



# 4-H FUN



## IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

- March 22nd 4-H Talent Show Midwest Covenant Home 7pm
- March 28th Quilts of Valor Workshop 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
- March 28th Succulent Garden Workshop 9-10:30 am
- April 1st 2016 Polk County 4-H Enrollment are DUE!
- April 12th Speech Contest Midwest Covenant Home 7pm

# POLK COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

March/April

## ENROLLMENT DEADLINE EXTENSION Friday, April 1st

The deadline for registering for the 2016 4-H year is **Friday, April 1st**. It is easier than ever to enroll with 4-H Online, Nebraska's new enrollment program. If you have already enrolled, but have not yet paid dues, please either mail a check to the Extension Office or pay dues when signing up for workshops.



At home, in the car, or at a friend's house, now you can go to [ne.4honline.com](http://ne.4honline.com) and enroll when it is convenient for you! **Please make sure to select your projects as part of your enrollment process. This is the only way the Extension Office knows what information to send you about certain projects!!** You should have gotten step-by-step instructions in the last newsletter. If you need another copy, let the Extension Office know.

## CLOVER COLLEGE TIME!!!!



School is almost out, but that does not mean that the learning has to stop. **It is time to sign your 4-Her up for all of the FUN & EDUCATIONAL workshops planned for the 2016 4-H Summer.** You will find the brochures and registration with this newsletter. Take time to look the brochures over. There are always new and exciting opportunities available through the Polk County 4-H Clover College.

**Just a couple of important reminders.** Some workshops are limited to a certain number of 4-Hers so **sign up soon to ensure your spot in the workshops!** Please make sure the money is enclosed with the registration because we cannot reserve your spot without payment.



- 2016 Photography Themes**
- Upcoming Workshops
  - Rate of Gain Weigh Day Dates
  - Livestock Quality Assurance
  - Gardening Projects
- CHECK OUT INSIDE**

## POLK COUNTY FAIR JULY 27-31



Make sure you check out the Special Gardening Project Flyer to make up your own **4-H GROWS HERE** themed Gardening Project!

## It is not too late to Sign up for the Talent & Speech Contest

Polk County 4-H has two great opportunities for youth to show off their skills in front of a live audience. Whether it is the Speech/Public Service Announcement Contest or the Talent Contest, 4-Hers can gain a better understanding of what is involved with presentation and performance.

- TALENT CONTEST**  
March 22nd at 7 pm  
Midwest Covenant Home  
Sign up deadline March 20th
- SPEECH CONTEST**  
April 12th at 7 pm  
Midwest Covenant Home  
Sign up deadline April 11th



## So-Easy Succulent Garden Workshop

March 28th 10-11 am



## Harmony Nursery, Benedict 4-H Club Corner

Polk County 4-H Clubs are always doing fun and engaging things during their meetings. The Extension Office would like to include these things in our Newsletters!! Please send or email your pictures along with a short description of the event so that we can let others know what clubs in Polk County are doing to make the most of their members' 4-H experience.



## Polk County Quilts of Valor!

4-H'ers and volunteers do a tremendous amount of service projects in their communities and beyond. We would like to encourage 4-H'ers to continue to "make a difference" by making Quilts of Valor that will be "awarded" to U.S. Military personnel or veterans who have been "touched by war". Through this quilt, you extend your care and thank you for their service. Quilts of Valor quilts can be entered in our county 4-H program entries and are eligible to compete at the Nebraska State Fair. Since the beginning of the statewide challenge, Nebraska 4-H'ers have created over 300 quilts and donated them through the National Quilts of Valor Foundation.

We are pleased to announce this upcoming workshop taught by former York County Extension Educator and QOV spokesperson Eileen Krumbach on March 28th, the day after Easter. Up to ten 4-H'ers may enroll in this class. Please call and see if there is space for you!

Phone 402-747-2321

Email

[Polk-county@unl.edu](mailto:Polk-county@unl.edu)

Website

<http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/polk>

OFFICE HOURS

8:30 am – Noon

12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Amy Peterson, Extension Educator

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Colleen Pallas, Extension Associate

[cpallas1@unl.edu](mailto:cpallas1@unl.edu)

**Calling All Dogs!!**



Consider telling your 4-H'er to becoming a member of the **Mighty Mutts 4-H Club!** This group meets weekly in the spring so the dogs can get there 4-H'er trained in time for the Polk County Fair!!



The **REGIONAL JR. CAMP** is **June 1 - 3** and is for youth **4-H age 8-11**. There will be lots of fun activities such as zip lining, wall repelling, swimming, & crafts. Registration is limited to 12 Polk County 4-Hers. Watch for registration form in the May/June Newsletter. Camp is held at Whispering Cedars Camp in Genoa.

Have the time of your life at one of the **4-H Summer Camps**. Summer Camp Brochures can be picked up at the Extension Office or viewed online at: <http://4h.unl.edu/web/4hcamps>

There is a camp for everybody! Want to invite a friend? Many of the camps don't require campers to be members of 4-H. Below are some camps offered.

Only 4-H members can attend Region Jr. Camp.

**BIG RED SUMMER ACADEMIC CAMPS** hold great opportunities to discover different career paths. The 2016 Big Red Summer Academic Camps will be held **June 5-10** at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Campus!

These career exploration camps are open to ALL youth entering grades 9-12 in 2016. Camps include the areas of Beef, Crop Science, Food Science, Fashion Design, Veterinary Science, and more.

Camp brochures and registrations available at: <http://bigredcamps.unl.edu>.

Come to the Extension Office to check out the Spring/Summer Pattern Collection. All Patterns can be ordered for \$1 apiece!




**4-H Fashion Night Out!**

Polk County Youth are invited to the York County 4-H Fashion Night Out! See enclosed flyer for more info! This is for all 4-H youth with some previous sewing experience and enrolled in a Clothing Project. Improve your design skills in an overnighter environment and have a great time doing it! Cost is \$20.



## Get Your Cameras Clicking!

Now is the time to start taking pictures that you can exhibit at the 2015 Polk County Fair. Make sure you ask if you have any questions about how to exhibit your photos at the fair.

The 2016 State Fair 4-H Photography Nebraska Theme Exhibit Print class is described below. Both Unit II and Unit III will include this class. Nebraska Exhibit Print: Help us celebrate the national "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. You can find the logo at this link.

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



## 4-H Contest Day

Want to learn how to properly set a table and plan a menu? How about present subject matter of your choice? Do you want to learn more about Horticulture? If you said yes to any or ALL of these questions, you are in luck! Polk County Contest Day will be **July 12th**.

- Presentations 9:30 a.m.
- Culinary Challenge 1:30 p.m.
- Table Toppers 1:30 p.m.



Learn how to make good choices when planning a menu and table setting!



Learn how to pick the BEST vegetables and flowers from your garden!



Give a presentation on a subject that interests you!



## Important 4-H Market Animal Info!

**Animal tags** must be placed in the animals' ears by **June 15**. Please call Colleen with any questions at 402-747-2321.



**Weigh Day for Rate of Gain Contest for Sheep and Goats will be April 17th** from 3-4 pm at the Polk County Fairgrounds.

**2016 AK-SAR-BEN STOCK SHOW**

Interested in AK-SAR-BEN? Please make note in your calendar of the important dates.

**Horse Show Sept. 17 & 18** location TBA

**Stock Show Sept. 22 - 25**, CenturyLink Center, Omaha



For full schedule visit: <http://www.aksarbenrodeo.com/events/stockshowevents>

## District Horse Shows

The deadline for District and State Horse Show registration is **May 8th**. First time competitors planning to compete at the 2015 District and State Horse Shows need to begin working on Horse Advancement Levels 1 and 2, as these need to be completed in order to participate in most events at the shows. A few of the events require the contestant to have completed Advancement Level 3. Contact the Extension Office for more information. Completed level information must be on file at the Extension Office to be eligible. Please bookmark the equine website for up to date info at <http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth>.

### 2016 DISTRICT HORSE SHOWS

- June 13th Kearney
- June 14th Chadron
- June 15th McCook
- June 16th Leigh
- June 17th Bloomfield
- June 21th Lincoln



## Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance has been developed to assist Nebraska 4-H youth with learning about major areas of proper animal care, including:

- daily care and management
- prevention
- handling
- carcass quality
- medication



Completion of 3 Quality Assurance Courses is mandatory for all exhibitors who are showing beef, sheep, swine, goats, dairy goats, poultry, & rabbits. There will be more information in the next newsletter. Instructions for doing QA will be sent out soon. There is a \$10 annual fee for each participant for Quality Assurance.

**2016 Special Gardening Project**

Sign up for the 2016 Special Gardening Project "4-H GROWS HERE!" by **APRIL 8th!** Info for enrolling included in this newsletter!

## Save the Date!

### GROOMING & SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC



**JUNE 25th**  
12:00 pm - ?  
**Polk County Fairgrounds**