

Butler County 4-H News

March 2023

Dates to Remember

Mar. 6 - 4-H Horse Stampede Entry Deadline

Mar. 12 - Spring Forward - Daylight Savings Time

Mar. 18 - YQCA Training from 10-11 am - Hwy 92 Building

Mar. 25 - Horse Stampede Contests in Lincoln

Mar. 26 - Communication Contests at 4 pm - Columbus

Apr. 3 - 4-H Council Senior Scholarship Deadline

Apr. 5 - 4-H Council Meeting

Apr. 10 - YQCA Training from 10-11 am - Hwy 92 Building

Apr. 28 - Office Closed - Arbor Day



Nebraska 4-H Month

Thank you to everyone who took part in Nebraska 4-H Month celebrations here in Butler County! We had many coloring contest entries, youth wearing their shirts to school and other events happening throughout the month. We concluded the month at Runza, where proceeds went back to the Butler County 4-H Program. Aliesha was present to visit with families about joining 4-H and was busy the entire time. It was great to visit with the 4-H families who ate inside and meet new youth interested in the program!

Aliesha Meusch | 4-H Assistant | aliesha.meusch@unl.edu

Louise Niemann | Office Manager | lniemann2@unl.edu

Office Hours: Monday - Friday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
451 N. 5th St, David City, NE 68632 | 402-367-7410



Nebraska 4-H 2023 Volunteer Recognition Nominations are OPEN!

Nebraska 4-H is now accepting nominations for a new awards program to recognize the outstanding contributions of 4-H volunteers across the state.

The Nebraska 4-H Volunteer Recognition Awards honors adult and youth volunteers, as well as and multi-generational families, who have provided meaningful contributions to Nebraska 4-H. One Outstanding Adult Volunteer Award and One Emerging Adult Volunteer Award winner will be chosen for each of the state's 11 Nebraska Extension Engagement zones. One statewide winner will be named in the each of the youth volunteer and multi-generational family categories.

"Our 4-H volunteers go above and beyond to serve Nebraska's youth every year," said Jill Goedecken, 4-H Youth Development Extension educator. "This volunteer recognition opportunity debuted in 2021 and we were thrilled at the number of outstanding 4-H volunteers nominated statewide. We are looking forward to another opportunity to recognize 4-H volunteers for their contributions to youth in Nebraska."

The nomination period runs through **March 15**. Nominations can be submitted by any 4-H member, family, supporter, or Extension staff member. Nominees must fit the award categories and can be a volunteer for any Nebraska 4-H experience. Some examples may include 4-H club leader, project leader, junior leader, county or State Fair volunteer, special interest volunteer, such as robotics or shooting sports, afterschool club volunteer or 4-H camp volunteer. More information, along with the nomination form, is available online at: [Volunteer Recognition | Nebraska 4-H \(unl.edu\)](#).

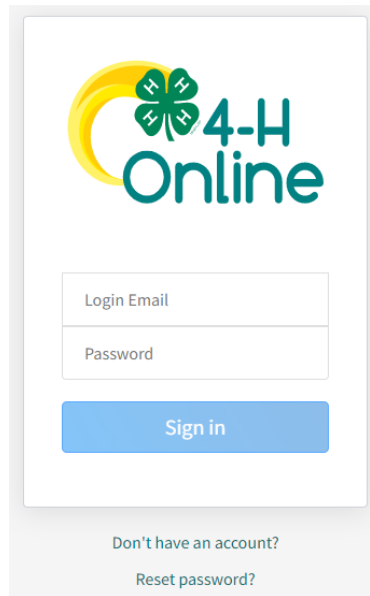
Winners will be announced virtually on April 21, 2023, in which Nebraska 4-H will be celebrating the Week of the Volunteer. A special awards presentation will take place at the 2023 Nebraska State Fair.

4-H Online Enrollment is Open

Online enrollment is now open to enroll or re-enroll your 4-H'er(s) for 2023. 4-H leaders, along with Council members, are also required to enroll or re-enroll for the new year.

The enrollment website is **Sign In (4honline.com)**. Google Chrome and Firefox are the recommended web browsers to use when enrolling online.

Annual enrollment fee for 2023 will be \$10 per 4-H'er. Payment is required at the end of the enrollment process.



IMPORTANT!

If you are re-enrolling in 4-H, please DO NOT create a new enrollment. Use your email address and password from last year to log into and start your re-enrollment for this year.

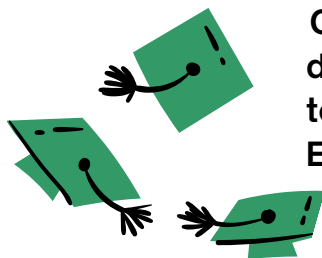
Enrollment Drawing

Starting January 31, each month we will have a drawing for those who enrolled in 4-H prior to that date! We will have prizes such as gift cards to local businesses, 4-H swag and carnival wristbands.

Drawings will be held at the end of each month in January, February, March, April and May. Get enrolled today!

4-H Council Scholarship for Graduating Seniors

Butler County 4-H Council offers scholarships to graduating seniors. The scholarship application includes a registration form, a one-page essay and a completed 4-H Annual Award Application. Forms can be found online by visiting [4-H Newsletters | Nebraska Extension \(unl.edu\)](#). Applications are also available at the Extension office. Questions? Contact us at 402-367-7410.



Complete applications are due by April 3, by 5:00 pm to the Butler County Extension Office.

Nebraska State Fair

With each new State Fair season, brings new possibilities and opportunities for 4-H families in Nebraska. The opportunity for 4-H to continue having its own weekend allows more flexibility for new events, entry limits, schedules, and space. We want to continue to take advantage of that!

As part of that process, we continue to explore age eligibility requirements for State Fair participation. After garnering user input, researching data from other events/shows/states, and looking that overall impact on youth development, the decision has been made to change **the age of eligibility in 2023 to be 9 years of age before January 1 (of the current year) for all in-person events (livestock, contests, fashion shows).**

County Fair Updates

County Fair Theme:

- Wild and Free in 2023!

County Fair Schedule Changes:

- **July 6**
 - Culinary Challenge - 10 am
 - Fashion Show - 2 pm - Modeling will be JUDGED at the Fashion Show!
 - Exhibit Hall Set-Up
- **July 8**
 - Fairgrounds Clean-Up
- **July 11**
 - Butler County 4-H Horse Show - 8 am
- **July 12**
 - Beef Check-In/Weigh-In - 8-9 pm
- **July 15**
 - Beef Show - 8 am
- **July 16**
 - Livestock Release - 6 pm

Spring Forward
March 12



N | 4-H EXTENSION

4-H Youth Leadership Conference

New Date, New Location
For High School Age Youth

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Date: June 19 -21, 2023
Location: Camp Comeca,
Cozad, NE



Around the Barn

Butler County 4-H Livestock Program Related Updates and Information

Nebraska State Fair Nominations

NEW: All 4-H/FFA **BREEDING** livestock, **MARKET** livestock and **FEEDER CALVES** will now be required to submit a DNA sample/envelope to be eligible to exhibit at the Nebraska State Fair. These envelopes will accompany the online nomination. Envelopes are due on June 15, 2023 and can be picked up at the Butler County Extension Office. Questions? Contact Aliesha Meusch at 402-367-7410.

Horse 4-H Program

NEW: Participation in a **District 4-H Horse Show** will **NOT** be required to participate in the **State 4-H Horse Show**. This means that **Districts** will no longer be held - being replaced by **the clinics**. Learning opportunities will be provided to horse program youth from the State 4-H Horse Program throughout the summer in the form of workshops and clinics in preparation for the State 4-H Horse Show. Keep watch for more information as it comes!

NEW: The speed/game events at the Butler County Fair 4-H Horse Show will be split into three divisions instead of two. Divisions are: Junior (8-11), Intermediate (12-14) and Senior (15-18).

Butler County Feeder Calves

Any Feeder Calf Heifers or Steers that plan to be exhibited **MUST** be born between January 1, 2023 through April 2023.

Beef and Swine Ear Tags

NEW: Beginning this year, beef and swine **county** ear tags will cost \$1/tag to purchase. This change is due to the swine identification process changing. EID tags for State Fair for both beef and swine are \$2.50/tag to purchase.

Swine Identification and Weigh-In Process

NEW: Swine will now be required to have tags in their ear by the **June 15 ID Sheet Deadline**. This is to streamline the weigh-in process during the Butler County Fair Weigh-In. As stated above, tags will be \$1/tag for county tags. **Ear notches will NOT be accepted as a form of identification for swine moving forward.**

State Fair Livestock Nominations

State Fair Nominations will be online again this year and nominations are now open via www.showstockmgr.com. State Fair tags and DNA envelopes are available at the Extension Office. The deadline for **ALL** online nominations and DNA envelopes returned to the Extension Office is **June 15**.

Youth for Quality Care of Animals - YQCA

Quality Assurance will be offered through the program YQCA, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals again this year! Aliesha Meusch will be offering **face-to-face sessions** at the Highway 92 Building and is available to conduct training at club meeting as her schedule allows. You can contact Aliesha at aliesha.meusch@unl.edu to set up a time. The deadline for quality assurance is **June 15**. Certificates are due to Aliesha in order to have a confirmation training was completed. **NEW:** There will be no reimbursement for YQCA this year! If you can't attend in-person, you can attend a surrounding county or complete the training online.

Registering for quality assurance will be online at <https://yqcaprogram.org/>, using the Family 4-H Online login information for active youth. If you are in both 4-H and FFA, please register through the 4-H login option. Face-to-face sessions cost \$3 and online sessions cost \$12. This is paid online when you register. Youth will need to register online prior to coming to the face-to-face session. Face-to-face sessions will last at least one hour. **When registering for YQCA online - youth will need to complete a pre-test prior to attending the training and a post-test in order to access their certificate after training completion. Youth only need to attend ONE training to obtain certification.** Trainings will be held at the Highway 92 Building.

Saturday, March 18

10 - 11 am

Monday, April 10

10 - 11 am

Wednesday, May 24

10 - 11 am

Wednesday, May 24

5 - 6 pm

4-H Horse Stampede

The Nebraska 4-H Horse Stampede offers a variety of 4-H horse contests that do not require live animals, 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. The 4-H Horse Stampede is held annually at the UNL Animal Science Complex in Lincoln, Nebraska. This year's event will be held **Saturday, March 25, 2023**.

There is a \$10 entry fee per participant and \$10 office fee per exhibitor. Event shirts are also available for pre-order. All orders, fees, and entry forms must be submitted online by **March 6, 2023**. **Entry forms and more information can be found at [4-H Horse Stampede](#).**

HELLO
SPRING

First Day of Spring
March 20

4-H Livestock Achievement Program

Excited to announce another year of the Nebraska 4-H Livestock Achievement Program. This additional opportunity for 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.

The program consists of two levels that require 4-H members to plan and report a broad range of age-appropriate and project-related accomplishments. For each level, the Livestock Achievement Program provides a list of accomplishments from which 4-H members choose their goals. Each accomplishment is worth a specific number of points. Intermediates, ages 10-13, must complete 100 points worth of activities to receive the distinction of Intermediate Member of Excellence. Seniors, ages 14-18, must complete 150 points worth of activities to receive the distinction of Senior Member of Excellence. The Plan and Reports, linked on the webpage, show examples of the project related accomplishments they can choose, or they can identify their own with approval of their local educator.

Applications/Sign up are due **June 15** through the link on the website. Plan and Reports, as well as Project Records will be due **August 1** by submitting as attachments to an email sent to 4hlivestockachievement@unl.edu.

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 about the program or the process, go to: [Livestock Achievement Program](#).

Horse 4-H: Carla Clinics

Carla has been an AQHA & NSBA judge for 36 years and NRHA judge for 28 years. She has held many great titles such as teaching and coaching at St. Andrews University in NC, has coached 2 National Champion IHSA teams, and is currently a committee member for AQHA and NSBA judges and an IHSA board member. She is excited to come back to Nebraska and teach across our great state!

Our clinic dates will be held:

- June 2nd - Central City, NE - Merrick County Fairgrounds
- June 3rd - Lincoln, NE - Lancaster Event Center
- June 4th - Albion, NE - Boone County Fairgrounds

Clinic Pricing (Non-4-H youth can enrolled in 4-H at your local county extension office)

- 4-H Enrolled Youth (8-18 years old) - \$40
- Non-4-H youth (8-18 years old) - \$80
- Adult (19+) - \$80

Please note you must complete a separate registration for each participant.

Deadline for all registrations will be **May 5. Register Here:** go.unl.edu/carlaclinics

A copy of your registration will be emailed to you after submission. You **MUST** mail printed registration along with a check to complete your registration.

- All registrations and fees must be postmarked by **May 5.**
- Registration will be on a first come first serve basis.

Around Butler County + Beyond

Butler County 4-H Youth Enhancing 4-H Experiences

Each month, if we have submissions, youth will be featured on this page of things they did that month that enhances their 4-H experience. Share photos and details with Aliessa by the end of each month!

Danica Romshek - Omaha Fashion Week

Student designers showed over 75 looks on the runway at Omaha Fashion Week's Student Night. They returned to the runway with our Creative Careers Panel featuring Raven Fox, Heather Hooton, Keith Rodger, Faron Medhi, and Alyssa Dilts.

Sixteen Nebraska 4-H'ers closed the show by walking the runway finale in garments they've sewn. Nineteen from the 4-H program applied and were selected to participate in the 4-H collection. To be considered, garments must have been exhibited at the Nebraska State Fair and should be fashion-forward, runway appropriate, and display high-quality construction.

The sold-out audience viewed unique design collections from Nebraska 4-H, Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart, Kent Bellows Mentoring Program at the Joslyn Art Museum, Lincoln Southeast High School, Nebraska Family, Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Omaha Fashion Camp, Omaha South High Magnet School, and Westside High School.

Prior to the Fashion Show hair styling and makeup were done by the students of SOHO Hair Academy in Council Bluffs and were extremely accommodating! Fashion Week took place at the Omaha Design Center and has become one of the Midwest's largest fashion events. "This is a great opportunity to feature the outstanding work of our 4-H designers at a regional level, and partnership with Omaha Fashion Week" according to Marie Nelson, UNL Extension Assistant.



The Nebraska Classic

Seven Butler County 4-H'ers attended The Nebraska Classic in Kearney, February 24-26. Simon Kelly and Mara Yindrick applied and were selected to participate in the AYC Program - where they are paired with a producer, get a calf, are involved in the raising and showing process, then will breed and sell the heifer at the Classic next year. Becca, William and Lucy Podolak, along with Mara and Myles Kobza, exhibited Shorthorn heifers in both showmanship and their classes. Blakelee Smith exhibited Simmental heifers over the weekend.



Around Butler County + Beyond

Butler County 4-H Youth Enhancing 4-H Experiences

Hilltoppers II 4-H Club - Nebraska 4-H Month Service Activity

For Nebraska 4-H Month this year, the Hilltoppers II 4-H club spent time at a meeting making valentine's and cookies for the seniors of Brainard, NE. The club members wanted to make sure that each person over 65 received a valentine, cookie and fruit cup and knew they were thought of. There were 55 community friends that the members delivered to. The club was divided into 2 groups: 1 that walked the center part of town and 1 that drove the exterior parts of town. Club members took turns going to the doors with the valentine packages and said, "We are the Hilltoppers II 4-H club and we want to wish you a Happy Valentines Day!". The older ones were pleasantly surprised and overjoyed, many wonderful conversations pursued between the generations. The youth of the club will now know more of the citizens of Brainard and it will open up further conversations when they see them in the future. It was an amazing experience for all!





Spring Rabbit Show

Saturday, March 18, 9 a.m.

Registration 7:30-8:30 a.m.

**Lancaster Event Center Fairgrounds – Exhibit Hall
84th & Havelock, Lincoln**

Opportunity
to learn and
practice your
showmanship!

AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN!

Best of Breed awards will be given to each breed that has **2 or more exhibitors and 3 or more entries.**



**FREE
CONTESTS!**
Rabbit Quiz &
Breed ID!*

*New this
year: the knowledge
contests are open
to adults for a
minimal fee!

**RAFFLE FOR
MANY PRIZES!**
Tickets 3 for \$1
or 20 for \$5

Rabbit Classes

- Fancy Rabbits** Juniors—under 6 months
..... Seniors—6 months and over
- Commercial Rabbits** Juniors—under 6 months
..... Intermediate—6-8 months
..... Seniors—9 months and over
- Pet Class*** Junior exhibitors—ages 8-12
..... Senior exhibitors—ages 13-19

*This class is for crossbred rabbits and rabbits which have disqualifications for their breed.

For Clover Kids Ages 5-7

Each participant will receive a participation award. No registration fee.

- Clover Kid Class** Any breed/any age rabbit to be shown by youth ages 5-7

Registration Fees

- \$3.00 Per rabbit or cavy
- \$1.00 Fur class
- \$2.00 Showmanship

Great opportunity for youth to learn from other 4-H'ers where to purchase a show-quality rabbit for a 4-H project!

Please bring an item for raffle such as crafts, rabbit items, plants, spring items, books, etc. No homemade food items.

All rabbits must have a permanent legible tattoo in the left ear (tattooing available at the show 7:30-8:30 a.m. — \$1 per rabbit). All rabbits must be in carriers with leak-proof bottoms.

For more information, contact Kate at 402-441-7180 or kpulec3@unl.edu

Sponsored by Lancaster County 4-H Rabbit VIPS Committee and Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County.

PASE

Premier Animal Science Event University of Nebraska-Lincoln June 21-22

Must be 10 by January 1 to participate

Anyone who is interested - let Aliessa know so we can begin practices!

Livestock Judging

- Two divisions (10-13, 14-18)
- Up to 10 person teams/division
- Up to 8 individuals/division

Livestock Quiz Bowl

- Two divisions (10-13, 14-18)
- 4 person teams/division
- Up to 1 alternate/team

Poultry Judging

- No age divisions
- Up to 4 person teams
- Up to 10 individuals

Livestock Skill-a-thon

- Two divisions (10-13, 14-18)
- Up to 5 person teams/division

Meats Judging

- No age divisions
- Up to 4 person teams
- Up to 10 individuals

For More Information:

Aliessa Meusch

aliesa.meusch@unl.edu

402-367-7410

Visit 4h.unl.edu/pase



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