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Hello Frontier County 4-H Families & Supporters!

1) **Congratulations to all High School and College Seniors** - graduating this spring! We hope your 4-H experiences have helped & will continue to help you in the future....As a 4-H Alumni, you are always welcome to become a 4-H leader too! ☺

2) **2019 Fair Book Is Ready!** - Save this as a reference all year long. Notice changes including Clothing entries & Page 31 "Catch All" class (for an extra county fair exhibit). The fair book will be online soon at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/frontier/fairbook2>.

3) **Southwest Nebraska 4-Hers Helping 4-Hers Fund Raiser** – Nebraska Extension and 4-H in Southwest Nebraska are reaching out to our communities to participate in the 4-H'ers Helping 4-H'ers program. The reality of the devastating floods & blizzards continue for many families as they work to rebuild what they lost. These events have impacted the lives of many 4-H'ers. We are asking residents and businesses from Arthur, Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Lincoln, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties to help us reach the goal of helping 100 4-H'ers with disaster relief. When a 4-H member is in need, we want them to know that Southwest Nebraska cares.

The Nebraska 4-H Foundation is the sponsor of the 4-H'ers Helping 4-H'ers program. It is devoted to helping 4-H members and their families in times of need through generous donations. When disaster strikes, no matter how large or small, 4-H'ers Helping 4-H'ers will be there to help! The Foundation seeks contributions year round to be

used to help 4-H'ers and families for major disasters such as flood, tornado, blizzard, loss of home due to fire, or serious illness.

This program is being used by 4-H'ers and families whose life has been impacted by the recent floods and blizzards in Nebraska. A committee meets weekly to award funds to those that have applied to this program and qualify.

4-H'ers Helping 4-H'ers funds are available to any Nebraska 4-H family, who has been impacted by a disaster and has been recommended for support by a 4-H parent or guardian, 4-H volunteer, or 4-H alumni. Grants are limited to \$100 for an individual and \$500 for a family. There is no deadline to apply at ne4hfoundation.org.

Donations may be dropped off or mailed to the extension office or given directly through the Nebraska 4-H Foundation at ne4hfoundation.org. 100% of donations will go help 4H'ers and 4-H families.

Contact the extension office if you have questions.

4) 4-H Online Enrollment - Good job & thank you 4-H families for enrolling by the April 15 county deadline! Remember you can talk to Peggy and add/delete projects until June 1st.

5) Cricut Machine for 4-H Use will be at Klyte Burt Memorial Library in Curtis April 8-22. Contact Neta at 367-4148 for more information. You will need to pay for materials used or bring your own. **Cricut** is a personal electronic cutting machine that makes it easy to create DIY projects without breaking the bank. Use for 4-H posters, home living exhibits and more. Let your creativity show!

6) 2019 is West Central District's Volunteer Screening Year – Thanks to all the great volunteers in Frontier County that help our youth learn new skills! It is Nebraska 4-H policy to have any adult working closely with youth to have a background check. It is West Central District's year to screen ALL our 4-H volunteers. It is a simple online process that the state 4-H Office is willing to pay the fee. In the near future, be looking for an email from the Dept. of Health and Human Services with the background screening questionnaire for each volunteer. (IF you don't have internet at home, come use the extension office's computer.) You will be asked to renew this screening every 5 years. Thanks in advance for completing this process to keep our 4-H youth safe!

4-H CONTEST / EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

7) Youth Animal Science Field Day - May 23 in Curtis and NCTA Livestock Judging Camp - May 22. We appreciate the 2 fair boards for paying the registration/lunch fee for all Frontier County 4-H participants but **everyone still needs** to register online at <https://go.unl.edu/camp-ncta> by May 10th at 5:00 pm. See flyers for details.

8) Raise Your Hand for Nebraska 4-H - National 4-H Council is facilitating a national Raise Your Hand campaign from April 1 through May 15. Similar to previous years, there will be cash prizes for the top three states (\$20K, \$10K, and \$5K). **Voting is easy!** Go to **4H.org/RaiseYourHand** to support youth in your community. Raising your hand is a vote for your state. Share your support with friends and family on social media with **#4HGrown**.

9) Weed and Grass Identification Contest County TEAM - Do you ever wonder what that funny looking plant is? Or how to ID a plant? Maybe you just want to learn more about weeds. Contest is held at the NE State Fair. Contestants are required to identify plants specimens by their common name. Youth can compete as individuals or as a team of 3 or 4. While most teams are composed of 4-H members from the same county, many teams consist of members of contiguous counties. Youth must be 10 years of age to enter, with age divisions being: Intermediate (10-13) and Senior (14-18). Kat Caswell, Cropping Systems Extension Educator, will be offering practice sessions during the summer to teach youth about plant identification and weed species that will be included in the contests. If you're interested in being a member of a team, competing as an individual, or attending practice sessions, contact your 4-H educator or Kat at the McCook Extension office at (308)345-3390 or kat.caswell@unl.edu.

10) Online Horticulture Contest June 7-17, 2019 at: <https://go.unl.edu/hortcontest>.

Horticulture judging contest consists of three parts. The first identification of plant material, knowledge, and judging/placings. More information about the Nebraska State contest along with a list of study materials can be found in the fairbook at <http://4h.unl.edu/fairbook/plant-science/horticulture-id>.

11) PASE/Life Challenge is 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. Both offer career exploration opportunities, tours, presentations, and competitive contests. Save: **Sunday, June 16 (for traveling), Monday, June 17 and Tuesday, June 18.** Frontier County will be taking teams, so let us know if you are at least 12 years old and interested by May 24th!

12) 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 July 30 evening at Stockville Fair or July 30 morning at 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 kits. **Be looking in next newsletter for robotic workshop date!**

13) Summer Workshops Save the Date - more details soon

- May 29 Clover Kid Camp-Eustis
- June 5 Clover Kid Camp- Curtis
- June 4, 11, 25 Building Healthy Kids w/ STEM Skills –Maywood School
- June 6 (All day) ?? Robotics Camp
- June 12 Horticulture Camp - Curtis
- June 6, 13, 20, 27 “*Universe of Stories*” Summer Library & STEM programming - Curtis
- June 19 Beef Fitting/Showmanship Clinic - Curtis
- June 20 Pig & Sheep Fitting/Showmanship Clinic - Curtis
- June 26-28 National Shooting Sports Contest - Grand Island
- August 7 Agronomy Youth Field day - Curtis

SHOOTING SPORTS NEWS

14) Sharp Shooters 4-H Club – Message from LouAnn Wood: “A HUGE thank you to all the kids that showed up Saturday night, April 6th to help at the Pheasants Forever Banquet. Everyone did a fantastic job. And to the parents that helped as well, thank you to you too: Harris and Joanie Grunden cutting up the desserts and helping get them out; Quinn and Erika Brown for helping with the cleanup; Bailey Hanes, TeeJay Hildebrandt, Donald Rohr, Nickolas Rohr, Skyler Oberg, Ethan Oberg, Aretta Brennemann, Grace Brennemann, Ella Brennemann, Dallas Grunden, Jace Grunden, Tallee Jo Brown, Hannah Brown, Lane Lenz, Brohdey Wood, Karissa Stengel, Reagan Stengel, and Paytyn Stengel. Hope I didn’t miss anyone. Please let me know if I did. Thank you all for making the night a success. Hope you all had fun as well!!”

The club and extension office thank LouAnn Wood for heading up the youth for the banquet and thank Dee Klein and Chad Stengel for heading up the lunch fundraiser. The club earned over \$400 for their community service projects!

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

LIVESTOCK & SMALL ANIMAL NEWS

16) Youth For Quality Care (YQCA) 2019 – Certificates are due in office by **June 1, 2019**. Frontier County 4-H livestock exhibitors need to attend a face-to-face session (so search online for surrounding counties’ face-to-face

dates) **OR** take the web-based training **OR** test out any time **before June 1, 2019**. 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. 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: yqca.org. (**NO paper tests in extension office**).

17) 2019 Frontier County 4-H Livestock Tags & Enrollment Deadlines

May 9 - Horse IDs and district and state contest entries

May 15 - All market sheep, goat & swine ID paperwork

June 1 - All breeding beef, stocker feeder, dairy, breeding swine, breeding sheep & breeding goat ID paperwork

\$1.00 county only tags

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

\$7.00 DNA envelopes for NE State Fair

18) Progress Shows, Sheep/Pig Club Sales - The office gets several flyers. Contact Peggy for more information.

19) NE State Fair 4-H/FFA Animal Information & Nomination Requirements For All State Fair Livestock & Aksarben Stock Show Contact Information and Questions –All market and breeding sheep and goats must have a scrapie tag. All market hogs and market beef must have an 840 EID tag and breeding heifers must have a tattoo. Call Peggy for more information.

20) Horse Advancement Level Testing/ District & State Dates – ALL Level testing required for participation in the 2019 District 4-H Horse Shows **MUST** be completed by **MAY 9, 2019**. The State 4-H Horse Exposition is held annually at Fonner Park in Grand Island, NE, **July 14-18, 2019**. The Expo includes the state horse show, hippology contest, and horse judging contest, as well as additional activities. Future State Horse Show Dates: July 12-16, 2020, July 11-15, 2021. **Horse Identification** -A required hardcopy paper ID with identifying photos/ drawings and owner affidavit needs to be turned in to local Extension Office by **May 9** for district or state contests. **2019 Local Districts Dates and Sites**- June 13 Ogallala, June 14 McCook

21) Farnam Founders Day Parade June 22. Theme is “Cowboy Up, Let’s Ride” Everyone is invited to participate in a float or come and ride horseback, or walk. Compete for prizes and ribbons in the best parade display. For more information contact Rebecca Tobin 308-537-6553.

22) 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>

23) State Cat Club Free Online Workshops – Any 4-H'er may join the meetings from home to watch and participate in the session. Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 6 pm CST. Information is available: <http://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal/cat-club>.

FRONTIER COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL NEWS

24) Next 4-H Council Meeting – The next council meeting will be May 20, Monday at 7:30 pm in Curtis. Please contact a 4-H Council member with concerns or suggestions.

25) New 4-H Project Manuals Policy – Each club organizational leader can be issued 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.

26) Grant Money Available for 4-H Activities/Camps/Events – The council decided to provide some financial support to 4-H groups and individuals for educational and service learning opportunities. The 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.

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.

4-H CLUB NEWS

27) 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

Another New Frontier County 4-H Club – Welcome to Riding on Faith 4-H Club. Organizational leader is Helen Jurjens (308) 651-1918 & project leader is Erika Brown (308) 660-4089!

Happy Helpers 4-H Club – will meet 1st Monday of each month at 4:30 pm at the Berean Church in Curtis.

28) Upcoming 4-H Events/Important Dates

2019 Fair Dates- Frontier County Fair in Stockville July 27-August 4
Eustis Fair & Corn Show is July 28-August 3

APRIL

- 22 - Next Chapter for 9th & 10th graders in North Platte
- 23 - Sheep & Goat Tagging Day – Frontier County Fairgrounds in Stockville @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- 27 - West Central Regional Speech @ WCREC
- 30 - Sheep & Goat Tagging Day - Eustis @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

MAY

- 9 - **DUE** – 4-H Horse ID's, District & State Show Entries
- 10 - MVES Field Day & 4-H Food Stand
- 15 - **DUE** – Market Sheep, Goat & Swine IDs in office
- 20 - 4-H Council Meeting– Curtis @ 7:30 pm – Ed Center Rm 129
- 22 - NCTA Livestock Judging Camp
- 23 - West Central District Youth Animal Science Field Day – NCTA, Curtis
- 28-31 - Camp Apprentice Training - Halsey (Ages 14-18)

JUNE

- 1 - **DUE** - Breeding Beef, Stocker-Feeder, Dairy, Breeding Swine, Breeding Sheep, Breeding Goat IDs
- 8 - **DUE** – PASE/Life Challenge registrations
- 10-15 - Big Red Camps
- 12 - 4-H Horticulture Camp
- 14 - District Horse Show – McCook
- 17-18 - PASE/Life Challenge Event

Click on the Nebraska Extension Frontier County website for the latest dates, news and forms at <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/frontier/>.

Like us on Facebook at Nebraska Extension Frontier County & then SHARE with others!