



# MERRICK 4-H TIMES

## Winter-Spring 2024 Issue

Merrick County Extension Office . 1784 Fairgrounds Road . Central City, NE 68826  
308-946-3843 . merrick@unl.edu . http://merrick.unl.edu  
Merrick County 4-H, Nebraska (UNL Extension)



### FEBRUARY—MARCH 2024 IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 13– Junior Indoor Archery Contest, 6:00pm, 4-H Building

Feb. 18– Beef Rate-of-Gain Weigh-In, 1:30-4:30pm, CC Vet

Feb. 19– Office Closed  
President’s Day

Feb. 20– Int. & Senior Indoor Archery Contest, 6:00pm, 4-H Building

March 2– Air Rifle Contest, 2:00pm, 4-H Building

Mar. 21– Pancake Feed & Jr. Leader Cake Walk, 5:00-8:00pm, 4-H Building

April 1– Communication Contest, 6:30pm, 4-H Building



Find us on Facebook!



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Animal Science	2
Rate-of-Gain Weigh-ins	3
“4-H Shorts”!	3
SPIN Clubs!	4
PANCAKE FEED!	4
Shooting Sports	4
Jr. Leaders Journal	5
Leader Ledger	5
Clover Kids Corner	5
Communication Workshop	6
Communication Contest	6
Merrick County 4-H Month!	7
Social Media Channels	7
Birthdays!	7
Calendar	8

## Are you JOINING 4-H in 2024?

⇒ Login to your family account at [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) or use the QR Code to re-enroll.



**The sooner you join, the more you’ll know!**



⇒ Need help? Click the QR Code for step-by-step directions!



Login Email

Password

Sign in

# FEBRUARY MERRICK COUNTY & NEBRASKA 4-H MONTH!

How will you CELEBRATE?



Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the non-discrimination policies of the University of Nebraska – Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

# Animal Science

## 4-H Companion Animal Opportunities



[4h.unl.edu/companion-animal](http://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal)  
(Go to the website, click and explore!)

### UNL Horse Programs!

- State 4-H Rodeo
  - Equine Webinars
  - State Horse Expo
  - Horsemanship Study Courses
  - Horsemanship Advancement Levels
- ...and so much more HORSE can be found here!



**SOAR Workshop Series**

The SOAR Workshop Series provides youth and their canine companion with an opportunity to develop and practice Showmanship, Obedience, Agility, and Rally skills under the guidance of experienced clinicians.

SOAR Workshop Series

**Dog Achievement Program**

The Nebraska 4-H Dog Achievement Program encourages youth to engage in a variety of companion animal opportunities, events, and contests. The program is designed to equip youth with a variety of skills and abilities and prepare them for success in the future. The Dog Achievement Program is open to enrolled 4-H members ages 6-16.

Dog Achievement Program

**Companion Animal Webinar Series**

The Nebraska 4-H Companion Animal Webinar Series is a great way for 4-H leaders, parents, and senior aged youth to gain knowledge in various companion animal-related topic areas. Each session, a new topic will be covered with various experts joining to share their experience and expertise.

Companion Animal Webinar Series

**Companion Rabbit Science**

Companion Rabbit Science is a self-paced learning opportunity offering information about caring for rabbits. The online course is great for middle-school-aged youth but is open to all youth regardless of age who are looking to learn more about rabbits and the 4-H rabbit project. Companion Rabbit Science is a great resource for anyone interested in caring for or learning about rabbits in 4-H whether they own one now or not!

Companion Rabbit Science

**Virtual Companion Animal Challenge**

The Virtual Companion Animal Challenge provides 4-H members an opportunity to showcase and demonstrate their companion animal knowledge through a variety of 4-H contests that do not require live animals, including demonstrations, trivia, essay, art, and more.

Virtual Companion Animal Challenge

**State 4-H Dog Show & Skillathon**

The State 4-H Dog Show offers 4-H members opportunities to demonstrate their skills and abilities in working with their canine companion through a variety of competitions, including showmanship, obedience, agility, and rally classes. The State 4-H Dog Skillathon is also offered as an opportunity for 4-H members to test their knowledge of a variety of dog care topics.

State 4-H Dog Show & Skillathon

**Companion Cat Science**

Companion Cat Science is a self-paced learning opportunity offering educational information about caring for and showing cats. The online course is great for middle-school-aged youth but is open to all youth regardless of age who are looking to learn more about cats and the 4-H cat project. Companion Cat Science is a great resource for anyone interested in caring for or learning about cats in 4-H whether they own one now or not!

Companion Cat Science

**Dog Showmanship Video Series**

The Dog Showmanship Video Series includes maneuver descriptions, demonstrations, and general information for youth interested in learning more about dog showmanship. The short videos are intended to help youth while practicing with their dogs in preparation for 4-H showmanship.

Dog Showmanship Video Series

**Video Companion Animal Showmanship Contest**

The Video Companion Animal Showmanship Contest provides 4-H members an opportunity to showcase their knowledge and skills of working with their companion animals, such as cat, ferret, guinea pig, or rodent.

Video Companion Animal Showmanship Contest

**Companion Animal Judges Workshop**

Nebraska 4-H Companion Animal Judges Workshop is an online training opportunity for adults interested in judging 4-H companion animals. Additionally, the online judges training course is a great resource for 4-Hers interested in learning more about how their companion animals will be judged at fair. This online course provides information about judging cat, rabbit, and poultry.

Companion Animal Judges Training

**Advisory Committee**

The Nebraska 4-H Companion Animal Advisory Committee is comprised of volunteer and Extension representatives from across the state who provide guidance, support, and assistance in carrying out program activities in the interest of the 4-H Youth Development and companion animal program.

Advisory Committee



## Are you showing an animal at the county fair? YES—Read on!

### Requirements:

Nebraska 4-H youth age 8-18, enrolled in any of the livestock projects below are required to complete YQCA annually either Instructor-Led or online at <http://yqca.org/>

- ◆ Beef (bucket calf, feeder calf, breeding beef, market beef)
- ◆ Goat (breeding meat goat, dairy goat, meat goat)
- ◆ Sheep (breeding sheep, market sheep)
- ◆ Swine (breeding swine, market swine)
- ◆ Poultry
- ◆ Rabbit



Contact the Ext. Office to book an Instructor-Led Class for your 4-H club!  
308-946-3843

**YQCA**  
YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS

Youth enrolled in the following projects must complete YQCA: Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Swine. Each youth must complete YQCA annually. Instructor-Led \$3 per youth or online at <http://yqca.org/> \$12 per youth.

**PRE-REGISTER!**  
By 5:00 p.m. the weekday prior to class!  
402-694-6174 Hamilton County Extension Office  
308-946-3843 Merrick County Extension Office

A parent or guardian MUST ATTEND with the youth 4-H ages 8-12!

**Instructor-Led Class Dates**

Classes found in Hamilton County | Classes found in Merrick County

1	Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2022 2:00pm - 3:00pm TBD	27	Sunday, February 27, 2022 2:00pm - 3:00pm TBD
7	Monday, February 7, 2022 6:00am - 7:30pm Merrick Public School	8	Friday, July 8, 2022 10:00am - 11:00am Merrick County 4-H Building
13	Wednesday, February 23, 2022 1:00pm - 3:00pm Catholic Church, Aurora (Sponsored by 4-H Merrick County)		

Watch the county Facebook pages for more classes posted soon!



2024 MERRICK COUNTY RATE-OF-GAIN WEIGH-DAY

# MARKET BEEF

4-H & FFA  
CENTRAL CITY VET CLINIC  
1701 5TH AVE




2024 MERRICK COUNTY RATE-OF-GAIN WEIGH-DAY

# MARKET SHEEP & GOAT

4-H & FFA  
MERRICK COUNTY 4-H BUILDING  
1784 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD, CENTRAL CITY



FEBRUARY 18

## RATE-OF-GAIN CONTEST

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

1:30 - 4:30 P.M.  
CENTRAL CITY VET CLINIC  
1701 5TH AVE

MERRICK COUNTY EXTENSION  
308-946-3843  
merrick@unl.edu  
1784 Fairgrounds Rd, Central City, NE 68826

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- ALL 4-H & FFA planning to compete in the 2024 RATE-OF-GAIN CONTEST at the Merrick County Fair will be REQUIRED to WEIGH IN at the OFFICIAL MERRICK COUNTY RATE-OF-GAIN WEIGH-DAY.
- An EID TAG will be put in the animal's ear, if it doesn't already have one, and a picture taken for ID's.
- Questions, contact the Merrick County Extension Office.

MAY 16

## RATE-OF-GAIN CONTEST

### THURSDAY, MAY 16

5:00 - 7:00 P.M.  
MERRICK COUNTY 4-H BUILDING  
1784 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD, CENTRAL CITY

MERRICK COUNTY EXTENSION  
308-946-3843  
merrick@unl.edu  
1784 Fairgrounds Rd, Central City, NE 68826

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- ALL 4-H & FFA planning to compete in the 2024 RATE-OF-GAIN CONTEST at the Merrick County Fair will be REQUIRED to WEIGH IN at the OFFICIAL MERRICK COUNTY RATE-OF-GAIN WEIGH-DAY.
- A SCRAPIES TAG MUST be in the animal's ear, and a picture will be taken for ID's.
- Questions, contact the Merrick County Extension Office.

"4-H Shorts" Appreciated by

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 2024!







# 4-H

## "Shorts"

FEBRUARY MERRICK COUNTY 4-H MONTH!







**4-H Members!**  
We need your help!


We want to SEE YOUR "4-H SHORTS"!

A "4-H Short" is a short 15-30 second video of you highlighting one of your favorite 4-H projects!

Turn in your "4-H Short" or "4-H Shorts" here to be broadcast on Merrick County 4-H's social media pages.

<https://go.unl.edu/4hshorts>

Questions, 308-946-3843 or email merrick@unl.edu



**Ignite your SPARK!**

**February-March:  
Horseless Horse SPIN Clubs:**

No horse required, just an interest and willingness to learn about horses! Sign-up using the QR code:

- ⇒ 5:30-6:30 p.m. JUNIORS (8-13 YEARS)
- ⇒ 6:30-8:00 p.m. SENIORS (14-18 YEARS)
- ⇒ 4-H Building –Conference Room
- ⇒ Click the QR Code to learn the dates!



\*Stampede is a group of state contests for youth interested in horses. For more information about Stampede, scan the QR code, check out the link, or come to the SPIN Club:

<https://4h.unl.edu/horse/stampede>


**Coming May-June:  
PASE (Premier Animal Science Experience) SPIN Club:**

No livestock required, just an interest and willingness to learn about livestock!

*\*If you have a burning desire to learn more about a specific 4-H project, contact the Ext. Office today, 308-946-3843.*





**2024**



**4-H Pancake Feed & Jr. Leader Cake Walk**

*TO-GO Option Available INSIDE!*



**Thursday, March 21, 2024**

**5:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**4-H Building, Central City**

*Free Will Donation*

*Support 4-H, take advantage of the TO-GO option INSIDE!*

**Cake Walk- 5:00 p.m.– until goodies are gone**

**\$1 for 2 tickets or \$5 for 12 tickets**

*Proceeds go towards Educational Programming, 4-H Scholarships and CWF!*






**SHOOTING SPORTS**

**LEARN BY DOING**

**Indoor Archery:**

**Tuesday Night Practices**

- ⇒ Nov. 14-Feb. 6, 4-H Building
- ⇒ 6:30-7:45pm, 4-H age 8-11yrs
- ⇒ 7:45-9:00pm, 4-H age 12-18yrs

**Merrick County Junior Contest**

- ⇒ Tuesday, February 13, 2024
- ⇒ 6:00pm @ 4-H Building

**Merrick County Int. & Senior Contest**

- ⇒ Tuesday, February 20, 2024
- ⇒ 6:00pm @ 4-H Building



**Air & Small Bore Pistol:**

*Looking for Instructors! Contact the Ext. Office if you are interested in learning more, 308-946-3843!*



**Four practices with a Certified Shooting Sports Instructor are required to compete in Merrick County shooting sports contests.**

**Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshops**

- ◆ For more information go to:
- ◆ <http://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports/>



**Shotgun:**

**Practices**

- ⇒ Sportsman's Club
- ⇒ 4-H age 11-18 years
- ⇒ Check-out club's Facebook Page



**Merrick County Contest**

- ⇒ Saturday, April 27, 2024
- ⇒ 1:00pm (12:30pm Check-in)
- ⇒ Sportsman's Club

**Air Rifle:**

**Practices**

- ⇒ 4-H Building—Education Rm
- ⇒ 4-H age 8-18 years
- ⇒ Monday, Jan. 22, 29
- ⇒ Monday, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26
- ⇒ 6:00-7:30pm

**Merrick County Contest**

- ⇒ Saturday, March 2, 2024
- ⇒ 2:00pm (1:30pm Check-in)
- ⇒ 4-H Building—Ed. Rm.

# Jr. Leaders Journal

For all 4-H members ages 13-18 years!

## Jr. Leader Cake Walk



**Shift Times**  
(Please arrive 10 minutes before your shift starts.)  
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 21**  
5:00 p.m.– 8:00 p.m.  
4-H Building, Central City

Please **remember to bring** either:

- ⇒ TWO (2) decorated small cakes or
- ⇒ TWO (2) half dozen plates of decorated cookies or
- ⇒ TWO (2) half dozen plates of decorated cupcakes

**Set-up:**  
\*Wednesday, March 20  
\*4:00–6:00 p.m.  
\*4-H Building



Please contact the Ext. Office 308-946-3843 or text Kara 308-940-1033 with questions.

### Annual Activities Fundraiser



We will happily take goodie donations from any 4-H family! Drop-off at the Extension Office March 20 or 21 during office hours.



## Leader Ledger

For all 4-H Leaders Past, Present, & Future!

4-H Leader Training Packets were mailed in January to 4-H Leaders!

### ⇒ Club Leader Resources



- Club Meeting How-To
- Club Activities & Projects
- Curriculum, Activities & Lesson Plans

### ⇒ Thank you club leaders and volunteers for all your help

getting your club's file in order! If you would still like help getting your club back on track for the 2023 4-H year, call or email the Ext. Office, we're here to help you, 308-946-3843 or merrick@unl.edu



## 2024 Tentative Plan



- ♦ Jan. 28, 5PM –Officer Elections & Banquet Planning
- ♦ Feb. –Banquet, 4-H Building
- ♦ March 21 –Cake Walk @ Pancake Feed, 4-H Building
- ♦ April –UNL Road Trip w/Hamilton Co.
- ♦ May –Escape Room w/Hamilton Co.
- ♦ June –Help with Summer Workshops
- ♦ July –Fair Prep Meeting, 4-H Building
- ♦ July 28 –Judge Clover Kids Exhibits at Fair, 4-H Building
- ♦ Sept. –Community Service & Fall Cookout w/Hamilton Co.
- ♦ Oct. –Review Clover Kid Record Books, 4-H Building
- ♦ Oct./Nov. –Achievement Party
- ♦ Nov. –Friendsgiving w/Hamilton Co.
- ♦ Dec. –Merrick/Hamilton Lock-In, Merrick 4-H Building

## Clover Kids Corner

For all 4-H members ages 5-7 years!

### What is a Clover Kid...?

- ⇒ 4-H Clover Kids is the officially recognized program in Nebraska for children under the age of 8.
- ⇒ The program is designed to provide 5 to 7 year-olds a variety of educational and recreational experiences in a non-competitive environment.
- ⇒ Clover Kids provide an excellent opportunity for youth to achieve his/her highest potential because early life experiences affect future development.



For more information visit:  
<https://4h.unl.edu/programs-clover-kids>

## COMMUNICATING CLEARLY WORKSHOP

Join Nebraska Extension for a 60 minute workshop to prepare for the county Communications Contest.

**Youth will:**

- learn how to organize and prepare a speech
- develop speech delivery skills
- develop self-confidence
- have fun!

No preparation required!

To register, scan the QR Code or visit <https://go.unl.edu/hmjg>



**When?** Friday, February 23rd, 3p.m. - 4p.m.  
**Where?** Merrick County 4-H Building



MERRICK COUNTY

# Communication Contest

*Speech, PSA, Presentation & Video Communication*

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024**

**6:30 P.M.**

**4-H BUILDING**

**1784 FAIRGROUNDS RD, CENTRAL CITY**

*Contact Extension Office for contest information!  
308-946-3843 or [merrick@unl.edu](mailto:merrick@unl.edu)*

**Register here by  
NOON, Monday, April 1**



This activity is partially funded through Merrick County 4-H Council, 1784 Fairgrounds Rd Central City, NE 68826, (308) 946-3843. The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.



# 4-H MONTH

## 4-H SPIRIT DAY

THURSDAY, February 1

## 4-H VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

THURSDAY, February 8

## 4-H SUPPORTER APPRECIATION DAY

THURSDAY, February 15

## GIVE BACK DAY

THURSDAY, February 22

## LEAP INTO 4-H - GET ENROLLED IN 4-H

THURSDAY, February 29



@MerrickCo4HNe  
 twitter   


 Instagram  
 merrickcounty4h

Merrick County  
 4H, Nebraska  
 (UNL Extension)  
 Non-Profit Organization



 LIKE US ON   
 facebook

**January:** Archer Shotkoski, Kaley Krug, Sarah Musil, Caroline Johnson, Cole Brandes, John Perea III, Rhett Brondel, Maci Beck, Spencer Griess, Taylyn Greving, Dylan Roberts, Josie Root, Carter Broekemeier, Dustyn Martens, Amelia Wright, Dustyn Douglass, Breccan Jenik, Morgan Friedrichsen, Jett Malander, Izayah Eckstrom, Harper Wissing, Harvey Reimers, Landon Zmek, Stormie Weathers, Shelby Hostler, Londyn Ziemba **February:** Angus Johnson, Maddie Dexter, Vandaley Foulk, Brady Kuck, Claire Blauhorn, Ryan Cook, Molly Blanchard, Isaac Rowe, Jackson Friedrichsen, Sam Morrison, Erik Blomstedt, Jonah Parde, Sierra Schneider, Ezra Eckstrom, Claire Detlefsen, Brooklyn Horton, Harper Fish, Kinren Etherton, Maxwell Myers **March:** Briggs Whalen, Teagan Horton, Louisa Scott, Avery Van Winkle, Alexandra Meyer, Luke Powell, Hailey Pfeifer, Hannah Pfeifer, Hailey Brandes, Taori Tate, Aubrey Krug, Colby Schneider, Erik Samuelson, Sophie Frenzen, Teha Tate, Tenaya Tate, Emmitt Hanquest, Emma Schuele, Amelia Buhlke, Charles Peters, Emma Zanger, Audrey Zmek, Gable Butt, Skylar Stuhmer, Brianna Powell, Jack Zanger





# January 28, 2024 — April 20, 2024

For more information please contact the Extension Office 308-946-3843 or email merrick@unl.edu



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 <u>January</u> 5pm, Jr. Leader Meeting, 4-H Building	29 6-7:30pm, Air Rifle Practice, 8-18yrs, 4-H Building	30	31 <b>DUE-Senior 4-H Council Scholarships, Ext. Office</b>	1 <u>February</u> 4-H Spirit Day! Wear a 4-H t-shirt or hoodie!	2	3
4 3pm, Shotgun Club Meeting, Sportsman's Club	5 6-7:30pm, Air Rifle Practice, 8-18yrs, 4-H Building	6 5:30-6:30pm, Junior Horseless Horse 6:30-8pm, Senior	7	8 4-H Volunteer Appreciation Day!	9	10
11	12 <b>APPRECIATED</b> <b>"4-H Shorts" Videos</b> 6-7:30pm, Air Rifle Practice, 8-18yrs, 4-H Building	13 9am Proclamation Signing, 4-H Month 6pm Junior Indoor Archery Contest, 4-HB	14 5:30-6:30pm, Junior Horseless Horse 6:30-8pm, Senior Horseless Horse, 4-HB	15 4-H Service Supporter Appreciation Day!	16	17
18 *2pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club *1:30-4:30pm Market Beef Rate-of-Gain Weigh-in, CC Vet	19 <b>Holiday - Office Closed</b> 6-7:30pm, Air Rifle Practice, 8-18yrs, 4-H Building	20 6pm Int. & Sr. Indoor Archery Contest, 4-HB	21 5:30-6:30pm, Junior Horseless Horse 6:30-8pm, Senior Horseless Horse, 4-HB	22 4-H Give Back Day!	23 3-4pm, Workshop Communicating Clearly, 4-H Building	24
25 2pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club	26 6-7:30pm, Air Rifle Practice, 8-18yrs, 4-H Building	27 5:30-6:30pm, Junior Horseless Horse 6:30-8pm, Senior Horseless Horse, 4-HB	28	29 Leap Into 4-H - Get Enrolled in 4-H!	1 <u>March</u>	2 2pm, Air Rifle Contest, 4-H Building
3 2pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club	4 7pm 4-H Council, 4-H Building	5	6 5:30-6:30pm, Junior Horseless Horse 6:30-8pm, Senior Horseless Horse, 4-HB	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 5:30-6:30pm, Junior Horseless Horse 6:30-8pm, Senior Horseless Horse, 4-HB	14 4pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club	15	16
17	18	19 5:30-6:30pm, Junior Horseless Horse 6:30-8pm, Senior Horseless Horse, 4-HB	20	21 5-8PM PANCAKE FEED & JR. LEADER CAKE WALK, 4-H Building	22	23 <b>Stampede State Contest, UNL</b>
24	25	26	27	28 4pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club	29	30
31	1 <u>April</u> 6:30pm Communication Contest, 4-H Building 7:30pm 4-H Council Meeting, 4-H Building	2	3	4 4pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 4pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 4pm, Shotgun Practice, 11-18yrs, Sportsman's Club	19	20



February 7, 2024



Dear Merrick County 4-H Family,

Thank you for being a GREAT supporter of Merrick County 4-H. In 2023, we had 278 members and 62 volunteers enrolled to “Grow 4-H”! We are well on our way to exceeding that number in 2024. It is exciting to be a part of making 4-H a year-round program teaching life skills and helping youth become confident, caring and contributing citizens of good character.

4-H dues do not have to be charged in our county because there is so much support from 4-H families, county businesses and organizations. If you would like to contribute financially to Merrick County 4-H, and keep it free to join, there is a streamlined process to give three different ways. The three (3) ways you can donate to 4-H include:

- Pancake Feed on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>
- Placing a Premium Ad in the Fairbook by March 15<sup>th</sup>
- Sponsoring a 2024 county award

A fourth way you can contribute is through GO BIG GIVE on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Watch for details on this closer to May and think about whom you would like to honor with your donation or give a memorial.

To donate now, fill out the enclosed form or go online to “4-H Donation Form” found at [merrick.unl.edu](http://merrick.unl.edu). If you have any questions or want to discuss your donation, contact Kara Wells at the Extension Office.

Please mail the enclosed form to Merrick County Extension, 1784 Fairgrounds Road, Central City, NE 68826. For questions, please call the Merrick County Extension Office (308)946-3843. For Premium Ad changes or if you would prefer to email your reply, send to [merrick@unl.edu](mailto:merrick@unl.edu). We would appreciate your response before March 15, 2024.

Sincerely,

Merrick County 4-H & Extension Staff and 2023 Merrick County 4-H Council



Front: Emily & Kara,  
Back: Cindie, Steve, Sherry



Front: Makenna, Kayden  
Back: Jess, Chase, Shanien, Heath, Mike, Matt, Ryan  
Not Pictured: Justin, Lane, Londyn



# 4-H GROWS HERE

\_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Family would like to contribute to Merrick County 4-H in the following ways.

**Pancake Feed, March 21, 2024, 5:00-8:00 p.m., 4-H Building**

*(Check all that apply)*

- We would like to be a \$25 sponsor to help defray costs.
- We would like to be a \$\_\_\_\_\_ sponsor to help defray costs.
- Our check is enclosed, made out to Merrick County 4-H Council.
- Please invoice us.



**Premium Ad: Fairbook** goes to print first of April, approximately 400 households receive Fairbooks

*(Check all that apply)*

- We would like to sponsor a \$50 ad for 3 ¼ x 7 ½ inches.
- We would like to sponsor a \$40 ad for 4 ¾ x 3 ¾ inches.
- We would like to sponsor a \$30 ad for 3 ¼ x 3 ¼ inches.
- We would like to sponsor a \$20 ad for 1 ½ x 3 ¾ inches.
- Please use the design from the previous year.
- We have enclosed (or emailed) a design for our ad.
- Our check is enclosed, made out to Merrick County 4-H Council.
- Please invoice us.



**4-H Awards Program**

*(Check all that apply)*

- We would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ award(s) for \$20 each totaling \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- We would like to sponsor the awards we sponsored last year at the rate of \$20 per award.
- We would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to sponsor awards where needed.
- Our special request for sponsorship is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our check is enclosed, made out to Merrick County 4-H Council.
- Please invoice us.









*\*If there were any specific details you would like us to know about your donation, please tell us here. Otherwise, you will be recognized as a donor as listed at the top of this page.*

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Best Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_



MERRICK COUNTY	Horse 	Cats 	Companion Animals 	Rabbits 	Poultry 	Dogs 
<b>Step 1:</b> <b>ENROLL IN PROJECT</b> by June 1, 2024 <b>DUE by June 14</b>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Cat (D)</b> <small>Clover Kids: Animal Science-Animal Caretaker</small>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Companion Animals (D)</b> <small>Clover Kids: Animal Science-Animal Caretaker</small>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Rabbit (D)</b> <small>Clover Kids: Animal Science-Animal Caretaker</small>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Poultry (D)</b> <small>Clover Kids: Animal Science-Animal Caretaker</small>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Dog (D)</b> <small>Clover Kids: Animal Science-Animal Caretaker</small>	
<b>Step 2:</b> <b>IDENTIFY</b> your animal <b>DUE by June 14</b>	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>drawings or pictures</b>	None	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>tattoo</b> and picture of head with tattoo visible	None	None	None
<b>Step 3:</b> <b>CERTIFY</b> <b>DUE by July 10</b>	None	<b>Vaccination Record</b> None, except <b>Ferret Vaccination Record</b>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class or pay fee and test online ( <i>Clover Kid Exempt</i> )	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class or pay fee and test online ( <i>Clover Kid Exempt</i> )	<b>Vaccination Record</b>	
<b>Step 4:</b> <b>REGISTER</b> your animal for county fair <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form	Register for class on Pre-Entry Form	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form
<b>Step 5:</b> <b>CHECK-IN</b> your animal at county fair	Check-in with superintendent, <b>6-7 a.m., Saturday, July 27</b> – Indoor Arena	Check-in with superintendent <b>12:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 31</b> – Indoor Arena	Check-in with superintendent <b>6-8 p.m., Saturday, July 27</b> – stalling after show, Annex Building	Check-in with superintendent <b>6-8 p.m., Saturday, July 27</b> – stalling after show, Annex Building	Check-in with superintendent, <b>7:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 31</b> – Vendor & Exhibitor Building	
<b>Step 6:</b> <b>SHOW</b> your animal	<b>Saturday, July 27, 7:00 a.m.</b> – Indoor Arena	<b>Wednesday, July 31, 12:30 p.m.</b> – Indoor Arena	<b>Sunday, July 28, 8:00 a.m.</b> – Indoor Arena <a href="http://www.merrick.unl.edu">www.merrick.unl.edu</a>	<b>Sunday, July 28, 11:00 a.m.</b> – Indoor Arena <a href="http://www.merrick.unl.edu">www.merrick.unl.edu</a>	<b>Wednesday, July 31, 8:00 a.m.</b> – Annex Building	
<b>Step 7:</b> <b>SIGN-UP</b> for sale	None	None	<b>by end of day July 29</b> to sign-up	<b>by end of day July 29</b> to sign-up	None	None






Remember picture of head with tattoo showing!

MERRICK COUNTY	Breeding Swine	Market Swine
<b>Step 1:</b> <b>ENROLL IN PROJECT</b> by June 1, 2024 <b>DUE by June 14</b>	4online.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Swine (D) Breeding Swine</b> Clover Kids: Animal Science- Animal Caretaker	4online.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Swine (D) Market Swine</b> Clover Kids: Animal Science- Animal Caretaker
<b>Step 2:</b> <b>IDENTIFY</b> your animal <b>DUE by June 14</b>	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>EID Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible <b>(DUE: Registration paper copies, if registered to show registered breeding.)</b>	Turn in the ID Sheet with <b>EID Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible
<b>Step 3:</b> <b>CERTIFY</b> <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online <i>(Clover Kid Exempt)</i>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online <i>(Clover Kid Exempt)</i>
<b>Step 4:</b> <b>REGISTER</b> your animal for county fair <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form with EID tag #	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form with EID tag #
<b>Step 5:</b> <b>CHECK-IN</b> your animal at county fair	Check-in with superintendent, <b>8-11 a.m., Sunday, July 28 –</b> Hog Barn	Weigh-in with superintendent, <b>8-11 a.m., Sunday, July 28 –</b> Hog Barn
<b>Step 6:</b> <b>SHOW</b> your animal	<b>Monday, July 29</b> <b>7:00 a.m. –</b> Indoor Arena	<b>Monday, July 29</b> <b>7:00 a.m. –</b> Indoor Arena
<b>Step 7:</b> <b>SIGN-UP</b> for sale	None	<a href="http://www.merrick.unl.edu">www.merrick.unl.edu</a> by end of day July 29 to sign-up









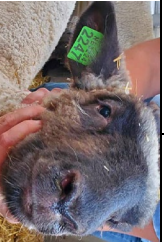
Remember picture of head with EID tag showing!

MERRICK COUNTY	Breeding Goat 	Market Goat 	Goat – Rate of Gain Contest 
<b>Step 1:</b> <b>ENROLL IN PROJECT</b> by June 1, 2024 <b>DUE by June 14</b>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Goat(D) – Meat Goat</b> Clover Kids: Animal Science- Animal Caretaker	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Goat(D) – Meat Goat</b> Clover Kids: Animal Science- Animal Caretaker	4honline.com Choose the project: <b>AS: Goat(D) – Meat Goat</b>
<b>Step 2:</b> <b>IDENTIFY</b> your animal <b>DUE by June 14</b>	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>Scrapie Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible <b>(DUE: Registration paper copies, , if registered to show registered breeding.)</b>	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>Scrapie Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible	Weigh-in goat <b>Thursday, May 16, 5-7 p.m.</b> – Indoor Arena
<b>Step 3:</b> <b>CERTIFY</b> <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class or pay fee and test online <i>(Clover Kid Exempt)</i>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class or pay fee and test online <i>(Clover Kid Exempt)</i>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class or pay fee and test online
<b>Step 4:</b> <b>REGISTER</b> your animal for county fair <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form with Scrapie tag number	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form with Scrapie tag number	None
<b>Step 5:</b> <b>CHECK-IN</b> your animal at county fair	Check-in with superintendent, <b>11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sunday, July 28</b> – Southside of Livestock Barn	Weigh-in with superintendent, <b>11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sunday, July 28</b> – Southside of Livestock Barn	Weigh-in with superintendent, <b>11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sunday, July 28</b> – Southside of Livestock Barn
<b>Step 6:</b> <b>SHOW</b> your animal	<b>Monday, July 29</b> <b>1:00 p.m.</b> – Indoor Arena	<b>Monday, July 29</b> <b>1:00 p.m.</b> – Indoor Arena	Announced following market classes
<b>Step 7:</b> <b>SIGN-UP</b> for sale	None	<a href="http://www.merrick.unl.edu">www.merrick.unl.edu</a> by end of day July 29 to sign-up	None








Remember picture of head with Scrapie tag showing!

MERRICK COUNTY	Breeding Sheep 	Market Lambs 	Sheep – Rate of Gain Contest 
<b>Step 1:</b> <b>ENROLL IN PROJECT</b> by June 1, 2024 <b>DUE by June 14</b>	<a href="http://4honline.com">4honline.com</a> <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Sheep (D)– Breeding Sheep</b> Clover Kids: Animal Science- Animal Caretaker	<a href="http://4honline.com">4honline.com</a> <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Sheep (D)- Market Sheep</b> Clover Kids: Animal Science- Animal Caretaker	<a href="http://4honline.com">4honline.com</a> Choose the project: <b>AS: Sheep (D)- Market Sheep</b>
<b>Step 2:</b> <b>IDENTIFY</b> your animal <b>DUE by June 14</b>	 Turn in ID Sheet with <b>Scrapie Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible <b>(DUE: Registration paper copies, if registered to show registered breeding.)</b>	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>Scrapie Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible	Weigh-in lamb <b>Thursday, May 16, 5-7 p.m.</b> – Indoor Arena
<b>Step 3:</b> <b>CERTIFY</b>  <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Attend an Instructor-Led YOQA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online <i>(Clover Kid Exempt)</i>	Attend an Instructor-Led YOQA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online <i>(Clover Kid Exempt)</i>	Attend an Instructor-Led YOQA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online
<b>Step 4:</b> <b>REGISTER</b> your animal for county fair <b>DUE by July 10</b>	 Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form with Scrapie tag number	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form with Scrapie tag number	None
<b>Step 5:</b> <b>CHECK-IN</b> your animal at county fair	Check-in with superintendent, <b>11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sunday, July 28</b> – Southside of Livestock Barn	Weigh-in with superintendent, <b>11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sunday, July 28</b> – Southside of Livestock Barn	Weigh-in with superintendent, <b>11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sunday, July 28</b> – Southside of Livestock Barn
<b>Step 6:</b> <b>SHOW</b> your animal	<b>Monday, July 29</b> <b>4:00 p.m. or following the Goat Show</b> – Indoor Arena	<b>Monday, July 29</b> <b>4:00 p.m. or following the Goat Show</b> – Indoor Arena	Announced following market classes
<b>Step 7:</b> <b>SIGN-UP</b> for sale	None	<a href="http://www.merrick.unl.edu">www.merrick.unl.edu</a> by end of day July 29 to sign-up	None



Remember picture of head with Scrapie tag showing!



MERRICK COUNTY	Bucket Calves 	Feeder Calf 	Breeding Beef 	Market Beef 	Beef – Rate of Gain Contest 
<b>Step 1:</b> <b>ENROLL IN PROJECT</b> by June 1, 2024 <b>DUE by June 14</b>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Beef (D) Bucket Calf</b> <small>Clover Kids: Animal Science- Animal Caretaker</small>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Beef (D) Feeder Calf</b>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Beef (D) Breeding</b>	4honline.com <b>Choose the project:</b> <b>AS: Beef (D) Market Beef</b>	4honline.com Choose the project: <b>AS: Beef (D) Market Beef</b>
<b>Step 2:</b> <b>IDENTIFY</b> your animal <b>DUE by June 14</b>	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>EID Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible.	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>EID Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>EID Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible <b>(DUE: Registration paper copies, if registered to show registered breeding.)</b>	Turn in ID Sheet with <b>EID Tag #</b> and picture of head with tag visible	Weigh-in <b>Sunday, Feb. 18, 1:30-4:30 p.m.</b> – CC Vet Clinic <b>Declare one (1) steer and/or one (1) heifer for Rate-of-Gain</b>
<b>Step 3:</b> <b>CERTIFY</b> <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online <i>(Clover Kid Exempt)</i>	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online	Attend an Instructor-Led YQCA class <u>or</u> pay fee and test online
<b>Step 4:</b> <b>REGISTER</b> your animal for county fair <b>DUE by July 10</b>	Register for class on Pre-Entry Form	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form	Register for showmanship and all classes on Pre-Entry Form	None
<b>Step 5:</b> <b>CHECK-IN</b> your animal at county fair	Check-in with superintendent and turn in Bucket Calf Record Book, <b>3:30-4 p.m.</b> <b>Sunday, July 28 –</b> Northside of Livestock Barn	Check-in with superintendent, <b>3:30-4 p.m.</b> <b>Sunday, July 28 –</b> Northside Livestock Barn	Check-in with superintendent, <b>2:30-3:30 p.m.</b> <b>Sunday, July 28 –</b> Northside of Livestock Barn	Weigh-in with superintendent, <b>1-2:30 p.m.</b> <b>Sunday, July 28 –</b> Northside of Livestock Barn	Weigh-in with superintendent, <b>1-2:30 p.m.</b> <b>Sunday, July 28 –</b> Northside Livestock Barn
<b>Step 6:</b> <b>SHOW</b> your animal	<b>Tuesday, July 30 8:00 a.m. –</b> Indoor Arena	<b>Tuesday, July 30 8:00 a.m. –</b> Indoor Arena	<b>Tuesday, July 30 8:00 a.m. –</b> Indoor Arena	<b>Tuesday, July 30 8:00 a.m. –</b> Indoor Arena	Announced following market classes
<b>Step 7:</b> <b>SIGN-UP</b> for sale	None	None	None	<a href="http://www.merrick.unl.edu">www.merrick.unl.edu</a> <b>by end of day July 30</b> to sign-up	None



Remember picture of head with EID tag showing!