

In this email: beef weigh in, State Fair/AkSarBen animals, 4-H enrollment, new 4-H camp, Hippology Academy, Remind.com, computer science summer opportunity, garden seeds, Culinary Challenge, Experience the Power of Red Visit Day, companion animal & wildlife career day, companion animal advisory committee, beekeeping essay, livestock judging, YQCA, horse stampede, UNL Teacher Scholars Academy, Women in Ag series, Innovative Youth Corn Challenge, Farm Credit grant, district horse show, AkSarBen, summer camps.

2019 Beef Weigh In Dates Have Arrived! -- Below are the scheduled 4-H market beef weigh days for the Central IV area. To be eligible for county fair, market beef must weigh in at one of these locations. If you know of any new market beef project members, please pass the information along to them.

- Feb. 2 – Valley County Fairgrounds in Ord, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 3 – Mosier’s Feedlot, south of Spalding at 81499 WPA Road, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

For animals to compete at State Fair/AkSarBen, they must be nominated at [www.showstockmgr.com](http://www.showstockmgr.com). You will pay a \$7 fee online for market animals and there is a \$2 online fee for breeding animals. No money will be collected, the fees are all online. Instructions for inputting your animal information is available on our website at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/central4/IDSheets/2018%20NE%20Online%20Nomination%20Step-By-Step%20Instructions.pdf>

4HOnline is now open to take 4-H enrollment for the 2019 fair season at <https://ne.4honline.com>.

Clubs and projects are cleared out for each individual so you will be starting from scratch. To view the 2019 4-H Project Listing go to <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/central4/Central-IV-4H-Projects-Listing-2019%20%28002%29.pdf>. Registration deadline is **March 1**.

Camp flyers and limited numbers of camp brochures are available in the Central IV offices. Not in the brochure is the Eastern Nebraska Adventure Day at 4-H Camp. It will take place Saturday, June 15 from 10 am-4 pm for campers age 6-12. Cost is \$35 per person which includes an adult meal. Adults are encouraged to attend but not required. This camp lets you indulge in your adventurous side! Wildlife experts will have live animal demonstrations, take a visit to Schramm Park and make a splash at the water party. Here is the direct link to register:

<http://www.ultracamp.com/info/sessiondetail.aspx?idCamp=381&campCode=4hc&idSession=220249>.

Equine professors working with ExtensionHorses.org are offering a new Hippology Academy, Feb. 11 to March 24, 2019. This short, online, course is designed for youth, adults, leaders, and extension personnel to gain knowledge and practice on horse hippology content. Content includes practice tests, slides, and digital stations in six areas in addition to twice weekly lectures. Participants will have the option to interact with the equine professors from across the United States during the lectures IF you register for the silver level. The silver level costs \$100 per person and provides the opportunity to ask questions, talk to the professor of the week, via asynchronous chat, and includes all materials from the bronze level. The bronze level includes core features like access to 12 lectures from university professors on anatomy, health, diseases, parasitology, toxic plants, nutrition and more, and costs \$50 per person. New lessons will be available starting each Monday for each of the six weeks. Registration is open at [www.extensionhorses.org](http://www.extensionhorses.org) and closes when enrollment capacity reaches 100 participants or February 10, whichever comes first.

Stay informed this 4-H season with reminders from remind.com. You can now sign up for your county class on [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com) and get reminders specific to your county. <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/central4/join-your-county-class-on-remind/> **Verizon has now reversed their decision and will not charge customers to use remind.com which leaves all cell phone carriers able to use the reminder system.**

The [Jeffrey S. Raikes School of Computer Science and Management](#) at the [University of Nebraska–Lincoln](#) is pleased to announce a summer learning opportunity for high school students. Students who are interested in learning more about computer science and innovation are encouraged to apply to Innovate: The Raikes School Way and Girls Who Innovate: The Raikes School Way. Students will participate in a two-week, project based, on-campus workshop, where they will learn basic programming skills, receive instruction from Nebraska faculty members, experience what classes can be like in the Raikes School, visit local businesses and research labs, and interact with Raikes School students and staff, all of whom play a key role in the competitive selection process to our program each year. The University of Nebraska–Lincoln will host this event July 7-20, 2019. Cost is \$525 and a limited need-based scholarship opportunities are available. The application deadline is March 29. More details and application materials are available at <https://raikes.unl.edu/summerworkshops>.

Anyone who would like flower or vegetable seeds, visit any of the Central IV offices. These are donated seeds from last year.

The 2019 Nebraska State Fair Culinary Challenge will be Saturday, August 31. 4-H youth 10-18 years old are eligible to compete in teams of 2. The challenge ingredient this year is dairy. For more information go to <http://food.unl.edu/4-h-food-projects>.

The spring open house for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources is Wednesday, February 13 from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. With 30 diverse majors and a pre-professional program, CASNR creates an educational experience that positions students to have a lasting and impactful career that aligns with their passion. During the event, attendees will meet faculty, staff and current students to get the scoop on what life in CASNR is really like. Experience the Power of Red Visit Day will not only expose potential students to their academic future, but also the unique living-learning spaces on campus. The visit day will begin at 8:30 am with refreshments and a browsing session, where students get a brief introduction to each department in the college. Following a welcome at 9:15 am, students and parents will attend academic sessions that offer more in-depth information about each academic program. The event concludes with lunch and a scholarship drawing at 11:45 am. Optional tours of City Campus and East Campus will begin at 12:00 pm. Advance registration is required by February 6. To register and to see the complete schedule for the day, visit <https://casnr.unl.edu/visitday>

The Department of Animal Science and the School of Natural Resources will be hosting their Companion Animal and Wildlife Career Day on March 6th. It is open to students interested in learning more about careers and majors in these industries. Students can register via this link: <https://form.jotform.com/82485871237163>. Once they've registered they should receive a detailed schedule and parking information. Space is limited to 50 participants with preference given to high school students.

Are you interested in providing feedback and helping with steering the Nebraska State 4-H Companion Animal Program (dogs, cats, household pets)? They are looking for people willing and interested in serving on the Nebraska 4-H Companion Animal Advisory Committee. This is a new committee with possible membership to include extension faculty and staff, 4-H members, recent 4-H alumni, and 4-H adult volunteers from across the state. This committee would offer insight, review, and input for the operation and management of the Nebraska 4-H Companion Animal Program. Committee members would be expected to meet face-to-face and/or through scheduled conference calls (Zoom) or utilizing email to conduct committee business. Once the committee is set, the regular meeting schedule and roles of the committee will be addressed. Those interested are encouraged to fill out the contact information form by January 31, using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/W30ZpEuBdSOxM8332>

Submissions for the 2019 4-H Beekeeping Essay (<http://preservationofhoneybees.org/essays#rules-overview-2>) sponsored by The

Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc., are currently being accepted. Nebraska submissions for the topic of “*Honey Varietals, State to State?*” must be submitted to the UNL Bee Lab at [unlbeelab@unl.edu](mailto:unlbeelab@unl.edu) by February 11, 2019. The UNL Bee Lab selects 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners, and the Nebraska Beekeepers Association provides a modest prize for those essays. The 1<sup>st</sup> place entry from Nebraska will also be submitted for the national competition.

The Nebraska Cattlemen’s Classic is holding their annual livestock judging contest at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds in Kearney on Saturday, February 23. Youth ages 8-19 (by January 1, 2018) are welcome. Early deadline to register is February 5. Fees may be paid the day of the contest. More information is available from the extension office or at [http://cattlemens.org/youth/judging\\_contest.html](http://cattlemens.org/youth/judging_contest.html)

Any youth ages 8-18 who will be showing beef, sheep, swine, goats, market broilers or market fryer rabbits will need to either attend a YQCA training or go online to do their training at <https://yqca.learnrow.io/account/login>. Instructions on how to sign up for all the trainings are posted at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/central4/yqca-quality-assurance-training/>. Age breaks for 4-H kids are as follows: junior 8-11, intermediate 12-14, senior 15-18. Youth must be registered in 4-H before you will be allowed to register for the YQCA training.

Any youth who are interested in competing at the Horse Stampede in Lincoln on March 30, please let the extension office know. The Horse Stampede contests include quiz bowl, demonstrations, public speaking, art and photography. A parent is required to call the office to register their child for any of the events. Registrations are due to the extension office by noon on March 1<sup>st</sup>. If you would like a Horse Stampede shirt, the cost is \$5 and must be paid by March 1<sup>st</sup> (no youth sizes).

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Teacher Scholars Academy is now accepting applications. We are seeking 40 great students who want to build a career in teaching and so contribute to the future of Nebraska’s next generation. If you are interested in joining the UNL Teacher Scholars Academy or know of someone who would be an exceptional future teacher, please pass along this information. This is a wonderful scholarship opportunity. We are accepting applications from: any incoming freshman (who has applied or will apply to the University of Nebraska Lincoln) and will begin their studies in Fall 2019; anyone who is majoring in teacher education (elementary, secondary, early childhood, special education, agricultural education, or music education); and is committed to becoming the backbone of school transformation, a reflective thinker who will continue to grow and develop beyond their degree. Application information, and more information about the UNL Teacher Scholars Academy, can be found at <https://cehs.unl.edu/cehs/teachers-scholars-academy/>. Deadline is February 1.

A new interactive series of online sessions, called “Cultivating Resiliency for Women in Agriculture,” is now available to help women in agriculture cope with stress. The series of six 90-minute webinars is a joint project of American Agri-Women, District 11 Agri-Women, University of Minnesota Extension-Women in Ag Network and the Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (UMASH). Sign up at [www.americanagriwomen.org/webinars](http://www.americanagriwomen.org/webinars). The free sessions start at noon central, will include a Q&A session and will be recorded and archived for later viewing:

- Dec. 14 - Impact of Farming and Ranching Stress for Women 101
- Jan. 11 - Self-Care Tips to Help Reduce Stress
- Jan. 25 - You Can’t Pour from an Empty Cup — How do you fill it up to support yourself and others?
- Feb. 8 - Building and Maintaining Relationships in Stressful Times
- March 8 - Increasing Your Joy and Happiness While Living a Farm Life
- April 12 - Putting it All Together

Do you enjoy being outside? Learning new things about crops? Considering a career involving crops, insects, diseases, soils, water or more? Do you want to help figure out how to feed our world’s growing population in a sustainable way? Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Corn Board are offering the seventh Innovative Youth Corn Challenge contest. This contest, open to 4-H members (age 10 & older as of Jan. 1st) or FFA members (in-school members), guides participants through all aspects of corn production, as well as agricultural careers related to corn production. As a team (2 or more participants), youth will be challenged to implement a production practice different than normal to determine if they increased their yield. Economics and sustainability of the practice will also be considered. Yields, cropping history, and production information will be collected in the Corn Yield Challenge management summary. Cash prizes and plaques are given. First place receives \$1,000, second place receives \$500, and third place receives \$250. Sustainability, crop scouting and “extra mile” awards are also given as cash awards. To participate in 2019, youth must complete and return an entry form by March 15<sup>th</sup> to the Fillmore County Extension Office in Geneva, NE. Forms can be downloaded at [cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities](http://cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities). For more information, contact Brandy VanDeWalle at [brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu](mailto:brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu).

Through [Farm Credit Services of America’s Working Here Fund](http://www.fcsamerica.com/workingherefund), organizations in Nebraska can apply online for community involvement grants. Grants are awarded of up to \$2,000 and \$10,000 each for projects and organizations that make a positive, long-term impact in the areas of Agriculture Education, Young and Beginning Producers, and Hunger and Nutrition. Applications can be completed online at [www.fcsamerica.com/workingherefund](http://www.fcsamerica.com/workingherefund). Grants are determined based on the

specific selection criteria. The second grant application period for the \$2,000 grants will run January 1 through March 31, 2019, and the \$10,000 grant application period will run January 1 through June 30, 2019.

Ord will host a district horse show June 12, 2019

## **AKSARBEN STOCK SHOW TRANSITIONS TO JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW**

*Grand Island, NE* –The Aksarben Stock Show will transition to junior livestock show format in 2019. Under the junior show model, youth from nine to 19 years of age are eligible for the competition with no prerequisite of youth organization affiliation. This allows for more junior exhibitors to show at Aksarben. Rules for the 2019 event will be written by Aksarben Stock Show management, versus the previous system of rules within each state operating independently. The Aksarben Stock Show will be held Sept 26-29, 2019 in Grand Island, NE. For more information visit <http://AksarbenStockShow.com>.

Registration is now open for 2019 summer camps! New in 2019, the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center will be exclusively offering weeklong day camps for youth ages 6-15. Additionally, chartered transportation will be available from Gretna and Grand Island for several camps at the Nebraska State 4-H Camp in Halsey. [https://4h.unl.edu/camps-centers/summer-camp?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email](https://4h.unl.edu/camps-centers/summer-camp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email). Early bird pricing ends April 15<sup>th</sup> (use code: earlybird2019).

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Greeley 308-428-2835; Howard 308-754-5422; Sherman 308-745-1518; Valley 308-728-5071