March 2016

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1) Thank You!
   We would like to thank everyone involved for making 4-H Promotion Month a success.

2) Frontier County 4-H Speech Contest
   The 4-H Speech Contest is scheduled for April 4th in Curtis on the NCTA Campus, Ag Hall, starting at 6:00 p.m.
   Start preparing your speech if you plan to participate. 4-H’ers will not be using a podium or microphone. They will need to practice projecting their voices and may use note cards. Clover Kids can recite a poem. Pre-registrations are due in the extension office by March 28, 2016.
   If you have questions, please refer to the February newsletter or go online at http://www.frontier.unl.edu and read the February newsletter.

3) Eustis Fair & Corn Show Entry Deadline Correction
   Please make the following correction on your 4-H Calendar.
   Entry Deadline for Eustis Fair & Corn Show is July 11th.

4) Reading Makes Cents
   Explore ideas & activities on how to earn, save, share, and spend money. This is an after school program at the Klyte Burt Memorial Library in Curtis open to all 1st-6th graders. The dates are March 8, 15, 22, and 29th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. For more information contact the extension office at 367-4424.

5) Livestock Assurance Training
   All exhibitors of Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy, Goats, RABBITS & POULTRY MUST be Livestock Quality Assurance certified before exhibiting at the County Fair or State Fair.
   4-H’ers age 8-11 are required to attend a yearly training session, the schedule is below. Ages 12-14 may attend a yearly session or take an intermediate level test and be done until age 15. Ages 15-18 may attend a yearly session or take an advanced level test and be done.
   Dates for Frontier County Training are:
The Livestock Quality Assurance training is also offered as an online course. The course is located at http://campus.extension.org. The annual fee for participation in the online training is $5.00 per youth.

6) State Fair Blow & Go Show Announcement
In a joint decision made by State Fair, FFA and 4-H, with regard to fitting of livestock at the fair, 2016 shows will be Blow & Go. This decision was made so that there will be a reduction in the cost of supplies and products spent on preparing the animals to show. It will also help speed up the loading and unloading process. After discussing with show officials from other state fairs who have gone this way, they believe the quality of the livestock exhibited at their shows has increased because they can no longer fit the flaws out of their animals.

7) Sheep and Goat Project Members
All sheep and goats being exhibited, except wethers, need to be individually identified with USDA official ID. Under no circumstances may sheep and goats be exhibited which originate from scrapie-source flocks or scrapie-infected flocks.”
These are tags that flock owners have and will place in the ear. So as you buy lambs and goats for the upcoming year, make sure that they have the tags when you purchase them. If you have questions, please give the office a call.

8) Barrel Racing Clinic at NCTA April 15 & 17, 2016
This clinic will focus on training methods and hints for the beginner to the more seasoned competitor. It will teach you how to keep your barrel horses soft, supple, and sane. All barrel racers are welcome. You are encouraged to attend both days. For more information regarding deadline for enrollment and fees, call Jo Hergenreder at 367-5291.

9) NCTA Biosecurity and USDA Federal Regulation
Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis has the biosecurity plan that includes the requirement of all incoming horses to be accompanied by a current negative coggins test as well as proof of current vaccinations. The requirement helps protect the horses housed on the NCTA campus as well as the many horses that are trailered into the Livestock Teaching Arena for various events and team practices.
The efforts put forth by the college are well places to assist in improving the health and biosecurity standard in Nebraska while staying abreast of the industry-wide push to do the same. In light of serious disease outbreaks seen in the horse industry in the last ten years, the USDA has also recently adopted the Animal Disease Traceability Program. The federal regulations requires that all horses moving interstate must be identified and accompanied by an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI) or other document acceptable to the states involved. Visit the American Horse Council or USDA website for more information.

10) PASE/Life Challenge Event
Each summer, over 500 4-H'ers convene at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus to test their skills in animal science and family and consumer sciences during PASE (Premier Animal Science Events) and Life Challenge. Teens compete in a variety of different contests including: livestock, meats and poultry judging, life challenges and clover challenge. While on campus, young people have the opportunity to take part in faculty-led workshops, campus tours, and special sessions by UNL recruiters.
PASE/Life Challenge is a two-day event designed to help you learn about issues related to their 4-H projects, explore career opportunities that are available, compete with other teens from across the state and have FUN! The event is being sponsored by Nebraska 4-H and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This year’s event is scheduled for June 19 - 21, 2016. The PASE/Life Challenge Event is open to any current 4-H'er who is 12 (by January 1, 2016) and older. Please call by March 30 if you are interested and want more information about the PASE/4-H FCS Life Challenge Event.

11) NCTA Community Garden Plots Are Available
Garden plots are available at NCTA. There is a $15.00 fee. For more information, contact Tee Bush at 402-613-3159.
12) Camp Scholarships Available!
There are state and county scholarships available for camps. Some are based on need and some are based on merit. Applications are due into the office March 9, 2016. For more information, call the Extension Office.

13) Nebraska 4-H Camp Counselor Training
Calling on all teen leaders, role models, and former campers, ages 15-19, who want to stay involved with camp! We want you to help us shape the camp experience for hundreds of kids this summer. We ask that you attend Camp Counselor Training held May 31 – June 4, 2016 at Halsey. Applications Due to Extension Office Before March 21, 2016.
Call the Extension office at 367-4424 or 1-888-367-4424 for an application. Applications received after the initial deadline may be accepted until all positions are filled.

14) Nebraska State 4-H Camps Now Open for Registration
Nebraska youth looking for a fun summer camp to attend need look no further than Nebraska State 4-H Camps in May-August near Gretna, Alma or Halsey. Registrations are now being accepted for the Nebraska State 4-H Camps, which are open to all youth, not just those in 4-H, so plan to take a friend. In addition, campers who register before April 15 receive a 10 percent discount.

The camps are open to a variety of audiences and age groups and offer an assortment of camp lengths, interest areas, locations and prices. All Nebraska youth can enjoy a 4-H camp this summer. Whether their interests are in tubing down the Niobrara, navigating a scavenger hunt with GPS or zipping down a zipline, fun opportunities abound.

Facilities are modern and well-maintained, and staff is employed and trained by University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension, which through the 4-H youth development program has been offering 4-H camps for over 50 years. The camps and centers all meet over 300 standards established by the American Camp Association. The Nebraska 4-H camps and centers through their strong affiliation with UNL provide the ultimate camping experience for all youth.

15) Reminder! Enrollment is due April 15th.
This year you must enroll online. See the enclosed instructions on how to do this. Dues must still be paid to your club treasurer or if you are an independent, sent to the extension office. County dues are $2.50 for Clover Kids and $5.00 for regular 4-H’ers. These must be filled out and dues paid by April 15, 2016.

16) Discover Unicameral Youth Legislature
The 2016 UYL will be held June 5-8. This conference is for all youth who’ll be in grades 9-12 next fall and who have an interest in politics and state government. Tuition will be $350 if postmarked by April 1; $400 if postmarked by May 1; or $450 if postmarked between May 2 & 15. No registration taken after the 15th.

The conference will be held at the Nebraska State Capitol as well as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Burr Hall.

If you attend this conference, you will take on the role of a state senator for three days, debate bills, discover how a bill becomes a law, learn the importance of compromise and good debate, and much more!

17) NACEB Scholarship
The Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards (NACEB) Scholarship Program for the 2016/17 academic year includes the following:
• One $1,000 scholarship at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) or in the College of Education and Human Sciences (CEHS) for an incoming student (freshman or transfer student).
• One $500 scholarship for a current student (sophomore or higher) enrolled in CASNR or CEHS.

The entire application, review, and award process of the NACEB Scholarship Program will be overseen by the Dean of CASNR and the Dean of CEHS at UNL.
Contact the extension office for the application which must be received in Lincoln by March 15, 2016.
18) West Central Youth Animal Science Field Day will be May 26th

Learn more about animals and have fun with friends! Develop critical thinking problem solving skills with hands-on learning. Workshops include: Understand the Inside of a Horse; Explore the Life of a Vet Tech; Hands-on Sheep Processing; Live Meat Evaluation in Marketing; Know Your Cuts of Meat; Animal Quality Assurance; Animal Science Careers; and Animal Nutrition.

Lunch will be provided. The Frontier County Fairboard and the Eustis Fairboard are offering scholarships to all Frontier County 4-H’ers to attend. Register by calling the extension office at 308-367-4424 by May 18th.

19) Up-Coming Events

**March**
- 9 - **DUE** – Applications for Camp Scholarships
- 12 - 4-H Horse Stampede
- 21 - 4-H Council Meeting – Curtis @ 7:30 pm – NCTA Ag Industry Education Center Rm 129
- 28 - **DUE** - Registration for Speech Contest
- 31 – Livestock Quality Assurance Training – Eustis Fair Building @ 6:30 pm

**April**
- 1 - **DUE** - Beef ID’s
- 1 - **DUE** – Early Registrations for Big Red Summer Camps
- 4 - Speech Contest – 6:00 pm Curtis – NCTA
- 8 - **DUE** - Registrations for Panhandle Regional Speech Contest
- 15 - **DUE** – Registrations for West Central Regional Speech Contest
- 15 - **DUE** – 4-H Enrollment due in the office
- 15 - Early Bird Registration for Nebraska 4-H Summer Camps - Save 10%
- 15-16 - Jeanne Mueller Barrel Racing Clinic @ NCTA
- 18 - Livestock Quality Assurance Training – Curtis 6:30 pm
- 2 & 23 - Canine Companions for Life 4-H Dog Expo
- 23 - Panhandle Regional Speech Contest
- 30 - West Central Regional Speech & Interview Contest @ WREC

20) Club Notes

Leaders – Please use this newsletter as a way to get information out to your members. You need to submit any news to the extension office by the end of the month in order to have it appear in the next newsletter.