March 2017

Dates to Remember:
March 5  Quality Assurance Training, Tekamah, FNBN meeting room 4:00 p.m.
March 10 Deadline to enter 4-H Horse Stampede Events – contact Extension Office
March 10 Deadline to enter Companion Animal Challenge – contact Extension Office
March 17 4-H Snow Sculpture Promotion Entry Deadline
April 15 Early Bird Camp Registrations Due for 10% discount
April 17 Noon deadline to sign up for 4-H Speech/PSA Contests

Calendar of Events:
March 13 4-H Speech & PSA Workshop 3:30-6:00 p.m. Burt Co. Courthouse meeting room, Tekamah
March 14 4-H Speech & PSA Workshop, 6:00-8:30 p.m. First National Bank NE basement, Lyons
March 19 East Oaks Pancake Feed, Vet's Building, Oakland 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
April 1 Burt County Beef Preview, Oakland; for more information and entry forms, go to http://burt.unl.edu
April 1 4-H Horse Stampede, UNL Lincoln, http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth#tab4
April 1 4-H Companion Animal Challenge, UNL Lincoln, for more info go to: http://go.unl.edu/4hcac
April 15 Spring Fling at Master’s Hand – Contact Extension Office if planning a 4-H promo booth
April 17 4-H Public Speaking Contest, Presbyterian Church, Tekamah, NE 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome!
April 29 National 4-H Day of Service
Aug-9- Burt County Fair, Oakland
Aug 25-Sept 4 Nebraska State Fair - Grand Island
Sept 28 - Oct 1 Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Exposition -WILL BE IN GRAND ISLAND IN 2017!

4-H Opportunities

QA Training – This Sunday, March 5
If you plan to show any livestock at any fair this year you need to get your Quality Assurance Training done. The easiest (and cheapest) way is to attend a face to face training. Mary Loftis will be conducting this training this Sunday, March 5 in Tekamah at the First Northeast Bank of Nebraska meeting room beginning at 4:00 p.m. If you are not part of the Argo 4-H Club you are most welcome to attend the training, but please contact Mary at 402-380-0093 by text or call to say you are coming so she can make sure she has enough materials. Thanks!

East Oaks Pancake Feed – Sunday, March 19
Get your fill of pancakes with all the fixings at the East Oaks Pancake Feed on Sunday, March 19. Serving will be from 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Vets Building in Oakland.
Free will donations will be received for the group as this is their club fund-raiser.

Speech Contest Workshops
The 4-H Public Speaking Contest will be held April 17th, the Monday after Easter at the Presbyterian Church in Tekamah beginning at 6:30 p.m. In order to help new participants get started, or to kick start previous contestant efforts I will be offering two Speech Contest Workshops. We’ll help you move from fearful to confident! These help sessions will be: Monday, March 13 in the Burt County Courthouse meeting room in Tekamah from 3:30-6:30 p.m., and Tuesday, March 14 in the basement of the First Northeast Bank of Nebraska in Lyons from 6:00-8:30 p.m. These are basically one-on-one sessions so if you want to call in and reserve an approximate time slot please do. You can call our office at 402-374-2929 to reserve your time. If no one reserves a time, I won’t plan to be there either! Also if neither of these dates work for you just give me a call and we’ll make other arrangements! Thanks!

4-H Seniors – Don’t forget 4-H!
As you fill out your list of activities for scholarships and for the newspapers, don’t forget your 4-H involvement! It is easy to forget as the forms often don’t ask for activities outside school, but don’t short yourself and help promote 4-H by including your 4-H activities in this list! Thanks and congrats!
4-H Snow/Snowless Sculpture Contest
Consistency of materials and weather is our big issue this year for the 4-H Snow Sculpture Contest. If there is snow, it’s gone in a day or two…and so is our promotional snow sculpture! Because of this issue I anticipate some exceptionally creative sculptures made out of non-snow mediums. If you choose not to use snow as your artistic medium, we’ll take any semi-permanent 4-H promotion. Hay sculptures, signs etc. are all acceptable mediums. There will again be individual, team and club entry categories. 4-H Council approved the categories to be: 1) Greenest, 2) Most Creative and 3) Best Message. Put your thinking caps on and come up with a 4-H promotion entry, then send or bring in a picture of it, with you or your 4-H Club in the picture to Mary Lottis at mloftis2@unl.edu by Friday, March 17.

4-H Online Enrollment and Re-Enrollment
4-H on-line enrollment and re-enrollment is up and running! This year nothing’s changing and you’re all going to be pros at it! Just go to the Burt County website at www.burt.unl.edu and click on “Burt County 4-H” under Burt County Extension News to get to the re-enrollment or new enrollment pages. We have been told that the Internet Explorer browser does not work well with the 4-H Enrollment – Google Chrome is the preferred browser so you may need to add Google Chrome as your internet browser for this job. Burt County 4-H Leaders will also do on-line enrollment. The email and password leaders used last year will work for leader re-enrollment. If you are a new leader you’ll just go through the steps to enroll. If a 4-H leader is part of a 4-H family their profile needs to be located within that family.

4-H Speech and PSA Details:
The details about the 4-H Speech and PSA Contest (Monday, April 17) were in the February newsletter. Call the Extension Office for a copy of this information if you don’t have it. There are more awards available in this contest than any other and more personal rewards as well! Speech/PSA Workshops will be offered March 13 & 14. Please call Mary at 402-374-2929 if you’d like more info!

4-H Clover Chase: A Nebraska 150 Event Starts March 1
Nebraska 4-H, in partnership with the Nebraska 4-H Foundation, is celebrating the Nebraska Statehood 150 with the 4-H Clover Chase! From March 1 - August 15, 2017, Nebraska 4-H will be hosting a photo scavenger hunt for all 4-H members. Using an app, participants will complete challenges and submit photo entries on social media using #NE4HCause. After submitting photos and earning 150 points, participants will be eligible to receive a commemorative water bottle from their local Nebraska Extension Office and will be entered into a drawing to win a drone with video capability. The Nebraska Extension Office with the highest percentage of participation wins a free National Youth Science Day kit! Complete details about the 4-H Clover Chase can be found at http://4h.unl.edu/clover-chase. Celebrate Nebraska’s Statehood, and Nebraska 4-H, by participating in this fun-filled opportunity with your friends, club, or family!

Other 4-H News:
Other 4-H Opportunities! Call Extension Office for more details:
4-H Poultry Judging Clinic: April 22 10 am-2 pm Animal Science Bldg. Lincoln
4-H Interview Contest: May 25, beginning at 12:00 noon, Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk

2017 4-H Photography Nebraska Exhibit Theme & Burt County Theme
Nebraska Exhibit Print: Reflect your definition of rural Nebraska. Capture rural living in your Nebraska county through your camera lens. Use your photo to express what rural means to you, why you value rural life or how rural life is changing. This is your story to tell. Burt County Photo Theme is: “Enjoy the Ride!”

Master’s Hand Spring Fling 2017!
4-H Clubs or individual members are invited to take part in the 2017 Spring Fling on Saturday, April 15 at Master’s Hand in Tekamah. This event is part of the 150th Nebraska Birthday Celebration so it will be bigger than ever! The Burt County 4-H Council wants to support your 4-H promotion efforts at this event. If your club has a booth at the Spring Fling the 4-H Council will support you with $50 to help defray the costs of any hands on activities you plan. Call the Extension Office at 402-374-2929 for more details.

2017 Special Garden Project! Several packets of Sunburst Summer Squash seeds have been ordered for our county. If you would like to add this vegetable to your spring planting and take part in the Special 4-H Garden Project, please call the Burt County Extension office at 402-374-2929 to reserve your seeds.
National 4-H Day of Service
We are excited to announce that April, 2017 will be a month to celebrate community service and service learning throughout 4-H. This month of celebration will culminate with a National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 29, 2017.

4-H National Headquarters, National 4-H Council, and State 4-H partners, through the 4-H Citizenship Leadership team, are preparing this opportunity. Some highlights will include:
- National marketing and communication highlighting 4-H Service
- Opportunity to plan a 4-H service project around the national theme of “Food Security”
- Opportunity to identify and plan a 4-H service project around a local need
- Opportunity to sign up these local projects to be a part of the National 4-H Day of Service

Additional support information and opportunity details will be coming in the next few weeks. For now, save the date and encourage creative thinking around this endeavor.

Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop in Albion
A Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop is scheduled for April in Albion. It will be held April 1-2 at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Albion. The deadline to register for the Albion session is March 22nd. Volunteers have the opportunity to become certified as an adult (21 years and older) or apprentice (14-20 years old) leader. Four project areas will be offered at the Albion Workshop - rifle, hunting skills, shotgun, and archery. There is a minimum number of participants needed to offer these disciplines at the workshop. Workshop participants will learn under expert instruction from members of the Nebraska State 4-H Shooting Sports Training Team.
The registration fee is $110.00 per person for initial certification and those individuals adding an additional discipline. This fee includes meals, supplies and program materials. Participants must make their own lodging arrangements.

For more workshop information and registration link, go to the 4-H Shooting Sports web page. Also contact your local Nebraska Extension Office or Steve Pritchard at (402)395-2158 or (308)536-2691. Registration is available only online at the link provided in the brochure or they can register directly by clicking HERE.

2017 Project Resource Central
See what projects are available this year by going to: The Nebraska 4-H Project Resource Central. You can locate it at: https://unl.app.box.com/s/44t8dfbht277k6603r5004vfo0q10yf

Scholarships
Burt County Scholarships: Information on Burt County specific scholarships will be mailed to high school seniors in the near future. These will be due March 27th.

NACEB Scholarship
The Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards (NACEB) Scholarship Program for the 2017/18 academic year includes the following:
- One $1000 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 (freshmen or transfer student).
- One $1000 scholarship for a current student (sophomore or higher) enrolled in CASNR or CEHS.
All materials are due by March 17, 2017. For more information go to: https://sites.google.com/site/nebraskassocntyextbds/home/organization/awards-and-scholarships
Market Beef Exhibitors

April 17 is the absolute deadline (because April 15 is on a Saturday) to identify any market beef. If they may be shown at State Fair or Aksarben, they must be tagged with an EID tag and a DNA sample collected. If they are just going to County Fair or Fremont Fair, then a regular 4-H/FFA eartag is acceptable. In either case, a completed ID sheet must be returned to the Extension office by April 17. They will not be accepted on April 18 so please do not ask.

Quality Assurance becoming Youth Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

Quality Assurance is changing. A national on-line Youth Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) course is being phased in at this very moment. YQCA was doing a soft launch on March 1st to make sure everything is working correctly. Platform developers should be ready to do the full launch in mid-March. The exact date will be passed along as soon as the platform developers are ready. When this happens the charge to complete these modules will be $12/member.

The Nebraska Livestock Quality Assurance site will continue to function until the YQCA site is fully functional. After the launch date for YQCA 4-Hers will no longer be able to enroll in the LQA site. Those 4-Hers that have started their LQA modules will be able to complete their three modules and print their certificate of completion. This training option will cost $5.00/member.

Face to face training will continue to be offered this year at least at no charge to the 4-H/FFA members. This type of training will be held this Sunday, March 5 at the First Northeast Bank of Nebraska in Tekamah at 4:00 p.m. Please call the Extension Office at 402-374-2929 if you want to attend. Another face to face training will be held Thursday, June 15 at 1:30 p.m. in Oakland in the Rosen Room of the Oakland Auditorium.

FFA members over age 18 will need to either complete a training with a veterinarian or complete the national program. YQCA has an age category for the 18-21 year olds for this purpose.

In 2018, face-to-face training will also be available from certified instructors (Mary is hoping to become certified) using the new YQCA material. The training would cost $3.00 next year face to face.

You can access the YQCA course through 4-H On-line program (same program as used for on-line enrollment.) Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. Thank you for your patience with the transition process.

Spring Rabbit Show - Lancaster Event Center

Opportunity to learn and practice your showmanship. Saturday, March 25, 9 a.m. Registration 7:30-8:30 a.m. Lancaster Event Center - Exhibit Hall. Great opportunity for youth to talk to other 4-H’ers about where to purchase a good rabbit for a 4-H project. Please feel free to share this link to the flyer with more information: http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/rabbit/RabbitShowSpring17.pdf

Nebraska Youth Pork Conference

The Nebraska Youth Pork Conference, “Makin’ Bacon … and a WHOLE Lot More!” has been rescheduled for Wednesday, May 31 through Friday, June 2. A pilot of this program was conducted in December of 2015, and the youth who participated were extremely complimentary and excited about the program. This opportunity would be excellent for individuals interested in the swine industry, food or meat science, and/or culinology. Intermixed throughout the conference, youth will be engaged in interactive activities to enhance life skills including leadership and communication. There is no cost for any youth participants, as the conference is 100% funded by the Nebraska Pork Producers Association, the Nebraska Corn Board, and the Nebraska Soybean Board in addition to Animal Science and UNL Extension! As a result, we do ask that all potential youth participants apply online at http://www.nepork.org, then under the “youth” tab, select “Makin’ Bacon…” Applications are due April 1. Individuals selected to participate will be notified no later than April 15.

Burt County Beef Preview

The 16th Annual Burt County Beef Preview will be held on Saturday, April 1 (no fooling!), at the Burt County Fairgrounds in Oakland. This is a Junior Nebraska Cattlemen (JNC) sanctioned show. The entry form and a flyer for the show can be found on the Burt County 4-H News website (http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/burt/4-h-news/).
The 4-H Horse Stampede
Held annually on the University of Nebraska–Lincoln East Campus. This year's 4-H Horse Stampede will be held **Saturday, April 1, 2017**. This event offers a variety of 4-H horse contests that don't require live horses, including public speaking, demonstration, quiz bowl, art, and photography contests. Youth have the opportunity to display their equine knowledge through these contests both as an individual and as part of a team. There is a $10 entry fee per contestant. A Brown Bag Lunch is available through a pre-order form. Along with lunches, T-shirts will also need to be pre-ordered in order to secure a shirt.

**2017 4-H COMPANION ANIMAL CHALLENGE**
**SATURDAY-APRIL 1, 2017**
The 4-H Companion Animal Challenge includes quiz bowls, demonstrations, skill-a-thons and art and photography contests. All entry forms must be returned to Lisa Karr, UNL, C204 Animal Science Building, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908 by Friday, March 10, 2017. *A Brown Bag Lunch is available through a preorder form located with the other entry forms. *T-shirts need to be pre-ordered in order to secure a shirt. The order form can be found with the other entry forms. Go to: [http://animalscience.unl.edu/anasc-4-h-companion-animal-challenge](http://animalscience.unl.edu/anasc-4-h-companion-animal-challenge) for entry forms and details.

**2017 Nebraska District 4-H Horse Shows**
All entries due to county office **May 12, 2017**. Note: ALL Level testing required for participation in the 2017 District 4-H Horse Shows MUST be completed by May 12, 2017.

Reminder: All Entries for the State Horse Show must be mailed by May 12, 2017. These include Showmanship, Halter, All Cattle Classes, Hunter Hack, Dressage, Advanced Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Pleasure and Horsemanship. Trail, 2 year old and 3 year old Western Pleasure and Working Ranch.

2017 4-H Horse Show Dates and Sites
June 12th – Lexington
June 13th – Taylor
June 14th – Wayne
June 19th - Hemingford
June 20th - Lincoln
July 16-20 - 2017 State 4-H Horse Show - Fonner Park, Grand Island

**Youth Livestock Projects and the VFD Regulation**
Effective January 1, 2017, all livestock producers that use antibiotic medicated feeds to prevent, treat or control animal health issues will be required to get a written order or directive from a Veterinarian to purchase and feed these feeds. The regulation will only affect antibiotics administered in feed or water for livestock.

The first step youth producers should take is to develop a Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship by visiting with their veterinarian. Within this discussion, producers need to review their herd/flock health plan and evaluate vaccinations and treatment plans for the animals they care for. If you determine that medicated feeds should be used, plan on how to acquire a VFD Order from the veterinarian.

Copies of the VFD must go to you and your feed supplier/dealer before you can purchase or feed these feeds. Youth Livestock Participants may visit with their feed supplier/dealer to plan a nutrition/feed program prior to getting their project animals to discuss if medicated feeds should be used and if a VFD is required.

For more information visit the Nebraska BQA VFD Webpage at: [http://bqa.unl.edu/veterinary-feed-directive](http://bqa.unl.edu/veterinary-feed-directive) Or Contact Rob Eirich, Extension Educator/Director of Beef Quality Assurance via email at: reirich2@unl.edu

**Premise ID**
All exhibitors with animals having an EID tag be required to obtain a Premise ID for 2017. Swine exhibitors, through completion of POA, already have a Premise ID so they have already completed this step. They can continue to use the Premise ID generated through that program for other species as well.

Cattle, Sheep, and Goat exhibitors who do not have a Premise ID will need to obtain one. In some cases, a farm or ranch may already have a Premise ID in the parents (or other relative’s name). As long as the livestock are being housed and cared for at that location, the existing Premise ID should be used.

Sincerely,

John Wilson
Extension Educator

Mary Loftis
Extension Associate

Carroll Welte
Extension Educator