



May 2021 Narrative Report

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Upcoming Events:

June 1st – Zone 10 Lead Educator Training

June 8th -Extension Employee Wellness Committee

June 10th – Plant Science Investigation, Livestock Auction Com. Mtg

June 11th NCEA luncheon with Dean Varner

June 14th – WTT mtg., Fillmore Co. Extension Board

June 16th – CWF Meal Planning mtg.

June 21st – Ag Innovators Planning, Understanding ISMs training

June 23rd - State Fair webinar

June 24th Land Application Training

June 30th Excellence in Ag Sciences Day

Crops – Youth & STEM

Several state fair superintendent meetings were held to update the quotas and work through the static exhibit handbook and display methods. As a **co-superintendent** in the agronomy, weeds, and range areas, I provided feedback in those areas.

I wrote and submitted a lesson to the **Garden TOOLS for Corn** professional development program. The lesson was on biotechnology and genetic engineering, which includes the new science standards. As a result of that lesson, I received a \$1,000 scholarship and garden safety kit to use for garden/plant education.

4-H Youth Development & Ag Literacy

A **Clover Kid workshop** in Clay and Fillmore county focused on plant parts. Youth played a 'plant relay', which taught them about the parts of a plant they eat. In addition, youth planted flowers from seed and as a seedling which they were able to enter at the county fair. Youth in Fillmore County planted one of the raised beds.



As youth sub-committee leader of the **Wellness in Tough Times** team I ordered seven "Little Libraries" and Nebraska Extension's Read for Resiliency books. This took quite a bit of time working through the logistics but now seven communities that were impacted by the 2019 Bomb Cyclone have this resource in their communities.



I coordinated **Progressive Agriculture Safety Day** for 91 area youth in collaboration with the local WIFE (Women Involved in Farm Economics), Emergency Management, Fortify Group and Fillmore Central, Exeter-Milligan-Friend and Shickley FFA Chapters. The event for youth who just completed 1st to 6th grades provided hands-on activities for youth on a variety of topics from ATV safety to food safety to mental wellness. Over 40 youth and adults volunteered their time for the experiential learning event. New this year, youth experienced an ATV survivor story from an area farmer, learned the importance of sleep and impacts technology has on us physically and mentally.



Professional Development/Leadership Responsibilities

I participated in a 3-day online, **PYD Academy** which increased my awareness and knowledge of the 4-H Thriving Model. It empowered 4-H professionals with practical, research-based strategies for helping youth attain a thriving orientation. The Academy featured the leadership of Dr. Arnold and keynote addresses by other top researchers in the field of PYD, including Dr. Richard Lerner of Tufts University, Dr. Kent Pekel of Search Institute, and Karen Pittman of the Forum for Youth Investment.

As a trained facilitator in the **Communicating with Farmers Under Stress** program, Susan Harris and I taught this program to 26 participants online. Plans for fall programming are also underway.

News Columns/Blogs

- May 5th – Crop Scouting Inservice
- May 19th – Land Application Certification
- May 26th – Conversations with Young Children