, FFA, or a similar organization. The program must be planned and supervised with the assistance of the organization's supervisor and the individual's parent or guardian. This assistance will help the individual to produce a sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience in agriculture-related skills. The loan funds may be used to purchase livestock, feed, seed, equipment, and supplies for the project. They may also be used to buy, rent, or repair needed tools or equipment. Rural Youth Loans have a maximum loan amount of \$5,000 (total principal balance owed at any one time on the loan) and the term can range from one to seven years. After the loan is made the interest rate will not change for the entire term of the loan. A parental signature is required on the application for the loan, but not on the promissory note or the other documents used to secure the loan. You can contact your local County FSA for more information.

4-H Project Information

Family and Consumer Science

4-H Quilt of Valor Statewide Challenge

The challenge continues: Now on to year two of a state-wide 4-H Quilts of Valor Challenge for 4-H'ers, families and/or volunteers to create and donate quilts to 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. The finished quilt size must be no smaller than 55" x 65" or no larger than 72" x 90".

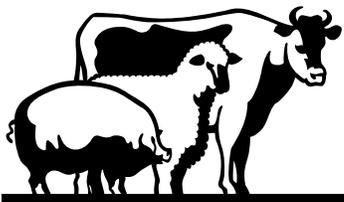
Field Notes

Crops Webpage for Youth

The objective of this webpage is to provide a one spot stop with crop production information, some of it specific for Nebraska and some general crop information that can be used for a variety of locations. The webpage is divided into four main sections: crop and plant science facts, activities for youth, 4-H & FFA projects, and teaching activities & resources. "Crop and plant science facts" provides a short summary of crop statistics and other fun facts. "Activities for youth" has some fun crossword puzzles, word searches and other interactive activities for youth to participate. The 4-H and FFA project page has some of the opportunities available through 4-H and FFA such as Crop Science Investigation workshop series and other events related to crops. Finally, the "Teaching Activities and Resources" page currently has nine lessons available for anyone to download and teach hands-on activities to any age group. Check it out at <http://cropwatch.unl.edu/youth>

Innovative Youth Corn Challenge Contest

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and the Nebraska Corn Board have teamed up to offer the first *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), will guide youth through all aspects of corn production, as well as the agricultural careers related to corn production. 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. Youth will work with an adult mentor throughout the process. Mentors can be extension faculty, ag teachers, or other qualified agronomy professionals. 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. A data completion and innovation award will also be given. To participate, youth must complete and return an entry form by March 1st to the Fillmore County Extension Office in Geneva, NE. Forms can be downloaded at cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities. For more information, contact Brandy VanDeWalle at bvandewalle2@unl.edu or 402.759.3712.



Livestock

2012 Beef Weigh Day

4-H exhibitors who plan to show beef in 2012 at the Adams County Fair, Nebraska State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben must have their beef animals (Market, including 2nd Year Bucket Calves, and Carcass) weighed and tagged. The Adams County Beef weigh day is scheduled for **Saturday, January 14, 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.** The weigh day will be held at the Animal Clinic, W. Highway 6 and Marion Road. There is a \$1.00 charge per ear tag. All animals that are headed to State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben must have DNA samples taken this day. The charge to collect hair samples for State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben bound cattle is \$6.00. Please note this is the only date to DNA identify market beef. It is important that you do not schedule veterinary services during the weigh-in, please make other arrangements with the Animal Clinic for your veterinary services.

Selecting your Calf for Beef Weigh Day

With the change of fair dates being a week earlier, 4-H'ers may need to adjust their selection requirements for the 2012 Adams County Fair. One item that 4-H'ers and their families need to consider is the weight requirement for the Adams County Fair. Let's do some figuring to determine the appropriate target weight for Beef Weigh Day on Saturday, January 14th. First count the number of days between the January Weigh Day and the July Weigh Day. That number is 185 days. If you want to gain at least 2.5 lbs per day and assuming a county fair weight of 1,300 lbs then the biggest calf you want to bring to January Beef Weigh Day is 837.5 lbs. That was figured by:

$$\text{Target Weight} - (\text{Number of Days} * \text{Average Daily Gain}) = \text{Beginning Weigh Date Weight}$$
$$1,300 - (185 * 2.5) = 837.5 \text{ lbs.}$$

You may want to adjust this weight if you have a higher Average Daily Gain or want a smaller animal so you can continue on to State Fair. Please take a moment to determine what size of calf you should bring to January Beef Weigh Day. Also, if you plan on using a different animal for State Fair than what is at County Fair, it still must be weighed and DNA identified on January Beef Weigh Day. Best of Luck figuring your calculations and selecting your calf or calves!

Horsin' Around 2012 Date Announced

Save the dates of Jan 14 and 15, 2012 for Horsin' Around. The featured trainer will be Robin Frid of Denton, TX. To learn more about Robin you can go to his web site at: <http://www.robinfrid.com/>. Pre-registration deadline is January 7th. Email Kathy Anderson at kpanders@unlnotes.unl.edu

Horse Stampede

Mark your calendars! The 2012 4-H Horse Stampede has been scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2012. Entries are due Friday, January 13, 2012 in the Adams County Extension Office. The 4-H Horse Stampede is when the state contests for Horse Bowl, Horse Public Speaking, Horse Demonstrations and Horse Art are held. Anyone interested in being part of the Horse Stampede Quiz Bowl teams, contact the Adams County Extension Office at 402-461-7209 before December 31st. More information and contest rules can be found at: <http://animalscience.unl.edu/web/anisci/ANSCEExtensionEquine4HHorseStampede>

UNL Opportunities

UNL as a Choice for College

If you are a high school student, or know a high school student, with plans to continue their formal education at a college or university, then put the University of Nebraska-Lincoln at the top of those choices. Just go to the website www.admissions.unl.edu. It will lead you to explore options that meet your needs, and get to know costs, scholarships, careers and student life on both East and City Campus. Remember that 4-H is your first class at the University of Nebraska. Really, 4-H, Extension and UNL all fit together. For more information, call toll-free 800-742-8800 and ask for “admissions”. Get an appointment to tour the campus of your choice. That’s the best way to know UNL.

RED Letter Days

An all-day UNL open house experience for high school seniors! Red Letter Days feature:

- Academic Sessions presented by college representatives
- Student Life Sessions focusing on student opportunity & campus life
- The chance to tour campus & visit academic facilities

Information on admissions, scholarships, & financial aid. View a sample schedule and register at http://admissions.unl.edu/open_house/red_letter_days/index.aspx

Red Letter Days have been scheduled for:

- January 13, 2012
- February 20, 2012

4-H Calendar

DECEMBER

December 1	Extension Board Meeting
December 3	The Great Cookie Exchange Workshop
December 5	4-H Council Meeting
December 10	Clover Kids “Winter Fun” Workshop
December 13	Ag. Society Meeting
December 24	Christmas Eve
December 25	Christmas
December 26	Extension Office Closed

JANUARY

January 2	Extension Office Closed
January TBA	4-H Council Meeting
January 5	Extension Board Meeting
January 8	4-H Kick Off – (Postponed)
January 8	Shooting Sports Kick Off (Postponed until the end of January)
January 13	Horse Stampede entry deadline
January 14 & 15	Horsin’ Around
January 14	Beef Weigh Day – DNA samples taking (only date)
January 29	4-H Fundraiser (Soup Supper)

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

2011 4-H Council

Todd Lay – Pres.

Jerry Allen

Chris Anderson

Glen Bonifas

Carol Chitko-McKown

Noel Nienhueser

Don Burbach – V.Pres.

Rebecca Owen

Holly Stark

Jeanette Uden

Troy Vorderstrasse

Grace Woodward

Monika Bowen – Sec.

JR. LEADER REPS:

Cara Crandell

JD Ochsner

Lacey Uden

Twila Bankson – Tres.

Doug Nienhueser – Chamber
of Commerce Rep.

Julie Ochsner – Ag Society
Rep.

**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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