



University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Gage County
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NEWS COLUMN
Nebraska Extension in Gage County
Jane Esau, Gage County 4-H
July 14, 2017

Celebrate the Good Life at the Gage County Fair

Celebrate the accomplishments of our youth, the spirit of our community and the bounty of agriculture, a long-standing tradition at the Gage County Fair. Lasting friendships and memories are based on positive experiences and add to this strength. All of us have a stake in making the 2017 fair the best ever, July 26-30; we celebrate the Nebraska 150, National Parks, August 21 eclipse, and more.

Does participation in county fairs make a difference in the lives of youth? According to a survey of 4-H alums, the answer is YES! County fairs are the culmination and ultimate celebration of learning. Preparation for county fair is an investment of time and energy that results in leadership skills, life skills, strong character, positive relationships, working with family, setting and reaching goals.

Remember, exhibits are entered Tuesday afternoon, July 25, with judging Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning. Exhibit halls open Wednesday afternoon as we feature the finest in Gage County. The always delicious Ag Appreciation BBQ is Tuesday evening, along with the car show, wine & beer kickoff.

Three nights of concerts in the grandstand feature High Valley on Wednesday, LoCash on Thursday and the awesome Sawyer Brown on Friday. You won't find a better entertainment deal anywhere! Don't miss the wildly popular Eve of Destruction on Saturday and IMCA Racing Sunday nite at the track. Attractions feature Colors da Clown, One Man Band, Noah's Way Petting Zoo, and Giddy-Up Pony Races for the little kids, Sunday morning.

In the 4-H Building all week, view nearly 2,000 exhibits of very talented 4-H and FFA members, LegoLand, baby chicks, robotics demonstrations, State Fair Square, and so much more. Bring in your tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

We close out the fair Saturday nite with a Teen Dance and Fun Nite, 9:00 - 11:00 pm, main livestock barn. Sunday afternoon, you're invited to the Parade of Champions and the Market Livestock Premium Auction.

Pleased to announce that this year in the 4-H Building food stand, SCC Ag Club members will be serving delicious food daily, 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Hungry or thirsty? Stop by the 4-H Building, the coolest place to eat and meet your friends. Proceeds support the students' annual Ag Industry Tour.



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Need more reasons to come to the fair? Don't miss fun cutouts for photographs with friends and family, 18 wooden quilt blocks on the fairgrounds, Wednesday morning Bake Sale and Farmer's Market vegetable sales, Championship Row, Main Livestock Barn, Quilts of Valor, State Fair Square and more.

Thank you to the hundreds of volunteers who make the Gage County Fair an awesome event for Nebraska and surrounding states. We invite you to exhibit your best, volunteer, celebrate, get together with friends and neighbors, taste fair food, ride the rides, enjoy the entertainers, come to the livestock, horse and small pet shows, visit the 4-H Building...there's something for everyone. Website: <http://gagecountyfair.com>, call the fair office, 402-223-3247, or the Extension Office, 402-223-1384.

Livestock Premium Auction

Thanks to the support of friends of 4-H, we offer the 8th annual 4-H/FFA Market Livestock Premium Auction, Sunday, July 30, 3:00 pm, Main Livestock Barn. Come early for the Parade of Champions at 2:00. Your support dollars provide seed money for next year's projects for 4-H and FFA members.

Clover Kids - Future 4-H Members

There's still time to get your little kids in on fair fun. We feature noncompetitive exhibits in the 4-H Building for youth under second grade; enter exhibits on Tuesday, July 25, 2:00 - 7:00 pm - anything from a poster, cookie, play dough, flowers, vegetables...(fairbook p .69) . Non-competitive showmanship in companion animals and livestock complete the pre-4-H experience and everyone gets a ribbon!

Simple Inspirations: 4-H: Green since 1902... Changing lives everyday...Alone we can do little; together we can do so much...More than just a club, we're a family. Once a 4-H'er, always a 4-H'er. 4-H friends are forever. Eat, sleep, 4-H, repeat. Keep calm and love 4-H.