

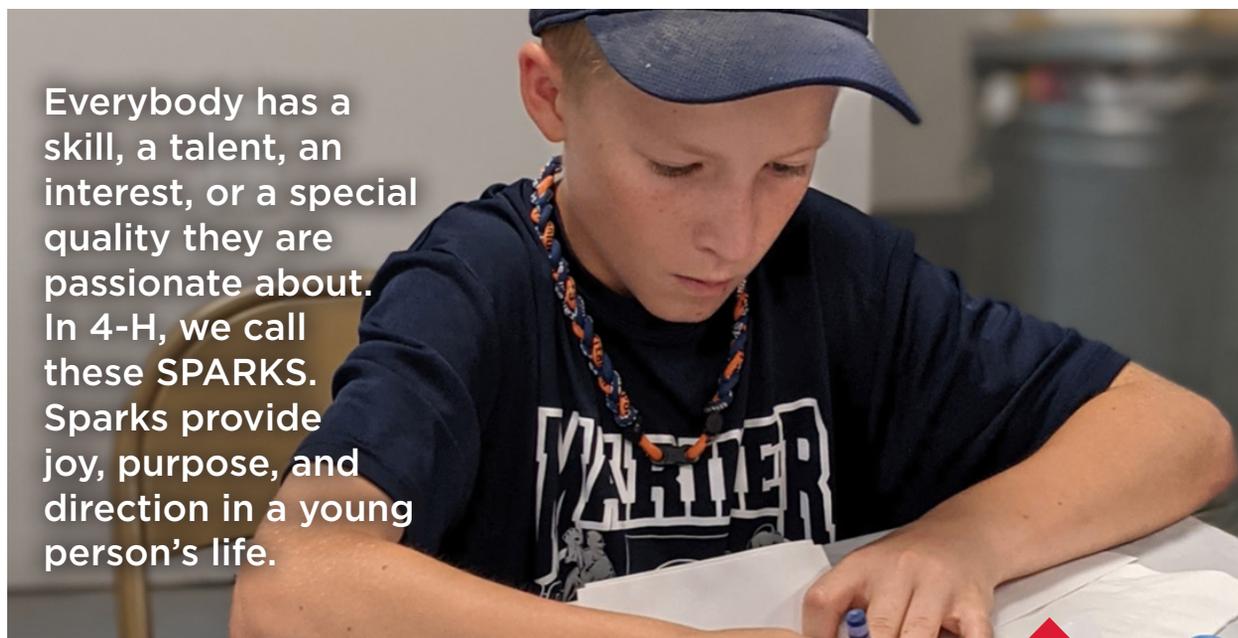
Merrick County

2021 Impact At-A-Glance



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Everybody has a skill, a talent, an interest, or a special quality they are passionate about. In 4-H, we call these SPARKS. Sparks provide joy, purpose, and direction in a young person's life.

Meet Braysen. He wants to be a scientist, and is developing his career SPARK in 4-H. He wants to make a difference in the future “by figuring livestock diseases and coming up with vaccines.” 4-H has influenced his future because “it exposed me to livestock and has taught me how to care for my livestock,” Braysen shared. Braysen started a \$17,300 fund-raising effort to build a wash-rack at the county fairgrounds by donating his champion hog to go through the sale, and donated the first \$250 in a progressive auction of 31 donors. Braysen’s sparks focus on helping others using 4-H extraordinary S.T.E.M. opportunities.

Programs At-A-Glance

- 791 youth participated in 4-H Extraordinary Learning Opportunities, 250 in the 4-H Club Program which were led by 73 adult volunteers and 23 teen leaders.
- 114 youth learners registered in 18 summer workshop choices sparking their interest in new 4-H projects and exploring career in woodworking, outdoor skills, S.T.E.M., and textiles.

56 people attended 8 production agriculture meetings, despite pandemic restrictions
Merrick County on-farm research was conducted.

113 6th grade students explored the Nebraska Ag’s sources for food, fiber, and fuel at the annual Youth Ag Showcase”.

5 communities introduced youth to engineering through the Gingerbread House Engineering challenge in 4-H Afterschool”.