

In this email: 4-H enrollment, shooting sports certification, State Fair/AkSarBen animals, quilts of valor, poultry judging, new 4-H camp, Remind.com, computer science summer opportunity, garden seeds, Culinary Challenge, companion animal & wildlife career day, beekeeping essay, YQCA, horse stampede, Innovative Youth Corn Challenge, Farm Credit grant, district horse show, AkSarBen, summer camps.

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**.

A Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop is scheduled for April 6-7 at the Merrick County Fairgrounds in Central City. The deadline to register for the Central City training is March 27th. Volunteers have the opportunity to become certified as an adult (21 years and older) or apprentice (14-20 years old) leader. Six project areas will be offered at the Workshop - rifle, shotgun, and archery. The registration fee is \$110.00 per person for initial certification and those individuals adding an additional discipline and \$90 for apprentice training. This fee includes meals, supplies and program materials. The registration fee after March 27th is \$160. Participants must make their own lodging arrangements. Registration on Saturday runs from 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

For animals to compete at State Fair/AkSarBen, they must be nominated at 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>

A Quilts of Valor training is being offered to Nebraska Extension Staff and 4-H Leaders/Volunteers who work with youth or want to work with youth and organize a QOV workshop in their county. The training will be Friday, March 1 from 9:00-3:00 pm at the Adams County Extension Office in Hasting (2975 South Baltimore, Hastings). Registration is \$10 per person, includes lunch and is due February 15th at this

link https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfTasHEQoko3db9Ns_B5AseP8UDMaaypFqo7v_1eTydxFVgYw/viewform Participants will learn about the 4-H Quilts of Valor Program, learn how to host a workshop, and design a QOV top to take home with them. There will also be a special QOV presentation during lunch.

Dr. Sheila Purdum and Brett Kreifels will be hosting a poultry judging clinic at UNL's Animal Science Building on March 16, 2019. It's a little early this year to accommodate the FFA students as well. This clinic is meant to introduce the 4-H members to 4-H Poultry Judging, which will also prepare them for PASE in June. A flyer can be found at <https://go.unl.edu/ruh7>

Nebraska will be hosting the 4-H Shootings Sports National Championships at the Heartland Public Shooting Park and Events Center in Grand Island on June 23-28, 2019. This event will involve 4-H youth from across the nation competing in nine disciplines. These include: Compound Archery, Recurve Archery, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, .22 Rifle, .22 Pistol, Shotgun, Muzzleloading, and Hunting Skills. Nebraska has selected or will be selecting teams to represent our state in all of the disciplines. However, we are still seeking eligible youth interested in participating in the 2019 4-H Shootings Sports National Championships in the following discipline areas – smallbore rifle, smallbore pistol, air pistol and muzzleloading.

Participants must have passed their 14th birthday before January 1 of the current year and may not have passed their 19th birthday before January 1 of the current year in which the 4-H Shootings Sports National Championships is held. More details will be available at a later date. 4-H youth who are interested in participating in one or more of the above discipline areas are required to complete the online “4-H Shooting Sports National Championships Interest Form.” This form can be found at - <https://goo.gl/forms/4xBRD8aVIBo0GVcz2>. Deadline to complete the online Interest/Intent Form is March 1, 2019. Participants will be notified by one of the Nebraska coaches with more details after the deadline. The number of interested youth in a discipline will determine whether a qualifying match needs to be held in Nebraska. Tentatively the Qualifying Match for smallbore rifle and smallbore pistol is

scheduled for Sunday, April 7th at the Heartland Public Shooting Park near Grand Island. More details to follow.

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>.

Stay informed this 4-H season with reminders from remind.com. You can now sign up for your county class on www.remind.com and get reminders specific to your county. <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/central4/join-your-county-class-on-remind/>

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 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.

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 by February 11, 2019. The UNL Bee Lab selects 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners, and the Nebraska Beekeepers Association provides a modest prize for those essays. The 1st place entry from Nebraska will also be submitted for the national competition.

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 1st. If you would like a Horse Stampede shirt, the cost is \$5 and must be paid by March 1st (no youth sizes).

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 15th to the Fillmore County Extension Office in Geneva, NE. Forms can be downloaded at cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities. For more information, contact Brandy VanDeWalle at brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu.

Through [Farm Credit Services of America's Working Here Fund](#), 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. 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. Early bird pricing ends April 15th (use code: earlybird2019).

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