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We hope you are staying healthy and safe during this COVID-19 event! Here is the monthly 4-H newsletter. At this point we are planning on county and state fairs & summer workshops/contests. Please be FLEXIBLE if things change due to the COVID-19. As of March 20, all face-to-face 4-H/UNL events, including club meetings, cannot happen until May 9th.

Peggy is working in the Frontier County Extension Office and is able to take phone calls, mail & email. If you need tags or any 4-H supplies, call her to make arrangements. To follow UNL policy, Kathy is working from home and is happy to take phone and emails also.

We are all being reminded to:

1. Don't panic! Stay calm.
2. Use science and research so wash our hands and keep "physical distancing."
3. Be flexible and patient. We will get thru this!
4. Use this time to slow down, create more family time and get some 4-H projects completed while youth learn NEW LIFE SKILLS. ☺
5. Get creative and use the free Zoom.com program to have online club meetings & other trainings.

There are several items/dates/deadlines in these monthly 4-H newsletters that will help make a positive 4-H experience for you. We encourage you to review the newsletter EACH MONTH for 4-H communication!

NOTE: If you know of any new 4-H families, please get their names and addresses to extension office so they can begin to receive our monthly 4-H newsletter.

1) 2020 Frontier County Fair Book And State Fair Books Available Online! As you are choosing projects, refer to the newest copy. Notice 2020 changes including new Photography classes and county "Catch All" class (for an extra county fair exhibit). Peggy is working hard to get the entire county book online at: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/frontier/fairbook2>. Hard copies will be printed and mailed out in May (after we know the effects of COVID-19). State fair book can be found at: <https://4h.unl.edu/state-fair>.

2) 2020 4-H Enrollment - Deadline is April 15th Please ask us at the office if you need assistance or need to use the office computer to sign up. Remember to add/delete projects until June 1st by contacting Peggy at the office.

WHO: *New 4-H members and returning* 4-H members are required to officially enroll through 4-H Online **each** year to maintain membership. **Adults:** Club organizational leaders, **project leaders, 4-H Council members any other adults acting as direct supervision or mentor to youth in a paid, unpaid, or volunteer status,** as part of a Youth Activity must also enroll through 4-H Online **each** year.

COST: Youth County Dues are \$5.00. Clover Kid dues are \$2.50. Dues need to be paid to your club. If not in a club, pay directly to the extension office by **APRIL 15th** or BEFORE.

WHERE: Enroll at <https://ne.4honline.com>

Enrollment Tips

- ✓ Select at least one project at time of enrollment. This can be edited later.
- ✓ The Health Form is only needed for camp. You may skip this step for now.
- ✓ If you need to make connections with a club, the extension office is happy to make this introduction.
- ✓ Youth between the ages of 5 and 7 as of January 1st of the current year may enroll as Clover Kids.
- ✓ Just a reminder that projects in 4HOnline are cleared every year. If you need project history, it can be found under Member Reports in your family account.
- ✓ 2020 4-H Projects list is at <https://4h.unl.edu/projects>

3) Frontier County Dues & Insurance – Dues are \$5.00/4-H'er and \$2.50/Clover Kid. **ALL dues need turned into the extension office by APRIL 15th!!** Pay your club leader & they will then send in one check to the extension office. Independent members will need to send their dues to the extension office. All checks need to be made payable to the 4-H Council. This money goes into the Frontier County 4-H Council account to pay for 4-H insurance, Achievement Day, contests and other 4-H programming.

4) 4-H Volunteer Application NEW Process - Our Frontier County 4-H volunteers ARE VERY IMPORTANT to our 4-H program, and we appreciate each one of you! As an organization that serves youth, our number one priority is to keep them safe. With that said, we have some **NEW state** procedures in place to ensure that we are able to do that. In accordance with the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Youth Activity Safety Policy, we must ensure that 4-H volunteers do not have a criminal background that would disqualify the individual from serving. If you are in direct contact while helping 4-H youth, you have two options to complete paperwork by April 15:

1. Enroll on ne.4honline.com as a volunteer. Read thru the **Activity Worker Policy and Volunteer Code of Conduct** and check the appropriate boxes online.
2. If you did not complete a **background check** with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services in 2019, please follow the instructions in [4h.online](https://4honline.com) or use the links below. There will be a \$5 fee for the background check. If this will cause any issues for you, please contact Kathy. Once you start the background check process, you will only have 15 minutes to complete it before you are timed out and required to submit a notarized paper document. Your background check will be valid with our office until 2025.

printable- https://4h.unl.edu/documents/NE4H-Direct-Volunteer-Application_02202020.pdf
electronic- https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6htdcs3Hnt4vBqt

5) County Official 4-H Tee Shirts - In 2019, **ALL county 4-H members** received a new official county tee shirt thanks to our sponsor -- Farm Bureau Financial Services. Any new 4-H members in 2020 can stop by the extension office to pick up one free shirt. (New shirts will be ordered every 2 years.)

6) Nebraska 4-H Policy & Procedures Handbook – Whenever leaders, 4-H families, and supporters have any 4-H questions, we encourage you to refer to Nebraska 4-H website for the most current state 4-H policies at: <https://4h.unl.edu/policy-handbook> or call the extension office.

4-H CONTEST / EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

7) County 4-H Speech & Presentation Contests – Rescheduled for June 8, Monday, at 6:30 pm in Curtis. Get your speech, PSA and presentation ready TODAY! **Sign up by JUNE 1st**. The top three in each class win a cash award from the 4-H Council at the county level. The top five purples in all county

PSA classes (ages 8-18), Intermediate speech (ages 11-13) and senior speech (ages 14-18) classes are eligible to go on to the State Speech/PSA Contest held June 24 in Lincoln.

8) Tractor Safety Classes Scheduled – Nebraska Extension’s Tractor Safety & Hazardous Occupations Course takes place at several Nebraska locations this summer for teens age 14 or 15 years of age who will work on a farm. Anyone older than 15 is also welcome to attend, but those under age 14 are not eligible to take the course. See flyer enclosed or for complete information about the Tractor Safety certification online at: go.unl.edu/tractorsafety

9) April 13 Babysitting Clinic Postponed- new date coming soon!

10) Youth Animal Science Field Day - May 28 in Curtis and NCTA Livestock Judging Camp - May 27. Thank you to the Eustis Fair & Corn Show Ag Society & Frontier County Fair Board for their willingness to pay the registration/lunch fee for all Frontier County 4-H participants. At this point, we don’t know if these two events are going to occur this year. More details later.

11) 2020 Online Horticulture Judging Contest - Do you know what it takes to pick the best fruit and vegetables out at the grocery store? Or do you know what judges are looking for when they judge your plants at the county fair? Have you ever wondered, what plant is that!?! Online Horticulture Contest will be available June 5-22, 2020 at <https://go.unl.edu/hortcontest>. More information about the Nebraska state contest, along with a list of study materials, can be found at: <http://4h.unl.edu/fairbook/plant-science/horticulture-id>.

12) New FUN 4-H Photography Classes – There are new project manuals and county /state fair classes for photography. Check it out at: <https://4hfairbook.unl.edu/fairbookview.php/exhibits/>

13) Monthly State 4-H Newsletter Called The “4-H Spotlight” – Get new 4-H ideas with this state wide newsletter. Peggy will place this monthly publication on our county webpage under newsletters at: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/frontier/newsletterarchive/>

14) PASE/Life Challenge - A two-day event held each year at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln East Campus. Premier Animal Science Events (PASE) and the Life Challenge Family Consumer Science are youth contests held **June 21-23**. Save **Sunday, June 20 for traveling**. Frontier County will be taking several teams, so let us know if you are at least 12 years old and interested by May 29th for PASE and/or Life Challenge.

15) Robotics NXT Lego Kits Available For Summer 4-H Fair Exhibits - Available this summer for youth enrolled in the 4-H Robotics project to create fair exhibits that will be judged at Stockville Fair or Eustis Fair. There will be a \$30 returnable deposit payable to University of Nebraska. Contact the extension office to reserve your kit or purchase your own robotic kit. **Be looking in next newsletter for robotic workshop dates!**

16) Citizenship Washington Focus 2021 - Will be here soon! If you will have completed your 9th grade through 12th grade year in 2021 you are eligible to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime experience. As part of CWF, youth will travel to historic and civic sites in Chicago, Philadelphia, Gettysburg, New York City and more, before arriving at the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C. for a week-long, hands-on conference getting to see the Capital city of our country. The official enrollment for this conference will be this summer. However, we are gathering names of those who are interested right now!! There are

several optional fundraising activities to help you fund your conference. If you are interested in CWF, 2021, please contact Phelps County Extension Office, ASAP at 308-995-4222.

17) More Frontier County Fair Static Exhibit Judging Adult & Youth Helpers Needed on July 28-in Stockville - The judges, superintendents & Kathy need assistance to place ribbons/scoresheets on 4-H exhibits and record results during the fair judging July 28 from 4:00-8:00pm. If interested, please contact Kathy by May 22 or before.

SHOOTING SPORTS NEWS

18) Sharp Shooters 4-H Shooting Sports Club - Due to COVID 19, registration deadline is extended to April 15. Go to: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/frontier/4-h-enrollment/>, print off the **2020 Shooting Sports Parental Release Form** , fill out the back page and return to Extension Office by April 15 along with club fees. Make checks payable to: Sharp Shooters 4-H Club. Stop by office if need hard copy of the 2020 Shooting Sports Parental Release Form. Practice will start when COVID-19 policies are allowing public gatherings. **Don't forget to enroll on ne.4honline by April 15 too!**

19) Thank you to your 4-H Council and Frontier County Fair Board for donating to the new Shooting Sports Equipment Metal Storage Container! - Sharp Shooters 4-H Club has purchased a permanent metal container for all the club's 4-H shooting equipment.

20) Sharp Shooters 4-H Club Facebook Page - For latest club news and any schedule changes join the club's Facebook page: Frontier County Sharpshooters. Share this with others!!

LIVESTOCK & SMALL ANIMAL NEWS

21) 2020 Frontier County 4-H Livestock Enrollment Deadlines (as of 3-25-20)

April 1 - All Market Beef ID Paperwork

May 8 - Horse IDs and District and State Horse Show Entries

June 1 - All Breeding Beef, Stocker Feeder, Dairy, Breeding Swine, Breeding Sheep & Breeding Goat ID paperwork with photo. All market sheep, goat & swine ID paperwork with photo.

New in 2020 - **If an animal was not at county tagging day, submit ID papers with a photo of the 4-H animal with the tag in the ear by June 1st deadline to the extension office. This includes ALL breeding beef/swine/sheep/goat, market swine/sheep/goat, stocker feeders, & etc.**

22) Dog Days in McCook - 4-H Dog Show - June 20, 2020 at Alice Kiplinger Arena - Red Willow County Fairgrounds - McCook, Nebraska. Early Bird Registration Pricing – postmarked by June 13th (Regular Registration – June 14-20) Contact office for form.

23) New State Dog 4-H Program - Featuring a Dog Showmanship video series that covers the basics of Dog 4-H Showmanship including video examples and descriptions of the patterns. This video series can be found on the 4-H Companion Animal Program web page under the Program Resources section <https://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal> or on the Companion Animal YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL579hRei5D7xwKTqpe8kJw0GnfKK4x8l4>.

24) Livestock Tags – Call office to pick up ASAP

\$1.00 county-only tags (All county/state fair sheep & goats must use scrapie tag for ID)

\$3.00 EID tags for NE State Fair and/or Aksarben

DNA envelopes for NE State Fair will be available & fees will be paid to state.

25) Sheep Weighing /Tagging Days Cancelled Due to COVID-19. No 2020 rate of gain contest.

26) Youth For Quality Care (YQCA) 2020 -Livestock Quality Assurance Certificates Due June 1

Last Face-to-face trainings in Frontier County:

- April 7 has been RESCHEDULED to May 14 (Thursday) 6:30-8:30 pm in Curtis
- Face-to-face training is \$3
- **BEFORE** attending local face-to-face or web based \$12 session - **All 4-H exhibitors need to register and pay online at: yqca.org**
- Use your 4-H Online Account - need credit card or coupon

Nebraska 4-H youth ages 8-18, who are enrolled in any livestock projects (exhibiting Beef, Sheep, Goats, Hogs, Rabbits, Dairy, and Poultry at the county fair, state fair, or Aksarben) are required to complete the YQCA online course annually or test out. By **June 1, 2020**, Frontier County 4-H Livestock Exhibitors need to attend either face-to-face session **OR** search online for surrounding counties' face-to-face dates **OR** take the web-based training **OR** test out.

27) 2020 State Fair & Aksarben 4-H Livestock Deadlines: Online Nomination Website:

<https://showstockmgr.com>, Nebraska State Fair Entry Website: <https://statefair.org>

Aksarben website: <https://www.aksarbenstockshow.com/>.

28) 4-H Show Pig Changes Due to Ractopamine (Paylean) - If showing pigs at state fair or other contests, you need to be aware of several changes regarding the marketing options for show pigs this year following fairs. Major pork packers are requiring Paylean-free hogs grown at fully clean Paylean-free facilities. (Note pigs raised in dirt lots may never be able to use the same pen as when they had fed Paylean as there is no known way to decontaminate/clean the dirt to ensure it is Paylean-free.) For more details contact the extension office.

29) Frontier County Horse Show Youth Ages Changed - To be consistent with other Frontier County 4-H ages, your 4-H Council changed the age brackets for our 4-H horse members competing in the county horse show. In 2020, the fair book will say: Junior Division 8-10 years old; Intermediate Division 11-13 years old; and Senior Division 14 & over.

30) Horse Advancement Level Testing/District & State - ALL level testing required for participation in the 2020 District 4-H Horse Shows **MUST** be completed by **MAY 8, 2020**. **Horse Identification** - A required hardcopy paper ID with identifying photos/drawings and owner affidavit needs to be turned in to the extension office by **May 8** for District and/or State Horse Shows.

31) 2020 Horse District/ State Horse Shows - Dates and Sites

June 19 – McCook, July 12-16 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Show in Grand Island

More horse info at: <https://4h.unl.edu/horse>.

32) NE Equine Webinar - Free webinar every 2nd Tuesday of the month. For more info & recorded webinars go to: <https://4h.unl.edu/horse/webinar-series>.

33) State Cat Club Free Online Workshops – Information & recorded sessions available at: <http://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal/cat-club>.

FRONTIER COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL NEWS

34) Next 4-H Council Meeting - The next council meeting will be Monday, May 18 at 7:30 pm in Curtis. Please contact a 4-H Council member with concerns or suggestions.

35) 4-H Project Manuals Policy - The council provides each club organizational leader one free manual/project per club and then additional manuals will cost \$5.00/ea. Any 4-H family can come to the office and buy manuals for \$5.00/each. Anyone is welcome to buy 4-H manuals directly online at: <https://shop4-h.org> or <https://marketplace.unl.edu>.

36) Grant Money Available for 4-H Activities/Camps/Events - The 4-H Council provides some financial support to 4-H groups and individuals for educational and service learning. Requests need to be submitted to extension office by the first day of the following months (March, May, July, Sept, November, January). Contact the extension office for details.

4-H CLUB NEWS

37) Club Notes - Leaders can use this newsletter as a way to get information out to your members. You need to submit any news to the extension office by the 15th of the month in order to have it appear in the next newsletter

38) Happy Helpers Club – Planned to hold their organizational meeting April 7 at 4:30 pm in the Berean Church in Curtis. Contact Leader Sue Nutt for the rescheduled date at 367-6366.

39) Riding on Faith 4-H Horse Club – Planned to meet April 17th, at 7:00 pm, to elect officers and set practice schedule. Practices will be held this year at the Jurjens arena just south of Eustis. This arena is 160' x 280" enclosed in pipe fencing. Everything is there that will be needed to practice - barrels, poles, trail equipment, and roping equipment. For questions or new meeting date, contact Helen Jurjens (308)651-1918 or email helensprabery@gmail.com or Erika Brown (308)660-4089 or email brownshowcattle2011@gmail.com. Check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ridingonfaith4h>

OTHER 4-H NEWS

40) Upcoming 4-H Events/Important Date

***2020 County Fair Dates** - Frontier County Fair in Stockville July 28-August 2
Eustis Fair & Corn Show is August 5-8

***2020 Nebraska State Fair Dates** - August 28 - September 7 in Grand Island, NE
More details at: <https://www.statefair.org/>

APRIL

- 1 - **DUE** – 4-H Market Beef ID's
- 1 - Early Bird Registration for Big Red Camps
- 15 - **DUE** – 4-H Enrollment due online

MAY

- 8 - **DUE** – 4-H Horse ID's, District & State Show Entries
- 18 - 4-H Council Meeting– Curtis @ 7:30 pm – Ed Center Rm 129

41) For The Latest Dates, News & Forms - Go to: Nebraska Extension Frontier County website at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/frontier> and Facebook page at Nebraska Extension Frontier County. Feel free to contact Peggy or Kathy if you have any questions.

Stay healthy and take this opportunity to get your 2020 4-H Projects started!