



4-H BULLETIN BOARD

March 2024

NANCE COUNTY
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308-536-2691

BOONE COUNTY
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ALBION, NE 68620
402-395-2158



EXTENSION

WEBSITE: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/>
Follow us on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/boone.extension>

FARM BUREAU SPONSORING 4-H T-SHIRTS

The Farm Bureau will be sponsoring our 4-H exhibitor t-shirts again this year. Each 4-H member will receive a t-shirt to wear at judging events, contests, exhibiting livestock and other animals, or any time. We appreciate the support the Farm Bureau has given us. It does take a few weeks to get the shirts ordered and printed, so when you enroll in 4-H, please remember to include your shirt size. You are encouraged to write a "Thank You" note and drop it off at our office.

Please join 4-H by the end of MARCH so that we can order the t-shirts for this year!

Enroll at <https://v2.4honline.com>. Log in with your email address and password. If you have forgotten your password, you can choose "Reset Password". If you are a new member, you can set up your account, add each 4-H member in the family, and choose a club or clubs, and projects. Projects should be selected if families would like to receive additional information regarding project-specific reminders, such as upcoming deadlines.

Members will be able to bring any exhibit from any project area to the fair, even if you did not list it in 4-H Online. This means you will not need to decide on all the projects you want before you enroll. You will still be able to take exhibits from any project area to the fair by listing them on the fair entry form in June.

If you are taking a shooting sports project, be sure to select the Nance County 4-H Shooting Sports Club as one of your clubs, and then select the project areas. If you are taking the horse project, be sure to select Levi's as a club and then the horse project.

If your 4-Her plans to attend 4-H camp or participate in any state event or activity, you must complete the health section. All other 4-Hers may skip over the health information. Then complete the consent section.

Additional instructions for enrollment can be found at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/4-h-enrollment-information/>.

If you need help enrolling, we would be happy to help you! Feel free to come to the office if you need assistance! We ask that youth complete enrollment by the end of March so that we can order the 4-H t-shirts.

MARKET BROILER ORDER INFORMATION

Birds will be males and arrive the week of May 26. The exact delivery date will be shared with families later who have signed-up. Families are expected to be available on the day of delivery to pick up their birds. Extension Staff will NOT be responsible for or be able to keep the birds after delivery. Payment is due in the Extension Office within 48 hours of completing this form. Your order will not be placed until payment is received in the office.

Chick order must be completed by Thursday, April 4. Please make check payable to: Nance County 4-H Council.

Order link <https://forms.gle/Bf8rr3QdW5rSSPTr8>.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 308-536-2691.



Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development Program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

LIVESTOCK

LIVESTOCK ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM 2024

We are excited to announce the fourth year of the Nebraska 4-H Livestock Achievement Program. This additional opportunity for enrolled livestock project youth is designed to promote all educational aspects of 4-H livestock projects including selection, production, leadership, and exhibition by recognizing youth striving to improve in their livestock project knowledge and leadership.

The program recognizes Members of Excellence across all 4-H livestock project areas, including: beef, sheep, meat goat, swine, dairy cattle, dairy goat, rabbit, and poultry.

Applications/Sign up are due June 15th through the application form link on the website. Plan and Reports, as well as Project Records will be due August 1 via the completion form on the website.

Youth completing the achievement program and receiving member of excellence recognition in the various species will be recognized during the Parade of Champions, 4-H weekend at the Nebraska State Fair.

For more information or to apply, go to: <https://4h.unl.edu/livestock-achievement>

CORNHUSKER LIVESTOCK JUDGING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Reserve your spot in this year's Cornhusker Livestock Judging Championships. A minimum of 100 participants is needed for this contest to happen. Register by March 8 at <https://forms.gle/ZwaVeCkyFMH57DZD8> or with the QR code.

Fee is \$100 per team of 5, which includes t-shirts. The top 4 scores being counted towards the team total. Prizes will be banners and buckles.

The contest will be held at York County Fairgrounds on March 19. Age divisions will be Junior High (6th - 8th graders only), and Open (9th - 12th graders and adults).



GREAT PLAINS LIVESTOCK JUDGING CIRCUIT

The Great Plains Livestock Judging Circuit is a lineup of contests held throughout the state giving youth the opportunity to perfect their skills in preparation for the Nebraska 4-H Premier Animal Science Event (PASE). Qualifying youth must attend a minimum of two contests in addition to the PASE livestock judging contest in order to be eligible for awards and scholarships. The top 5 individuals in the Senior and Intermediate divisions will be recognized as part of the All-State Team during the Grand Drive at the Nebraska State Fair.

Open to Nebraska 4-H and FFA members ages 10-18.

2024 Schedule:

April 5 - NE State FFA at Lincoln, bfrench6@unl.edu

April 13 - Weld County, CO at Greeley, Colorado, lhooker@co.weld.co.us

April 20 - Logan County, CO at Sterling, Colorado, jd.sexton@colostate.edu

May 23 - Butler, Colfax, & Platte County at Leigh, NE, sbell8@unl.edu or bdolezal2@unl.edu

May 24 - Thayer/Nuckolls County in Nelson, NE, amy.brockman@unl.edu

May 28 - Northern Panhandle Judging Contest at Hemingford, NE, astevens4@unl.edu or mmracek2@unl.edu

May 30 - South Central Livestock Judging Contest at Bladen, NE, elizabeth.janning@unl.edu

June 20-21 - Premier Animal Science Event (PASE) at Lincoln!

For more information, visit <https://4h.unl.edu/livestock-judging-circuit>

NANCE COUNTY BEEF WEIGH-IN

Beef weigh-in will be held at Rick Wetovick's on March 9 from 10:00 to 11:00 am.

4-H and FFA members from Nance and Boone Counties are welcome to bring their animals for weighing, ear tagging, and DNA samples.

PROJECTS

ANIMAL PROJECTS

If you are new to 4-H and are interested in showing animals, there are several options. If you are a Clover Kid (age 5-7 as of January 1), you can bring a small pet or two. Or you can bring a bucket calf.

Older 4-H members can also bring market beef, breeding beef, feeder calf, sheep, swine, dairy, goats, cats, dogs, poultry, rabbits, or small pets.

- Animal IDs - An animal must be owned by the exhibitor who enters it, and identified to the Extension Office by May 15 to be eligible for the County Fair. ID forms are available at the Extension Office, or online at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/4-h-animal-science-information/>. Ear tags are also available.
- Poultry do not need to be ID'd.
- Cats and dogs only need a vaccination record from the Vet showing that they are current on vaccinations.
- YQCA - 4-H members ages 8 and older that are exhibiting beef, dairy cattle, meat goat, dairy goats, sheep, swine, rabbits, or poultry will also need to complete YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) training or testing prior to the County Fair. Instructor-led training will be offered at the Boone and Nance County Extension offices at a date TBA, or can be completed online. A coupon code for \$3.00 is available at the Extension office to cover the cost of the in-person training, or to apply to the online cost.
- County Fair animal entry forms will be due in the Extension office on Wednesday, June 26.

For information on how to get started in an animal project, contact your 4-H Club Leader or the Extension Office.

SPECIAL GARDEN PROJECT

The Special Gardening Project for 2024 is the Princess of India Nasturtium. Members will be given a packet of seeds in March or April, along with planting and growing instructions. Gardeners will be able to exhibit this unique flower at County and State Fair. Exhibits can be the flowers, or a poster, story or essay, poem, or a photo exhibit.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please call the office to reserve your seeds, or use this code.



HORSE PROJECT

The Horsemanship Advancement Levels program is designed to serve as a guide for instruction and evaluation of each member's progress. The correct handling of horses is emphasized from the beginning to the most advanced level. Each level has certain requirements a member must meet before they are allowed to proceed to the next level, such as demonstrating basic horse handling and riding, making a feed chart, written exam, and skills test.

The 4-H members being tested must be enrolled in the 4-H horse project. During testing of each level, youth must use a horse that has been properly identified on the 4-H Horse Identification Certificate (available at the Extension Office). 4-H'ers must own, lease, or manage the horse being used. Youth must have access to the horse and provide care and management. 4-H members may use any of their project horses. However, a single horse must be used for the entire skills test of each level.

County exhibitors must complete Level 1 testing after 2 years (two fairs) in the horse project by June 1, 2024. State 4-H Horse Expo entrants must also complete their Level testing by June 1.

Dates for the State 4-H Horse Expo will be July 13-17, 2024. 4-H members age 8 -9 will be able to participate in Level I and Level II classes at the State 4-H Horse Show. Members 10 years and over will be eligible to compete in any Level, as long as they have completed the corresponding Level testing.

Once a Level testing is complete, you will receive information about completing a survey evaluating the Nebraska Equine 4-H Advancement Level Program. This is an ongoing study, and is completely optional. It can be filled out after each Level is completed.

Check out these additional opportunities at <https://4h.unl.edu/horse>. Not all programs require horse ownership.

**NANCE COUNTY FAIRBOOKS COMING SOON!
WATCH YOUR EMAIL AND FACEBOOK!**

MEETING DATES

NANCE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS

All youth must enroll or re-enroll using 4-H Online each year before attending a practice. Member and Parental release must be signed for each 4-H Shooting Sports project when enrolling.

Each member must attend a minimum of 3 practices in each discipline with a certified leader to compete in the divisions of the county contest.

Archery and BB Gun practices will be held Sundays in March. County Shoot will be held in April 7, 2024.

Fat Boys order forms are available for pick up in the office.

Upcoming Area Contests:

March 16-17 -
4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Initial Workshop & Instructor Update
Keith County Fairgrounds, Ogallala

April 20 & 21 -
Nebraska State 4-H BB Gun & Air Rifle Championships
Aurora Cooperative Pavilion, Fonner Park, 8:00 am each day.

June 23-28, 2024 -
4-H Shooting Sports National Championships
Heartland Public Shooting Park, Alda, NE

Instructor Training:

**April 13-14 -
4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Initial Workshop & Instructor Update
Boone County Fairgrounds, Albion, NE**

More Details at <https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports>

ANIMAL SCIENCE COMPETITIVE EVENTS

4-H'ers from Boone and Nance Counties age 8 or older as of January 1 are invited to participate in Animal Science 101, or Equine Science, including the State contests. Both groups will have educational practices at the Extension Office in Albion to prepare for the contests. Tentative schedules are as follows:

4-H Horse Quiz Bowl:

Mar 3, 2 pm

Mar 10, 2 pm

Mar 17, 2 pm

Mar 23, Lincoln - State 4-H Horse Stampede - Horse Bowl & Other Contests

4-H Animal Science 101:

Mar 3, 3:00 pm

Mar 31, 3:00 pm

April-June TBA

June 19, Depart for Lincoln - State Contests

June 20, State 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl, Skillathon & Meats Contests

June 21, State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest

If you are unable to attend the first meeting, but are interested in the contests, please call the Extension Office.

SHOWSTOCK MANAGER OPEN

For livestock exhibitors that are planning to enter beef, sheep, goat, or swine exhibits at the Nebraska State Fair, Showstock Manager is now open. Animals should be tagged and a DNA sample submitted to the Extension Office by June 15. EID tags and DNA envelopes are available at the Extension Office. Any retags should be reported to the Extension Office.

You will also need to obtain a Premises ID from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at <https://nda.nebraska.gov/adtpremises.html>. If you have made nominations in the past, you will still have an account, and your Premises ID will already be listed.

If you are new to this process, any animal that you MAY take to the Nebraska State Fair should be nominated. If they are not nominated on Showstock Manager, they will not be able to go to State Fair.

Log in at <https://showstockmgr.com>.



**New 4-H families will receive
a 4-H yard sign!**

CAMPS

BIG RED CAMPS 2024

Big Red Camps are residential college & career exploration camps held at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. By participating in a camp, youth get the opportunity to explore the Nebraska campus, meet people from across the country, spend time investigating an interest or potential career, and have a lot of fun!

During the daytime, participants will work with our university faculty to explore the topic of their particular camp. During evening programming, participants work with faculty, volunteers, and business & industry, with a focus on college & career readiness. After spending several fun-filled days on campus, participants' families are invited to attend a special capstone event where youth showcase their achievements.

- Camp sessions will include:
- ROOTED in Ag
- Animation
- The Art of Teaching - Inspiring Minds, Igniting Potential
- Discover Clothing Design, Sustainability, & the Future of Textiles
- Discover Cryptography
- Discover Digital Media
- Discover Engineering
- Discover E-sports
- Physics of Earth
- Discover Speech, Hearing & Special Education
- STEM Odyssey
- Discover Unicameral Youth Legislature
- Discover Veterinary Science
- Discover Weather & Climate Science

Big Red Summer Academic Camps are open to youth going into grades 9-12 during the 2024-2025 school year. The registration deadline for Big Red Camps is May 20. (Early Bird Tuition rates end April 5. Regular Tuition rates end May 3. Late Tuition rates end May 20.) No registrations will be accepted after May 20. All housing and food are provided for participants throughout the duration of the camp.

Camp Dates are June 9-14, 2024.

For more information and to register, go to <https://4h.unl.edu/big-red-camps>.

2024 NEBRASKA AG YOUTH INSTITUTE

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) is currently accepting applications to attend one of the biggest ag youth outreach events in the state. The Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI) brings together hundreds of high school juniors and seniors for a week to learn more about agriculture, Nebraska's number one industry.

NAYI will be held July 8-12, 2024, at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus. Students selected to attend NAYI do so free of charge due to generous donations from numerous agricultural businesses, commodity groups and industry organizations. Current high school juniors and seniors interested in attending have until April 15, 2024, to apply. Applications for NAYI are available at <https://nda.nebraska.gov/nayi> and must be submitted online. This year's theme is "Leading Your Legacy."

NAYI features motivational speakers, discussions on agricultural issues, career development, networking opportunities, leadership activities, a farm management game, a formal banquet and awards presentation, and a dance. NDA selects students to attend NAYI based on their leadership skills, interests, and involvement in agriculture.

4-H HORSE CAMP

Save the date for the 2024 4-H Camp at Ft. Robinson State Park. The camp will be held June 6-8. Brochure and registration forms will be available March 22, so watch your email for reminders.

For more information, contact Melissa Mracek at mmracek2@unl.edu or 308-432-3373.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

The Nance County 4-H Council will be accepting applications for camp scholarships through May 1, 2024. Scholarships can apply to any 4-H camp, and can be completed online at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/4-h-clubs-materials/>, or pick up an application at the Extension Office.

Applications should be returned to the Extension Office by May 1.

MORE EVENTS

PREMIER COMMUNICATION EVENT

Event details have been updated and are now available at <https://4h.unl.edu/premier-communication-event>. A few new things to share for this year:

A new age division for Juniors, ages 8-10, has been added to all Premier Communication Event contests.

Age-appropriate time limits have also been added for these youth and can be found on the website.

With the addition of this new age division, the Premier Communication Event will be extended to a two-day format in 2024. All contests will be held on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus on Monday & Tuesday, June 17 & 18:

Monday – Illustrated Presentation,
Impromptu Speech
Tuesday – Prepared Speech,
Radio Public Service Announcement (PSA),
Video Communication

The new theme for this year's Radio Public Service Announcement (PSA) and Video Communication contests is "4-H is a Feeling."

The awards ceremonies will be held at the conclusion of contests on both days. The top 5 contestants in each division will receive awards. Check it out on the website.

STATE FAIR UPDATE

As you know, in 2023, Nebraska 4-H lowered the age limit for participation in the Nebraska State Fair for all in-person events to nine years of age. That change increased our participation and provided more youth the opportunity to have an engaging learning experience.

Based on feedback from various groups and our goal of increasing access, the decision has been made to change the age of eligibility in 2024 to be 8 years of age before January 1 of the current year for all in-person State Fair events (livestock, contests, fashion shows, contests) and other state competitions (Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo, PASE, Premier Communications Event). Please check information on each specific event as it becomes available.

Please contact us if you have questions.

DATA DRIVEN 4-H STATISTICS COMPETITION

Introducing an exciting new event combining 4-H, Statistics, and Fun! The 'Data Driven: A Statistics & Data Science Field Day' competition will be held March 16, 2024 at the Dinsdale Learning Commons on East Campus from 10 am to 4 pm.

Each team is comprised of four 10th-12th graders (occasional exceptional 9th graders are welcome) plus one adult coach. The teams will dive head-first into the captivating world of data science, statistics, and numerical literacy in a variety of interactive head-to-head competitions as well as receiving opportunities to discuss and interact with the University recruitment team as well as industry professionals.

In partnership with the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, CASNR is sponsoring the registration costs for the first 20 teams as well as providing EIGHT \$500 scholarships for the top scorers!

If you are interested in more information or in forming a team, please visit the website for some preliminary information that will continue to be updated: <https://4h.unl.edu/data-driven>

WHISPERING CEDARS JR 4-H CAMP

The Regional Junior 4-H camp at Whispering Cedars at Genoa will be held June 5-7, 2024. Campers must turn 9 to 12 years old during the current year to be eligible to attend camp. The registration link is <https://forms.gle/YiJW4fTnu8ZhhhHi7>.

Please register by May 1 at 4:00 pm for the early bird pricing of \$110. After this date/time until May 8, the fee will be \$135. 4-H Council scholarships are available to cover part of the cost of camp. Applications are available at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/4-h-clubs-materials/> and are due May 1.

4-H youth age 16 to 18 are needed to volunteer as camp counselors. Please register by April 30 at <https://forms.gle/UrJdvmAGkjTKK2Nj6>

Until Next Month,



Steve Pritchard
Extension Educator



Sonya L. Glup
Extension Associate



DATES TO REMEMBER

March 15 - deadline to enter the Innovative Youth Corn Challenge. For more information, call 402-759-3712. Download entry forms at <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/cropwatch-youth>

March 16 - Lambing & Kidding Conference at NCTA in Curtis, pre-register by March 1. Call 308-532-2683.

March 16 - Spring Rabbit Show, Sandhills Global Event Center, Lincoln. Contact kpulec3@unl.edu or call 402-441-7180

March 23 - Nebraska 4-H Horse Stampede (Horse Bowl), Lincoln

March 31 - **Please complete enrollment so we can order t-shirts in time for the Nance County Fair!**

April 8 - Youth Health Equity Project Showcase, UNL East Campus Union. More information at <https://go.unl.edu/youthhealthequity>

May 29 - Animal Science Discovery Days, NCTA, Curtis, NE. More info to come!

June 1 - Small Animal Progress Show at Phelps County Fairgrounds in Holdrege. Registration at 8:30. Call 308-995-4222 for more information.

June 6-8 - 4-H Horse Camp at Ft. Robinson State Park, Crawford, NE. More info later.

June 17-18 - Nebraska Premier Communication Event, UNL East Campus. NEW AGE Division 8-10! For more information go to <https://4h-edu/premier-communication-event>

June 20-21 - Nebraska 4-H Premier Animal Science Event, Lincoln

July 6 - 10, 2024 Boone County Fair!

July 9 - 8th Annual Agronomy Youth Field Day at NCTA in Curtis. More info to come!

July 13-17 - Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Show in Grand Island. Open to 8-18 year olds. More info at <https://4h.unl.edu/horse-expo-show>

July 19-21 - Nance County 4-H Expo

Event flyers available at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/event-flyers/>



EXTENSION

Boone & Nance Counties

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EXTENSION

4-H NEWSLETTER