



Nebraska Extension in Gage County

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January 2018

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2017 National 4-H Congress November 24 - 28, Atlanta, Georgia

- Gage County delegates, Jetta Harvey, Nathan Lancaster, Josiah Harvey

"National 4-H was truly an amazing experience. I met tons of great people and friends, learned some incredible things, heard inspiring speeches, saw new places, and had an amazing time. My favorite speaker was probably Matt Rush. He had a very inspiring speech his main point was that for 4-Hers to become the leaders we have the potential to be, we must be: Valuable, Visible, and Viable. Some of our evening activities included visiting the Atlanta History Center, a world cultures dinner, and dances. We also attended various workshops and were split into several groups for community service. My group helped clean a city park. Attending National 4-H Congress showed me so much and taught me even more. The friends I met and the things I learned make the trip priceless and unforgettable". – **Nathan Lancaster**

"To attend National 4-H Congress has been a dream of mine since joining 4-H eight years ago and it was worth all it took to get there. I wish this trip for every Gage County 4-H member. National 4-H Congress has changed my outlook on life and added to my confidence and independence. I traveled on a plane to a big city, learned to work and interact with people I had never met and made friends with 4-H members from all over America.

While at Congress, we were privileged to hear many outstanding speakers. Matt Rush encouraged us to make our lives and 4-H viable, valuable and visible. The Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary Sunny Purdue took each aspect of the four H's and challenged us to examine their significance in our 4-H careers. Miss America, Cara Mund, shared her life story and the persistence she had to overcome many life obstacles. These speakers motivated us to make the best better and to simply push ourselves and expect more. An Evening of Culture was eye-opening as we watched incredible African dancing and toured a museum which expounded on the Civil War from the perspective of the south; we rarely are exposed to such an outlook.

One day we went into an inner-city elementary school where we taught children about agriculture. Seeing these kids growing up so different from my childhood yet so happy and eager to learn really drew me to them. This was a unique experience that Congress gave me and I am so thankful I was placed outside my

comfort zone and met these kids.

Congress was way too short, culturally eye-opening, exhausting with a very full schedule, and yet most of all, pushed me in so many ways to strive for excellence from myself and encourage it in others.” – **Jetta Harvey**

“Meeting the most outgoing, kind people while listening to well-informed and inspirational speakers all wrapped up into five of the most full and well-organized days I have ever lived - that was National 4-H Congress for me. This was my first independent trip away from home and it has made me excited to travel more, meet people and grow in my self-confidence.

Every moment of the day it seemed like I was meeting someone new from a different state who was so friendly and confident. We all had 4-H in common and we were all there as a result of a lot of hard work, so it seemed like we were ready to have fun and make a lot of friends. ‘Speed meeting’ taught us the basics in getting to know someone quickly and pushed us to be even more outgoing. Creatively themed events like ‘Evening of Culture’, working side by side in inner city school gardens and experiencing formal dinners allowed us to make close friends fast.

With plans to run track at Texas University, a young man was jumping on a trampoline just days after his high school graduation. He fell off the trampoline and broke three bones in his back. Paralyzed from the waist down with almost no movement in his hands, this man spoke at Congress in a break-out session. He was so uplifting even after being extremely low in life. He fought his way out of depression and his limitations and now he lives independently while on the U.S. Olympus rugby wheel chair team. He taught me how to interact respectfully with people who have disabilities - open doors, make eye contact, and do not separate myself from them. This man was one of the many inspirational speakers who shared with us and I’m so glad I met him.

The schedule for this trip was jam-packed. I am thankful for how every moment was so well organized. We were treated like royalty; our chaperones were friendly and involved and I never had a second to be homesick. Looking back, I cannot believe how much we did in such a short amount of time. From having my first inner-city experience to my first ride on a fast, public transportation train, I feel like this farm boy has now seen big city life. I slept hard when I got home!

I am so thankful for all the people who were a part of me going on this trip. It was life-changing and hopefully only the start of a life of travel.” – **Josiah Harvey**

WELCOME TO 4-H 2018
Come Home to Gage County 4-H
Homegrown kids. Hometown values. Homemade talent.
Home - where your story begins.

Home Sweet Home. Each of us has the place that brings back good memories, is the symbol of warmth, comfort and acceptance, revokes memories of childhood, friends, family, neighbors, music, experiences and family traditions. This place is called home. Home is a place that brings back memories of animals, toys, foods, favorite traditions. A home holds our family and cultural heritage and history of generations. As Laura Ingalls Wilder stated, “Home is the nicest word there is.” The best journey takes you home.

4-H provides a home for youth as you work together with family and friends, as you learn about yourself, as you learn life skills, as you make a difference in our community. 4-H is making Gage County a great place for kids to grow up and call home.

Sewing Quilts of Valor to Organize - January 18



Gage County 4-H is proud to be involved with Quilts of Valor for veterans. As we award more quilts, the need is so great to cut and sew quilt tops. Quilt Stitches in Beatrice is a certified Quilts of Valor store, with patriotic fabrics. Ann Freese offers an informational meeting for youth and adults, Thursday, January 18, 6:00 pm at Quilt Stitches, 505 Court Street, Beatrice. If you cannot attend but are interested, call the store at 402-223-1916 and we'll update you as plans progress.

Time to Start Sewing - Classes at Quilt Stitches, Beatrice

We are pleased to network 4-H with Quilt Stitches in Beatrice as youth and adults learn more about sewing and quilting. Take advantage of these upcoming classes at Quilt Stitches (505 Court Street) to kick your 4-H sewing and quilting into gear for 2018. Call for information and to register: 402-223-1916.

January 23 - Star Wallhanging Class, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

January 24 - Flying Geese Runner Class, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

January 26 - Fat Quarter Friday AND Sew Night

January 27 - Kids' Initial Pillow Class, 9:30 - 11:00 am

January 30 - Sewing with Minky, 6:00 - 9:00 am

4-H Inc. Pancake Breakfast & Silent Auction - January 28



You've had a couple weeks to digest all those yummy holiday foods and put your new year's exercise plan in place. Hope that's working out for all of you! Hope you're hungry again and the thought of hot, buttery pancakes makes your mouth water.

You're all invited to the Pancake Breakfast & Silent Auction on Sunday, January 28, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, at the American Legion, 701 Dorsey, in Beatrice. Enjoy all the pancakes & sausage you can eat along with Silent Auction items with proceeds to the 4-H Incorporated building. Your support is appreciated! Please post, share, email, call your friends, and we'll see you there!

NOTE EACH 4-H CLUB IS ASKED TO BRING AN ITEM/S FOR THE SILENT AUCTION. Please bring to the Extension Office by January 22, THANK YOU! Help is also needed from youth and adults to make the breakfast, help with the silent auction, serve, clean tables, etc. Wear your 4-H t-shirt! This is a great community project, as well as leadership, and our way to support the building that displays all our fabulous Gage County Fair exhibits! Contact Mike Jochum, 402-984-1988.

Horse Project Meeting - January 29

Youth, parents and adult volunteers are invited to the annual horse planning meeting, Monday, 7:30 pm, Extension meeting room. Discussion will include project materials, dates, county fair schedule, awards, horse levels, show judges, ideas for 2018, etc. We need youth and adults from any family and club who is participating in the horse project; we want your input to keep our 4-H horse program growing.

YQCA Face to Face Training - February 8



YQCA certification can be obtained through face to face training (\$3.00) or online web based (\$12.00). Limited training sessions will be offered; we have one scheduled Thursday, February 8, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, Tri County Schools ag classroom. Email Dave Barnard if you plan to attend: dave.barnard@tricountyschools.org. Youth must be registered for 4-H Online prior to attending (<http://ne.4honline.com>). Register online for the training and pay online: <http://yqca.learnrow.io>.

Deadline for all 4-H and FFA livestock and small animal exhibitors to complete certification is June 1.

2018 UNL Red Letter Days

Experience life at UNL. High school seniors have the opportunity to visit the UNL campus - February 16, 23, March 9, 16, April 2, 27. Learn about UNL, admissions, majors, housing, student life, etc. Fee: \$10.00. Pre-registration required. Website: <http://admissions.unl.edu/events/on-campus/red-letter-days.aspx>.

State Awards Judging - February 15



Congratulations to 14 4-H youths selected to advance to state awards competition; state winners receive a partially funded trip to National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. Good luck to our 4-H members! The opportunity to award 4-H members for their excellence is awesome through the record book process. Adult volunteers are needed for the state Career Portfolio judging, Thursday, February 15, 9:30 am, UNL East Campus. Our district will review the Animal Science curriculum area. It's an educational day to learn about champion record books, you learn how to help your own family & club members, and get the job done to select Nebraska winners. If you're interested, contact the Extension Office.

State award applications will be due to the Extension Office January 12 and then submitted to Lincoln for state judging.

Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic - February 17-25

Website for the Classic at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds in Kearney: www.necattlemen.com.

Power of Wind & Water Art Show - April 23-28

If you like to write, paint, sculpt, take photos, or draw - read on. We received information about the 2nd Annual Power of Wind & Water Art Show featuring competition for youth and adults. Original artwork will represent the various ways in which wind and water has been harnessed and used as energy. Sign up is going on now with entries due April 21 at the Kimmel Education & Research Center or the Kregel Windmill Factory Museum, Nebraska City. Winning entries will be featured in the Public Show, April 23-28, Kregel Windmill Factory Museum. Direct questions to David Flatt, 402-873-1078.

2018 4-H Citizenship Washington Trip - June 2-12



Excitement is building for 9 Gage County 4-H members participating in the 4-H Citizenship Washington trip this summer with Jefferson & Saline County youths: Jetta Harvey, Josiah Harvey, Ashton Humphreys, Halie Parde, Emily Rempel, Lauren Trauernicht, Jamie Ullman, Ashley Yocum, Dalton Zimmerman, with sponsor Darla Acton.

Upcoming Orientation sessions for youth & parents: March 17, 10:00 am, State Capitol, Lincoln; April 29, 4:00 pm, DeWitt Community Center.

Sights will include Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery, FDR, Jefferson, Korean, Lincoln and Vietnam Memorials, Shear Madness play at the Kennedy Center, Smithsonian Museums, Washington National Cathedral, Pentagon Tour, Monticello, Mt. Vernon, Gettysburg, and so much more! It's the trip of a lifetime!

All youth interested in 4-H citizenship trips (no matter what year) are invited to join in fundraising which helps you finance your trip. Next fundraising events will be in spring. Contact the Extension Office.

Camp Renegade - June 19 - 20

Kids, ages 8-10, don't miss your first over-nite camping experience at Camp Renegade this summer. Lots of outdoor fun and education, canoeing, swimming, insects, nature, fitness, shooting sports, company time and more. Mark the date; flyer and registration coming in spring.

Horse Project Information



2018 4-H Horse Project planning meeting - January 29, 7:30 pm, Extension meeting room
District horse shows are scheduled across Nebraska June 13-22; nearest location is York on June 14. For additional sites and dates, contact the Extension Office. All level testing for District and State Shows must be completed by entry deadline: May 11.

– State 4-H Horse Exposition: July 15-19, Fonner Park, Grand Island

– Horse Advancement Levels are a great way to extend the learning in the horse project. Various levels must be achieved to compete at district and state shows. Please take advantage of the winter months to get your level tests done, then complete the riding test and demonstration in spring. Pick up your Horsemanship Levels book at the Extension Office. Please call ahead to set up the written test.

– Online Horse Advancement Level 1 & 2 Study Courses: Please note that online Advancement Level 1 and 2 study courses are now available online. Cost is \$10.00 per course for a 3-month subscription.

Website: <https://4h.unl.edu/horse/advancement>.

Gage County Fair & Expo - July 25-29 - “ Come Home to the Gage County Fair”

The best journey takes you home. All roads lead home. Come home to the 2018 Gage County Fair & Expo! Old friends and family gather, sit down to visit and catch up, reminisce about their fun times at the fair. You bring your kids and grandchildren home to a place of your memories. Excitement is building as we feature homegrown exhibits, foods exhibits that taste like home, homemade accessories, homes for people, dolls, birds & animals, homespun, gingerbread houses, home decor, Home on the Range, Home for Christmas, and of course, Scott Frost “coming home” to the Huskers. There’s no place like home! The February 4-H newsletter will announce 2018 theme exhibits!

We’re planning an exciting 2018 Gage County Fair & Expo, working on theme exhibits, fair classes, events and activities. Showcase your club, volunteers, exhibits, livestock, and special projects at the fair, along with sponsors, entertainers, races, special acts, fair food, and much more!

Photography 2018 Nebraska Exhibit Print - Unit 2 & 3: True Leaders - Explore true leaders in your community. True leaders can be anyone from community leaders, teachers and volunteers to parents and friends. So, what sets them apart? What makes someone a true leader? What effect do they have on the people or environment around them? How can you tell their story through photography?

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2018	
Jan. 12	State award applications due Extension Office, Beatrice
Jan. 18	Quilts of Valor Organizational Meeting, Quilt Stitches, 505 Court, Beatrice
Jan. 20-21	Nebraska 4-H Shoot Sports Leader Certification, Lincoln
Jan. 28	4-H Inc. Pancake Breakfast & Silent Auction, American Legion, Beatrice
Jan. 29	4-H Horse Program Meeting, Extension Office
Feb. 15	State 4-H Awards Judging, Lincoln
Feb. 17	State FLL Competition, Lincoln
March 3	Jr. FLL Competition, Lincoln
April 19	4-H Public Speaking Contest, Extension Office
April 23	UNL Next Chapter State Celebration for 8th grade students, East Campus
May 1	Online 4-H Member & Volunteer Enrollment Deadline
June 2-12	Citizenship Washington Trip
June 10-15	Big Red Summer Academic Camps, UNL
June 13-22	District 4-H Horse Shows sistes across Nebraska
June 14	District Horse Show, York
June 19-20	Camp Renegade, Fairbury
June 26	4-H Presentations Contest & Table Setting Contest, Extension Office
July 9-13	NAYI, Lincoln
July 15-19	State 4-H Horse Show, Fonner Park, Grand Island
July 16	4-H Fashion Show, Beatrice
July 25-29	Gage County Fair & Expo
Aug. 24-Sept. 3	Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island
Sept. 22-23	Ak-Sar-Ben Horse Show, Grand Island
Sept. 27-30	Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Show, Grand Island
Oct. 1	Career Portfolio & Awards Applicationi due Extension Office
Oct. 11	Rural Safety Day, Gage County Fairgrounds

COME HOME TO GAGE COUNTY 4-H 2018 ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Online 4-H Enrollment - Due May 1: <https://ne.4honline.com>

Enrollment in Gage County is open to youth second grade through age 19. The last year of eligibility is the calendar year the member becomes 19. 4-H Online is web-based, offering families the convenience of enrolling on your computer or mobile device. Online 4-H enrollment is better than ever - past 4-H members will see the data you entered last year updated; check it over and make sure your projects are correct for 2018 (your projects from last year will roll over). If you do NOT reside in Gage County, please select Gage as your county for enrollment.

2018 Gage County 4-H Project List includes all projects and curriculum areas. Use this when you enroll online as you select your projects.

2018 Pick Your Project web-based reference guide is available; it includes a list of all projects and materials/resources for each project: <http://4hcurriculum.unl.edu>.

Yearly dues for each 4-H member are \$10.00, payable at the Extension Office, by May 1. Payment of dues is NOT online. Youth pays only once, regardless of number of clubs of enrollment/youth. Checks payable to the Gage County 4-H Council.

Project manuals are available at the Extension Office - one per project per family. Please return gently used manuals to help reduce cost of ordering more. Please return manuals checked-out from the Extension Office.

4-H Grows Here - Start a 4-H Club

4-H offers a wide variety of opportunities for youth to discover your world, your community and yourself. You make your own choices and set your own goals. Gage County 4-H is open to youth, second grade - age 18, with over 150 projects offered. In 4-H, youth gain practical skills and develop life skills. Minimum club size is 5 members, with all clubs lead by volunteer adults. Parents are encouraged to attend meetings. If your club is getting too big or you have a group of friends and you would like to organize a new club, contact the Extension Office. Starting a 4-H club now is a great time to get organized and begin project work.

Homestead Shooting Sports Club Enrollment Due May 1

Want national and state trained instructors to get you started in the right direction? Our shooting sports club offers training in BB gun, air rifle, .22 rifle, and air pistol. Membership is taking place for interested youth and parents. Club volunteers are Mike Jochum, Nancy Jochum, and parents. Contact Mike Jochum, 402-984-1988.

Volunteer Leader On-line Registration & Screening

All 4-H volunteers need to register online: <https://ne.4honline.com> (same site as online 4-H enrollment). Register as new OR returning leader with or without existing 4-H family. These volunteers are entered for years of service awards. Deadline: May 1.

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services established the Youth Protection 4-H Screening Form. 4-H leaders and volunteers working with children (4-H and Clover Kids) are required to complete the screening form and are then covered by \$1 million of liability through the University of Nebraska. State 4-H introduced a new form that should be printed directly online. Then bring your form to the Extension Office to get our signature.

Note: Screening is done every four years by district, regardless of when the initial screening was completed. **EVERY ADULT VOLUNTEER NEEDS TO COMPLETE THE SCREENING FORM IN 2018.** Let us know if you have questions. Website: <http://4h.unl.edu/youthprotectioresources>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

4-H - Online & Facebook

We're here for you 24-7, making it easier to get information and keep up on 4-H events, activities, news, register for events, etc. - Gage County Extension & 4-H site: <http://gage.unl.edu>.

State 4-H website: <http://4h.unl.edu>.

Type "Nebraska Extension in Gage County" in the search box on Facebook. "Like" this page to get news, updates, resources, stay up to date on programs, see who's making the news, share ideas, connect with 4-H members, volunteers, and staff.

FLL Team Advances to State Competition



Let's hear it for Gage County FLL Team "Robot Fish" (shirt designed by Robin Klaus)! Gage County 4-H team competed in the 36 team tournament in Nebraska City, Saturday, January 6. This is far more than programming a robot, folks, these are smart kids & volunteers! Competition includes project judging, robot design judging, core values judging, practice round, and the competitive robot programming. Competition was going well until the robot decided to have a mind of its own in the final challenges; the team placed 9th in the robot scoring. Proud to announce they qualified to advance to the State Competition on February 17 at SAC Museum! Proud of you guys & your coaches!! And good luck at state competition!! Team members: Ethan Rosenthal, Jeremiah Klaus, Jaxon Norris, Jacob Mertz, Dalyn Pilkinton, Wyatt Pilkinton. Coaches: Joe Loxterkamp, Asher Mertz, Eric Klaus.

Wanted: You Ideas and Input

■ We need your input for 2018 educational project workshops, short-term projects, county fair exhibits, etc. Give us a call or email: jesau2@unl.edu. Let us know ideas you've seen at other fairs. We want to keep 4-H green and growing.

■ We are coordinating the yearly 4-H calendar. If your club is hosting shows, workshops, county events, etc., please let us know.

Rocketry Group Discount - Deadline: January 15

Attention: 4-H families with rocket projects! Rockets and accessories will be ordered for a 25% group discount (plus shipping) from Rocket Age Enterprises (with \$150 order). Estes bulk packs (12 of the same rocket) or individual rockets and supplies are available. No catalog this year; go to the website:

www.estesrockets.com. Write down your order and submit to the Extension Office by January 15. Money will be collected when merchandise arrives.

YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Livestock) - deadline June 1

Each 4-H and FFA livestock exhibitor of livestock, dairy, poultry & rabbits must complete 3 modules (with a score of 80% or better) by June 1 to be eligible to show at the County Fair, State Fair & Ak-Sar-Ben. This program change was made last year. Two options are offered - face to face training (\$3.00) or online web-based training (\$12.00). Face to face trainings will be very limited - so we encourage you to do the online training as soon as possible. YOUTH MUST BE REGISTERED FOR 4-H ONLINE PRIOR TO TAKING THE TRAINING. YOU MUST PRINT your certificate with each completed course and bring, send, fax or email to our Extension Office and we will verify your certification for 2018.

Ak-Sar-Ben Internships & Scholarship Opportunities

Stock Show Education & Events Intern summer position is open to assist with planning and preparation for 2018 Ak-Sar-Ben Stock Show. A Social Media & Public Relations Intern position will be hired to write social media content and work with public relations and sponsorship functions.

Apply now: <http://www.aksarben.org/p/scholarships/agleadersscholarship/301>.

Cooking Up New Foods Curriculum - 4-H Cooking 101, 201, 301, 401

Exciting new foods curriculum is introduced this year, replacing Six Easy Bites, Tasty Tidbits, You're the Chef, Foodworks, and Fast Foods. We will check out this fantastic curriculum to you!

Website: <https://go.unl.edu/2018foodsmanuals>.

Food Preservation units are: Freezing, Drying, Boiling Water Canning and Pressure Canning. Curriculum available at the Extension Office. Look for new and exciting fair exhibits!

Youth At Work Leadership Grants - Due April 1

We're pleased to announce the 4-H Council will award five \$200 Youth Leadership Grants to a teen 4-H member or club. Funds to be used for club or county project, workshop or community project. Applications due April 1. Don't miss this - it's fun, you'll make a difference, and gain leadership skills!

Questions about Poultry & Rabbit Projects?

We purchased the newest editions of the Poultry & Rabbit Standard of Perfection books, available for check-out at the Extension Office.

Clover Kids in Gage County - Future 4-H Members



Fun and learning with friends and family. Many kindergarten and first grade kids tag along to 4-H meetings and activities. We offer Clover Kids, a fun, non-competitive, educational experience, lead by 4-H moms and dads and adult volunteers. Stop by to check the resources we have at the Extension Office. We offer some basic curriculum and the excitement of fair exhibits. No enrollment. Adult volunteers must submit the HHS Screening Form and then work with the youth in simple, fun activities. We featured a special section at the fair with non-competitive exhibits, along with modeling at the 4-H Fashion Show, and non-competitive showmanship for companion animals and livestock to complete the pre-4-H experience. Everyone wins ribbons!

2018 4-H Community Service Projects

– Recycle greeting cards, cancelled stamps and envelopes as we network with BSDC; this project supports St. Jude's Ranch and does projects with these recycled cards.

– Tab Drive - On to 8 Million - We collected 112 pounds of tabs and donated \$50.40 to our local Ronald McDonald House in Omaha. This brings our county total to 7,151,000. Ronald McDonald House is an outreach to families who need housing in Omaha while their children are receiving medical care. Keep pullin' and bring your tabs to the Extension Office.

– Dresses for Africa is an awesome sewing and service project, making a difference to girls in Africa. Thanks to everyone for sewing dresses; we have shipped nearly 100 dresses - and we want to send more in 2018! Contact the Extension Office for the pattern. We're excited to continue the project.

Nebraska 4-H - FFA License Plate



Take your support for 4-H and FFA with you wherever you go with the new license plates that showcase your pride in 4-H and FFA. Order yours today by filling out the online application: <http://ne4hfoundation.org>

UNL - Your Future

As part of the University of Nebraska, we are pleased to provide you with information. To learn more about UNL, explore the Office of Admission's website: <http://admissions.unl.edu> or contact them at nuhusker@unl.edu or 800-742-8800. You'll find information about admission, honors, costs, undergraduate scholarships and programs, and more. Let us know if you need help contacting a specific division of the University.

If you're not able to visit on campus, take advantage of a Virtual Campus Visit. With an internet connection, you'll visit with UNL personnel and see the campus. Contact Admission Coordinator Alli Raymond, 402-472-0204; email: araymond2@unl.edu.

4-H Club Exemption

Nebraska 4-H, in partnership with the Nebraska 4-H Foundation, has an IRS Group Exemption Number to provide 4-H clubs exemption from paying federal income tax on funds raised and received on behalf of 4-H and allows donors to deduct contributions to 4-H clubs. To be eligible, a 4-H club must have an Employer Identification Number (EIN) for their bank account and have a Constitution/Bylaws with specific language required by IRS. Interested clubs should contact the Extension office; we have the forms on our Extension website: gage.unl.edu - go to 4-H Club File - EIN and Constitution & Bylaws.

Farm Credit Services of America - Working Here Fund Grants

Agriculture works at Farm Credit Services of America. And they work to benefit the communities they serve. Through their Working Here Fund, they provide grants of up to \$2,000 to organizations that make a positive, long-term impact in the areas that benefit hunger and nutrition, young and beginning producers, and agriculture education. Grants are awarded quarterly. Application website: fcsamerica.com/workingherefund

University of Nebraska Foundation

It would be nice to give money to 4-H, get it all back and still have the money. Seems strange but that is exactly the situation with the Gage County 4-H Foundation fund. The current book value is \$36,121.00. This year Gage County 4-H will receive over \$1700 from the fund bringing the total value received over the years to more than the \$36,121.00 value and the earnings will continue to provide over \$2000 per year to 4-H. Paul's retirement roast added over \$1,300 to the balance of the fund.

Gage County 4-H Council Foundation funds are invested in a University of Nebraska Foundation account. The funds yield a guaranteed 4.0% with a built in growth factor. Since this fund has been in existence for a number of years the income is closer to 6% when considering the investment amount. We have been blessed with significant donations from Bowhay, Rumpeltes, Carl Wylie and others, plus retirement donations for Larry Germer, Eleanor Rector, and Sandee Bellows. This fund is growing and becoming a more significant part of our 4-H budget each year. Donations in memory of past 4-H volunteers are common. Donations made to University of Nebraska Foundation - Gage 4-H Foundation fund are fully tax deductible.

NOTES TO 4-H VOLUNTEERS - CELEBRATE THE GOOD LIFE in 4-H

- 1) Welcome to 4-H 2018! Thanks to youth and adult volunteers for your work with 4-H! Volunteers are good people doing good things for kids! We're proud to be green! You're making the best better 365 days a year!
- 2) The most successful 4-H volunteers motivate young people, build on knowledge and skills, understand the importance of their job, prepare, invite others to help, get started! You make a difference! Each club is made stronger with more involvement of adult volunteers and parents!
- 3) Gage County Extension website: <http://gage.unl.edu>.
- 4) Gage County Extension & 4-H Facebook: Nebraska Extension in Gage County
- 5) State 4-H website: <http://4h.unl.edu>.
- 6) The monthly 4-H newsletter, sent to each family, contains important information. We offer the option of receiving the newsletter notification in an email with a link to the newsletter rather than receiving a paper copy in the mail. Indicate this in your online enrollment. Let us know of interested families and we'll add them to the newsletter list.
- 7) Online enrollment in Gage County 4-H is open to youth, second grade and older. The last year of eligibility is the calendar year the member becomes 19. Enrollment deadline: May 1.
- 8) 4-H membership dues are \$10.00 per person, payable only once if a youth is a member in more than one club, due to the Extension Office May 1. Dues are NOT paid online. We continue the policy of no fundraising activities for 4-H members.
- 9) 4-H Career Portfolio is the accumulative summary of each member's yearly projects, leadership and citizenship. Each 4-H member will record your information in the Career Portfolio. Youth fill it out by computer or hand written. Forms due October 1 each year. Websites: www.gage.unl.edu or <http://4h.unl.edu>.

- 10) Nebraska Diamond Clover Program is a six-level, non-competitive recognition for youth. Forms due October 1 each year with certificates and pins awarded at the Achievement program. This is a great club goal that each year all members achieve their level awards. Have a teen or adult volunteer carry out this program.
- 11) 2018 Club Organizational Packet will be available mid-February for each club.
- 12) Each club should submit your 1 page Year End 4-H Club Treasurer's Report (for fiscal year 2017) by January 30. Thanks to the clubs who have submitted your report. These are filed in your permanent file at the Extension Office.
- 13) 4-H volunteers must complete your registration with the 4-H Online system (same as the 4-H members website) and all volunteers must complete the Youth Protection 4-H Screening process (no cost) . Deadline: May 1. Website: <https://ne.4honline.com>. Volunteers are covered by \$1 million of liability coverage through the University of Nebraska. Forms at the Extension Office or online: <http://4h.unl.edu/web/4h/becomevolunteer> .
- 14) Youth Protection 4-H Volunteer Screening - All parents and/or leaders working with 4-H clubs and Clover Kids need to complete the form. They are covered by \$1 million of liability coverage through the University of Nebraska. Forms at the Extension Office or online: <http://4h.unl.edu/web/4h/becomevolunteer>. This is a great time to create a leadership team for your club, involving more adults and teens.
- 15) Youth Safety Guidelines - Adult volunteers need to be aware of the safety guidelines for working with youth. View the PowerPoint and information at the website: <http://4h.unl.edu/youthprotectionresources>.
- 16) Clover Kids, designed for kindergarten & first grade students, is offered through Gage County 4-H. Exhibits are featured in the 4-H Building during the fair with bright green ribbon awarded. Clover Kids model at the 4-H Fashion Show. Non-competitive showmanship is the best experience for these pre-4-H kids! These future 4-H members are having a great time! Pick up the Clover Kids packet; no enrollment. Some materials are available; all programs & events must be non-competitive. Leadership is provided by club parents and volunteers. Volunteers working with Clover Kids must complete the Youth Protection 4-H Volunteer Screening Form.
- 17) We network with BSDC; bring your cards, envelopes, & stamps to the Extension Office. Reuse-Recycle!
- 18) Thanks to everyone who contributes tabs; we're on to 8 million! Ronald McDonald House is an outreach to families who need housing in Omaha while their children are receiving medical care.
- 19) Dresses for Africa is an awesome sewing and service project, making a difference to girls in Africa. Thanks to everyone for sewing dresses. Contact the Extension Office for the pattern. We're excited to continue the project in 2018.
- 20) We're making plans for 2018. Let us know your ideas for workshops and programs, etc. We're looking for youth and adult workshop presenters. THANKS for your time, talents, and energy given toward your club and the county program. Many activities are carried out because of volunteers giving of your time.

**Quote of Note: "Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."
– Oprah Winfrey**



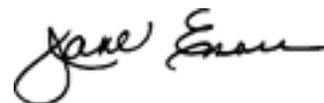
Nicole Stoner

Extension Educator



Kayla Colgrove

Extension Educator



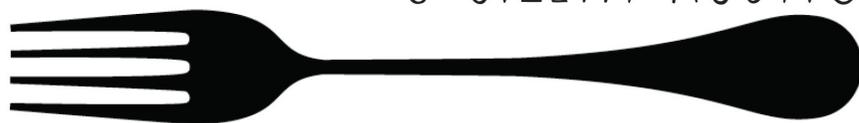
Jane Esau

Gage County 4-H

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Gage County 4-H Council
1115 West Scott Street
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Return Service Requested

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-Come Home to the Gage County Fair
July 25-29, 2018
-National 4-H Congress Report
-4-H Inc. Pancake Breakfast - Jan. 28

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