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Happy February! Good job to the many families that have already re-enrolled for the 2020 4-H season!!

1) February is Nebraska 4-H Month!! - Tell others why 4-H is important to you & your family. Frontier County Youth 4-H Council members and Kathy will be going into all 2nd & 3rd grade Frontier County school classrooms this month to promote 4-H and all the fun projects, exhibits and contests youth can do in 4-H!

2) 2020 County Fair Schedules, 4-H information, Dates and Deadlines - Save this newsletter and handouts for reference and feel free to call the extension office with questions.

***Leaders, if you have new families please get their names and addresses to extension office so they can begin to receive our monthly 4-H newsletter & get enrolled.

3) 2020 4-H Enrollment - We appreciate everyone's efforts to sign up early! Please ask us at the office if you need assistance or need to use the office computer to sign up! **Deadline is April 15th; however, shooting sports and livestock judging youth have earlier enrollment deadline.**

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.

WHY: By enrolling, youth have the opportunity to participate in county fairs, the Nebraska State Fair, and additional statewide programs. Youth will have 4-H insurance in case of an accident while participating in a 4-H event.

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://4honline.com>

HOW: Instructions available in the extension office or <https://4h.unl.edu/enroll>

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.
- ✓ The enrollment system works best with Google Chrome.
- ✓ The enrollment system does not work well from a cell phone.
- ✓ Use Pick Your Project to enroll in various projects. You have until June 1st to finalize projects for the year. Go to: <https://4hcurriculum.unl.edu>
- ✓ **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.**

The Pick Your Project, available at <http://4hcurriculum.unl.edu>, has been updated for the 2020 program year. To assist 4-H members, volunteers, and parents a flyer has been included with this mailing or go to: the new 4-H Projects page at <https://4h.unl.edu/projects>

4) NE Extension 4-H Volunteer Application NEW Process - Our Frontier County 4-H Volunteers ARE VERY IMPORTANT to our 4-H program; therefore, we want to follow the new state directed policy!!!! Volunteers are screened in order to ensure a safe, positive, and nurturing environment for all youth involved with Nebraska 4-H programs and provide protection for the child, volunteer, educator, 4-H Council, Extension Board, and Nebraska Extension. Volunteer screening must be completed and approved prior to service. All 4-H volunteers must either enroll in 4-H Online or complete the 4-H Volunteer Activity Application appropriate for their role. For application go to: 4h.unl.edu/employee/volunteer-management and/or contact the extension office. (If you completed the online volunteer screening in 2019 you are good for 5 years, however, here still are a few other items to complete.)

How do you qualify as a 4-H volunteer? There are 2 categories:

1. Activity Worker/Direct Volunteer - includes staff, faculty, club leaders, lead teachers/presenters, student workers, summer interns, Teens as Teachers, chaperones, and any other adults and teens acting as direct supervision or mentor to youth in a paid, unpaid, or volunteer status, as part of a Youth Activity

2. Activity Support Staff/Indirect Volunteer - Any person who provides support services for Youth Activities such as teaching assistants, superintendents, judges, food service, set-up crew, maintenance, and any other adults and teens providing indirect service as part of a Youth Activity.

5) Clover Kids - is the officially recognized 4-H program in Nebraska for children under the age of 8. The program is designed to provide 5-7 years of age (by January 1, 2020) a variety of educational and recreational experiences in a non-competitive environment. Enroll at <https://4honline.com>. Clover Kid dues are \$2.50 and need paid to your club. If not in a club, pay directly to the extension office. All dues are due by **APRIL 15th**.

6) 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.)

4-H CONTEST / EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

7) County 4-H Speech & Presentation Contests - will be Monday April 6th at 6:30 pm in Curtis. See enclosed flyer for details. Get your speech, PSA and presentation ready TODAY! **Sign up by March 30.**

8) 9th Annual Innovative Youth Corn Challenge - This contest is open to 4-H members (age 10 & older as of Jan. 1st) or FFA members (in-school members). It guides participants through all aspects of corn production, as well as agricultural careers related to corn production. Cash prizes and plaques are given. Youth must complete and return an entry form by March 15th to the Fillmore County Extension Office in Geneva, NE. Forms can be downloaded after January 1st at cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities. For more information, contact Brandy VanDeWalle at brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu

9) State 4-H Photography Showcase - Flaunt your photography and submit your favorite photo for a chance for it to be showcased on the Nebraska 4-H social media channels. The *NEW* 4-H Photography Showcase offers a project exhibition opportunity beyond traditional print media. This opportunity is intended to help youth develop professional and technical skills as photographers while fostering creativity and self-expression. Through this opportunity, youth are encouraged to practice and apply skills learned in their photography projects throughout the year. 4-H'ers are invited to submit their favorite photos through the online submission form. Each month, a new photo will be selected from the submissions and will be showcased online by Nebraska 4-H using [Nebraska 4-H Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) pages or on the [Nebraska 4-H website](#). The 4-H Photography Showcase is open to enrolled 4-H members. <https://4h.unl.edu/photography-showcase>.

10) Next Chapter 4-H Club - If you are an **8th grader** enroll in Next Chapter on 4honline.com, you will be receiving information from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln explaining the Next Chapter and will be invited to a spring reception in Lincoln on April 27th. If you are interested in attending any Next Chapter program, let us know!

11) NE State 4-H Camp & \$100 Frontier County Scholarships for 2020 Camps - There are several

2020 NE State 4-H Camps at Nebraska State 4-H Camp and Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center (See flyer included with this mailing) or go to: <https://4h.unl.edu/camps-centers/summer-camp>. Applications for camp scholarships from Frontier County 4-H Council are due in the extension office by March 1st. Youth can apply by writing the 4-H Council a letter stating why you want to attend camp and which camp you want to attend.

12) Big Red Summer Academic Camps - Open to all youth grades 10-12, including recent high school graduates. Early Bird tuition rates end April 1. Regular tuition rates end May 1. For a list of 2020 camps, descriptions, participant limits, costs, and scholarship opportunities go to: <https://4h.unl.edu/big-red-camps>. 4-H Foundation scholarships are still available – submit a scholarship application online BEFORE you register for camp.

13) PASE/Life Challenge - A two-day event held each year at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln East Campus. The event is made up of the Premier Animal Science Events (PASE) and the Life Challenge Family Consumer Science contests. Save: **June 21-23** to attend. Frontier County will be taking teams, so let us know if you are at least 12 years old and interested!

SHOOTING SPORTS NEWS

14) Sharp Shooters 4-H Shooting Sports Club - See enclosed flyer.

15) Cash Donations for Shooting Sports Equipment Metal Storage Container & Gun Cabinet - Sharp Shooters 4-H Club is wanting to purchase a permanent metal container for all the club's 4-H shooting equipment. The club is also looking for a used gun cabinet. For more information or to give a donation, contact leaders Donnie Woodring, Chad Stengel, Cory & Nichole Johnston, Chad Schimmels, or Alan Taylor or contact the extension office. Donations can be written to: Sharp Shooters 4-H Club.

16) 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

17) 2020 Frontier County 4-H Market Beef Weigh Day LAST CHANCE March 7 & Declare If Home Raised On ID Form - (Saturday) at NCTA 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.

18) Livestock Tags - As you are planning/purchasing 4-H/FFA livestock for this next summer, here are the ear tags/DNA prices for 2020:

\$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.

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

19) Youth For Quality Care (YQCA) 2020 – Livestock Quality Assurance

Face-to-face trainings in Frontier County will be:

- March 3 (Tuesday) 6:30-8:30 pm in Eustis

- April 7 (Tuesday) 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 any time **before June 1, 2020.**

Test Out Option: \$36 for Intermediate or \$48 for Senior Divisions; will allow youth to test out of their current age division; available online only at: <https://yqca.learn-grow.io/Account/Login>. (NO paper tests in extension office).

20) 2020 Frontier County 4-H Livestock Enrollment Deadlines

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.

21) 4-H Horse Stampede - A group of contests for youth interested in horses. These contests do not require youth to have a horse. All they need is to have an interest and be willing to learn some information about horses. It will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at the UNL Animal Science Complex in Lincoln, NE starting at 8:30 am. Entries are due by **March 6, 2020**. For more information and registration forms: <https://4h.unl.edu/horse/stampede>. Contact: Dr. Lena Luck (lena.luck@unl.edu) or Grace Kim (grace.kim@unl.edu)

22) 4-H Companion Animal Challenge - A set of contests for youth interested in companion animals. These contests are animal-less and test the youths' knowledge about companion animals. New this year is Cat Skillathon and an essay contest. 4-H youth ages 10-18 are invited to participate. Held on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at the UNL Animal Science Complex in Lincoln, NE. Contests include: Demonstration Contest, Dog Skillathon Contest, Cat Skillathon Contest, Essay Contest, Art Contest, and Photography Contest. This event allows youth to apply their companion animal knowledge but does not require them to have an animal! Entries are due **March 6, 2020**. For more information and registration forms: <https://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal/challenge>. Questions? Contact: Dr. Lisa Karr (lisa.karr@unl.edu) or Grace Kim (grace.kim@unl.edu)

23) 2020 State Fair & Aksarben 4-H Livestock Process

Online Nomination Website: <https://showstockmgr.com>

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

- DNA nominations will be \$7.00 per envelope. Any DNA nomination sent in from the extension office or FFA Advisor will also be eligible for the Aksarben Stock Show.

- All breeding nominations will have a fee of \$2.00 per online entry. Exhibitors will be able to dual nominate an animal as breeding and market if selected and paid for in Show Stock Manager. Families will receive a receipt that they entered in a breeding nomination.
- Aksarben Only Note: If you have an exhibitor who would like DNA envelopes for only the Aksarben Stock Show, please guide them to the website: (<https://www.aksarbenstockshow.com/>).

For NE State Fair - Each exhibitor may nominate a total, between 4-H and FFA, as follows: Market Beef (10), Market Lambs (20), Market Swine (40), and Market Goats (20).

Family Responsibilities:

1. Exhibitors will be required to enroll in 4-H and the required projects by the county deadline in 4H Online.
2. Exhibitors showing market animals at State Fair must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for DNA verification turned into their county office and have completed the online nomination (<https://showstockmgr.com>) along with submitting payment online by June 15. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID. Contact the extension office for details. (It is recommended that you make a copy or a photo image of completed envelope you turn into your county.)
3. Exhibitors showing breeding beef, breeding sheep and breeding goats at State Fair will need to complete an online nomination along with submitting payment online (<https://showstockmgr.com>) by the June 15 deadline.
4. Exhibitors will be required to complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) for the enrolled livestock projects by the county deadline.
5. Exhibitors will notify the county extension staff of any retags that may occur up to time of check-in at the State Fair.
6. Exhibitors will select which animal nominations they have chosen to show at State Fair on the State Fair entry website. All nominated and validated animals will be automatically listed as a choice option for entry registration.
7. Exhibitors will be required to bring the breed registration association paperwork to check-in at State Fair for animals wanting to show in a breed class. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name, a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family or the family farm, ranch name or parent's name.

24) County Horse Show Youth Ages Changed - To be consistent with other Frontier County 4-H ages the 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.

25) 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.

26) 2020 Horse District/ State Horse Shows - Dates and Sites

- June 15 - Scottsbluff
- June 16 - Burwell
- June 17 - Columbus
- June 18 - Lincoln

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>. **BIG** and **fun** changes to the Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo for the 2020 year! For more information about the State 4-H Horse Expo: <https://4h.unl.edu/horse/state-expo>. Subscribe to the UNLHorseInfo Listserv to receive any updates, changes, and educational programs we are planning to offer this year! Link to sign up for the listserv: listserv.unl.edu. Please type **UNLHorseInfo** for the list name.

27) NE Equine Webinar - Free webinar every 2nd Tuesday of the month. To register in advance for the webinar go to: <https://4h.unl.edu/horse/webinar-series>. All webinars are recorded along with all previous webinars (nutrition, stampede, horse show trends, genetics or aging a horse by their teeth).

28) State Cat Club Free Online Workshops - Any 4-H'er may join the meetings from home to watch and participate in the session. Information is available here: <http://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal/cat-club>. All the sessions are recorded and you can watch at home or at the extension office.

29) 2020 Frontier County Catch-A-Lamb - Must be 8, 9, or 10 years old by January 1, 2020. Application form (available at extension office) needs returned by March 1, 2020.

FRONTIER COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL NEWS

30) Next 4-H Council Meeting - The next council meeting will be Monday, March 16th at 7:30 pm in Curtis. Please contact a 4-H Council member with concerns or suggestions.

31) 4-H Project Manuals Policy - Manuals are expensive, costing up to \$15 each. 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. The extension office will keep one copy of each project manual for anyone to look at in the office. Manuals can be checked out with a \$5.00/deposit per manual for one week. If manual is returned within the week (in the same condition as given) the office will issue you a check for the deposit. Anyone is welcome to buy 4-H manuals directly online at: <https://shop4-h.org> or <https://marketplace.unl.edu>.

32) 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 opportunities such as camps, contests such as PASE/Life Challenge, & other events. In order to receive any funds, clubs and/or individuals need to submit a one-page proposal stating: the proposed date/time frame of the event or project, goals, description, estimated number of participants, amount of other funding, & a budget. Requests need to be submitted to extension office by the first day of the following months (March, May, July, Sept, November, January) so the proposal can be put on the 4-H Council's meeting agenda the 3rd Monday of those months listed. *****This deadline may require some advance planning. The 4-H Council hopes that clubs and individuals will use these grants to take teams to the state competitions, perform community service projects, or lead 4-H workshops.

4-H CLUB NEWS

33) 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

NOTE: Happy Helpers will be meeting March 3 at 4:30 pm at the Berean Church in Curtis.

OTHER 4-H NEWS

34) Upcoming 4-H Events/Important Date

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

FEBRUARY

- 1-29 - Nebraska 4-H Promotion Month
- 5 - **DUE** – Registration for NE Cattlemen’s Classic Judging Contest
- 15 - Nebraska Cattlemen’s Classic Judging Contest – Kearney

MARCH

- 1 - **DUE** – Applications for 4-H Council Camp Scholarships
- 1 - **DUE** – Applications for Catch-A-Lamb
- 3 - **YQCA** – Eustis 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm – Eustis 4-H Bldg
- 6 - **DUE** – Registration for 4-H Horse Stampede
- 6 - **DUE** – Registration for 4-H Companion Challenge
- 7 - Market Beef Weigh-In - NCTA 9-11 am
- 16 - 4-H Council Meeting – Curtis @ 7:30 pm – Ed Center Rm 129

****Save the Date:** May 28, 2020 Annual West Central Youth Animal Science Youth Field Day in Curtis

Click on the Nebraska Extension Frontier County website for the latest dates, news and forms at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/frontier>. Like us on Facebook at Nebraska Extension Frontier County & then SHARE with others!

Feel free to contact Peggy or Kathy if you have any questions. Stay WARM and have fun picking out your 2020 4-H Projects!