



Greetings! My name is Elena Merrick and I have just started my career as the Extension Educator in Harlan and Furnas counties with a focus in 4-H Youth Development. I could not be more excited to start this adventure! I am a Nebraska transplant, I grew up in Danvers, Illinois on a small hobby farm. As a participant in 4-H I showed horses and participated in forestry and veterinary science projects. I recently graduated with a Master's degree from the Animal Science Department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Before accepting the position with Nebraska Extension I managed 3 finisher swine units for The Maschhoffs. I have a passion for working with livestock but also have a strong background in science. I can't wait to use my skills to engage Nebraska Youth in science and agriculture!



# MAD SCIENCE TUESDAYS!

HOESCH MEMORIAL  
LIBRARY IN ALMA

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Youth will be hands on recreating science experiments while learning how to think and predict like scientists.**

For youth ages 8 and up.  
**Limited class size!**

Call the extension office at 308-928-2119, the library at 308-928-2600 or email Elena at [elena.merrick@unl.edu](mailto:elena.merrick@unl.edu) to reserve your spot!

**Mar 27<sup>th</sup>:  
Pop Rocks**

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**Apr 3<sup>th</sup>:  
The Scoop on  
Soil**

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**Apr 17<sup>th</sup>:  
Magic Milk**

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**Apr 24<sup>th</sup>:  
Extracting  
DNA**

Sponsored by:

**Hoesch Memorial  
Library**

# HARLAN COUNTY 4-H SPEECH CONTEST

Monday, March 26

at 7:00 p.m.

## Harlan County Courthouse Meeting Room

Nebraska 4-H public speaking and presentation contests help teach youth life skills that are beneficial for a lifetime in their personal and professional lives. Developing self-confidence and effective public speaking skills are two goals of the Nebraska 4-H public speaking and presentations program.

Through the 4-H Public Speaking Contest, youth have an opportunity to write a Speech or a Public Service Announcement (PSA) that incorporates the topic of 4-H and deliver it to real audiences.

| Divisions    | Ages     | Description  | Length          |
|--------------|----------|--|-----------------|
| Novice       | 5-7      | Recitation of favorite poem or story written by someone else         | Under 3 minutes |
| Junior       | 8-10     | Original speech written by 4-H'er that incorporates the topic of 4-H | 1-3 minutes     |
| Intermediate | 11-13    | Original speech written by 4-H'er that incorporates the topic of 4-H | 3-5 minutes     |
| Senior       | 14-18    | Original speech written by 4-H'er that incorporates the topic of 4-H | 5-8 minutes     |
| PSA          | All ages | Use the theme "4-H Grows True Leaders".                              | 60 sec.         |

Four (4) age divisions are used for the 4-H Public Speaking Contest in Harlan County that are based on the 4-H member's age before January 1, 2017.

**\* To sign up for the 4-H Speech Contest call the Extension Office at 308-928-2119 by March 23rd with your speech title.**

- \* All speeches must be original and include 4-H as the major component of the speech. With the exception of the Novice Division which should recite a favorite poem or story written by someone else.
- \* Acknowledge the source of information used in the speech. For example, an article from a magazine may be used for reference, but should not be quoted directly unless you tell the audience your source.
- \* Use of visual aids and props are **NOT** allowed.
- \* Dress appropriately. Do not wear costumes or special effect clothing.

### **Public Service Announcement (PSA) Category Rules, All Ages**

- \* The state theme for the 2018 Public Service Announcement is "**4-H Grows True Leaders**".
- \* All radio PSA's must promote 4-H and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska at any time of the year.
- \* All 4-H PSA's must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: "Learn more about the Nebraska Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at [4h.unl.edu](http://4h.unl.edu)." The tag line is included in the 60 second time limit.
- \* Sound effects and public domain music may be used. Copyrighted material may not be used.
- \* All PSA's must be the original work of the presenter.
- \* Radio PSA's will be submitted electronically (Please use .wav or .mp3 audio formats when recording your PSA)

**CONTEST  
RULES**

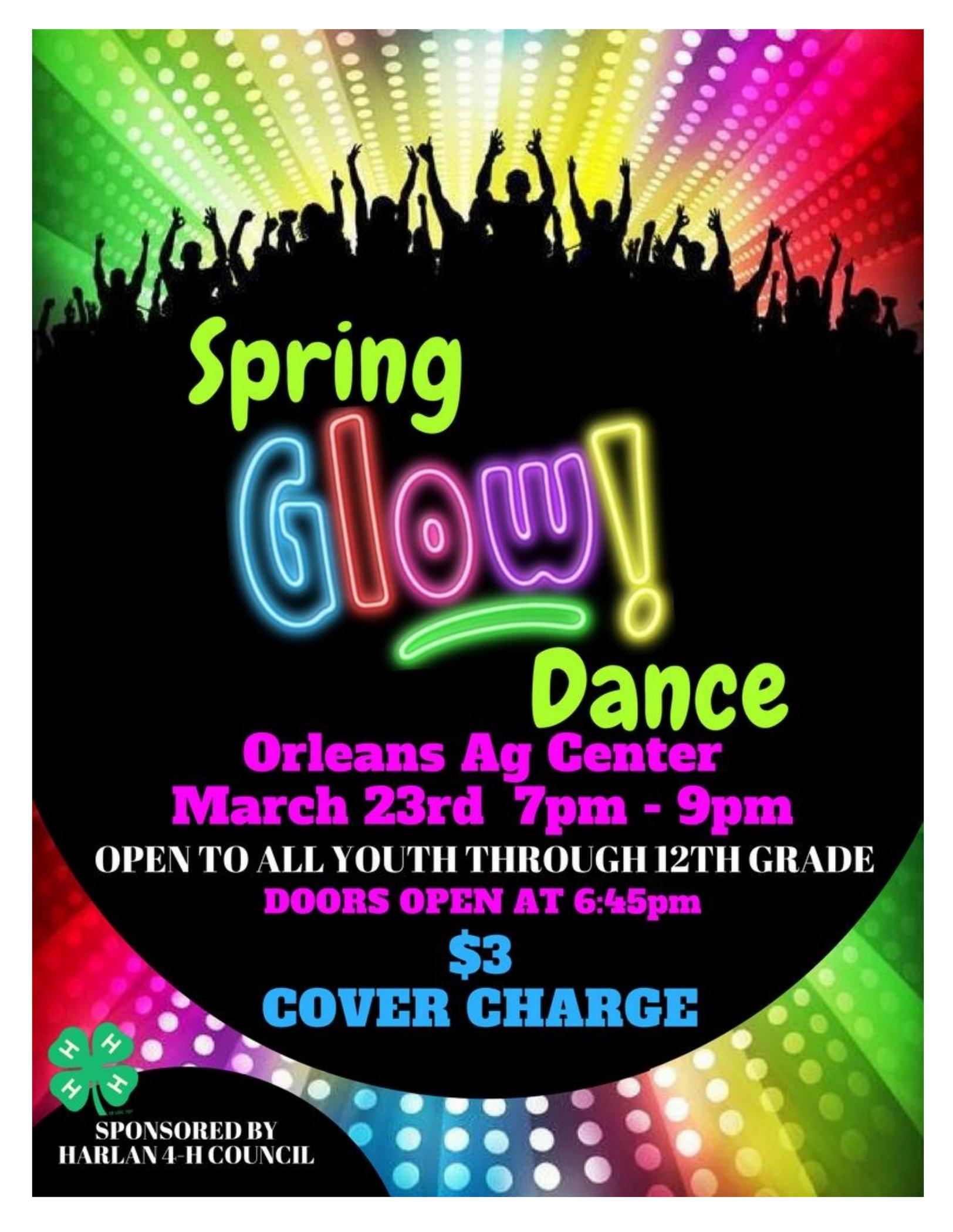


For additional questions or concerns please call the Harlan County Extension Office 308-928-2119.



Like us on  
**Facebook**

Find us on Facebook! at <https://www.facebook.com/harlandcountyext/>



**Spring**  
**Glow!**  
**Dance**

**Orleans Ag Center**  
**March 23rd 7pm - 9pm**

**OPEN TO ALL YOUTH THROUGH 12TH GRADE**

**DOORS OPEN AT 6:45pm**

**\$3**

**COVER CHARGE**



**SPONSORED BY**  
**HARLAN 4-H COUNCIL**

# 2018 LAMB LOTTERY

Have you ever wanted to show livestock at the Harlan County Fair?



Sign up for the Harlan County Lamb Lottery and receive a lamb with **NO UPFRONT COST!**

### How it works:

- \* Sign up at the Extension Office by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 - (308-928-2119)
- \* Each 4-H'er will receive a quality Lamb during the lamb lottery in May
- \* The 4-H'er is then responsible for their lamb (feeding, caring, grooming, etc.) to ensure it is ready for Fair, come July.
- \* How much does it cost? **NOTHING UPFRONT!**  
After the Premium sale on August 2, the 4-H'er will have \$150.00 subtracted from the total amount earned during the livestock auction.

This is the perfect opportunity for 4-H'ers to learn about lambs, gain experience, take on responsibility and showcase their hard work at fair. For additional questions, feel free to call the office at 308-928-2119 or email Dawn at dawn.hetrick@unl.edu.

## Livestock Judging Team

Youth interested in learning how to evaluate livestock and improve your public speaking skills? Join us this spring as we visit local livestock operations and discuss the basics of judging beef, swine, sheep, and goats. Practices will begin in mid-April. Dates and locations will be included in the next newsletter. *Interested participants **MUST RSVP.***

Please contact

Elena Merrick (elena.merrick@unl.edu) or  
Erin Laborie (erin.laborie@unl.edu) for more information.

### Upcoming Livestock Judging Contests:

NCTA Tradition of Excellence - May 23, Curtis

South Central Judging Contest - May 31, Bladen

Lincoln County - June 9, North Platte

PASE - June 26, Lincoln



## QUILT WEEK

### April 23 - 26

The Harlan County Homemaker's Club invite young and old, newbies & experienced quilters to the Ag Center in Orleans, April 23 - 26 from 9am to 5pm. Come when you can and stay till close.



Will you be enrolled in a livestock project this year? Remember to get your YQCA done and off your plate. Complete three (3) modules online now by visiting, <http://4h.unl.edu/quality-assurance> or attend a Face-to-Face event coming soon!

Remember you need to be signed up on 4HOnline for the 2018 4-H year before you can login and complete your YQCA modules. Send the office a copy of your completed certificate for credit.

# True Leaders in Service



Dear Leaders, Volunteers and 4-H Youth 4-H is launching the annual True Leaders in Service initiative, a way for all 4-H members to say "thank you" to their communities, counties, and states for all the support they have provided to 4-H for over 100 years. The month-long community service activation will officially kick-off the first day of April, and culminate with the National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 28.

We are encouraging youth and adults to venture out into the community to lend a helping hand through fundraising, neighborhood clean-up, beautification projects and much more.

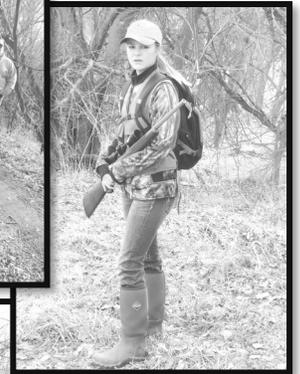
To learn more, visit [www.4-H.org/true-leaders-in-service](http://www.4-H.org/true-leaders-in-service).

Help us make a positive, lasting impression on our community and celebrate the True Leaders making a difference through service.



The Harlan County 4-H Shooting Sports club, the Harlan County Regulators have been busy since Christmas. Club members have been learning about trapping, tracking and other hunting tips in the new Hunting Skills discipline. BB Gun & Archery practices have begun and participants will be fine tuning their skills for competition.

If you are interested in joining the club or becoming a volunteer, please contact Mike Valenzuela, Club Coordinator at 308-991-7396.



Find and follow them on Facebook!  
[Harlan-County-4-H-Shooting-Sports](https://www.facebook.com/Harlan-County-4-H-Shooting-Sports)

April 15th - 22 Rifle & Shot Gun Competition Shoot at 1:00pm at the Dunlay Range - Orleans



2018

## 4-H SUMMER CAMPS & TRIPS

AGES 5-18 • OPEN TO ALL YOUTH • REGISTER AT [4H.UNL.EDU/CAMP](http://4H.UNL.EDU/CAMP)



JOIN US ON

### KIDS NEED CAMP

In a typical week's time...



**51**  
Minutes spent outdoors by the average kid.



**623**  
Minutes at a computer by the average kid.



**700+**  
Texts sent by 29% of teens.



**833**  
Minutes played by the average youth video gamer.



**2,121**  
Minutes of TV watched by a middle schooler.

At a week of 4-H Summer Camp and Trips, a child spends...



**3,600**  
Minutes outdoors.



**300**  
Minutes in meaningful conversation with role models.



Minutes watching TV, talking on a cell phone, playing video games, on facebook, or a computer, or listening to music with headphones.



## EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Camper registration fees paid on or before April 15, 2018, will receive the Early Bird rate. After April 15, the Standard fee applies

Visit <http://4h.unl.edu/camp> or stop by the Harlan County Extension Office to pick a copy of the 2018 camp catalog to explore camp possibilities, schedules and find out everything you need to know about this years 4-H Summer Camps.

# 2017 HARLAN COUNTY FAIR

July 28 - August 2, 2018

**ENROLL TODAY!!**

<https://ne.4honline.com>

**4HOnline**  
4-H Enrollment and Event Registration

## **ATTENTION MARKET BEEF EXHIBITORS:**

**Market Beef Affidavits Due to County Office - April 5**

**Market Beef DNA Envelopes (showing at State and AKSARBEN) Due to County Office - April 15**

## HARLAN COUNTY LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Paper Livestock ID Affidavits are still required by our county office. Please stop by the Extension Office to pick up Affidavit papers for your livestock. Identification of Livestock and Animal Entries in the 4-H show must be owned by the exhibitor and ownership certified where required on the appropriate forms in the Extension Office. **Market Beef affidavit deadline is April 5.** The affidavit deadline and ownership certification for all other animals is **June 5.**

All Nebraska 4-H youth 8-18 years of age enrolled and are exhibiting beef, dairy cattle, goats, sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbits are required to complete annual quality assurance training through Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) either online or at a face-to-face event, prior to fair.

We will be using one size visible EID tags for all **market beef, market swine and feeder calves** showing at the State Fair or AKSARBEN. The cost of all EID tags is \$3. County only animals will use FREE county only 4-H tags.

For **breeding goats** and **breeding sheep**, the scrapie tag identification number will serve as the official identification. For **breeding beef**, a tattoo will serve as the official identification for State Fair and AKSARBEN. Bangs tattoos are NOT an accepted form of identification. Registration papers are required.

Number of entries at Harlan County Fair: Entries per project area that may be made by one individual: (2) two breeding beef, (3) three market beef, (2) two stocker-feeders, (2) two breeding sheep, (3) three market lambs, (3) three swine, (3) three dairy cows and/or (calves), (3) three meat goats, (2) two breeding meat goat does. A 4-H'er may enter a total of two (2) dairy goats.

The cost of State Fair & AKSARBEN DNA envelopes is \$6 per entry. There will be a total limit of nominations by individuals including both 4-H and FFA entries to help level the playing field for those youth who are in both organizations.

Entry Limits; Beef (10) Lambs (20) Swine (40) Goats (20). Youth will have until August 10 (State Fair pre-entry deadline) to select whether they are showing their animal in 4-H or FFA. This could mean they show one organization at the county level and one organization at State Fair. They cannot switch between State Fair and AKSARBEN. Families will be able to select which animal entries they have chosen to show at State Fair in a dropdown menu in the ShoWorks program which you will use to pre-enter your livestock at a later date.



### **PICK UP YOUR 4-H LIVESTOCK EAR TAGS!**

Whether Swine, Beef, Sheep or Goat, be sure to stop by the Extension Office to pick up your **FREE 4-H Tags** for your 4-H Livestock. Also, available are the EID tags for use at State Fair and AKSARBEN for Beef and Swine exhibitors.

## REQUIRED PREMISE ID NUMBERS FOR 2018

**ALL SWINE EXHIBITORS MUST HAVE A "PREMISES IDENTIFICATION NUMBER" TO EXHIBIT HOGS AT THE HARLAN COUNTY FAIR.**

Also any and all State Fair and/or AKSARBEN Livestock (Beef, Swine, Sheep & Goats) exhibitors be required to obtain a Premise ID. Premise ID numbers are simple to obtain and easy to use. To set up an account with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture call 402-471-2351 and ask for Premise ID Information or visit: [www.nda.nebraska.gov/adt/index.html](http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/adt/index.html)

# 2018 4-H State Fair/AKSARBEN Animal Identification Requirements

## 2018 Identification Requirements for all Species

In 2018, the main change from an animal identification standpoint is that **all sheep and goats must have a scrapie tag**. In the past it was required that market sheep and goats had to use an 982 EID tag. So your youth can still use the 982 EID tags from years past, but they will not be required nor will they serve as the primary ID. **All market wethers will require a scrapie tag**. All market hogs and breeding swine (FFA only), market and feeder cattle must have an 840 EID tag and breeding heifers must have a tattoo. Please note that FFA also accepts an 840 EID tag as an acceptable form of identification for breeding beef. There will no longer be a breeding nomination card because that information will be submitted online into the AKSARBEN database by exhibitors.

- 1.) Exhibitors are 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 or AKSARBEN must have a signed and sealed official DNA collector with hair samples for DNA verification turned into their county office and have completed the online nomination ([www.showstockmgr.com](http://www.showstockmgr.com)) along with submitting payment online by the appropriate deadline listed in the table below. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID. Contact the local 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 does at State Fair or AKSARBEN will need to complete an online nomination ([www.showstockmgr.com](http://www.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 either the State Fair or AKSARBEN show.
- 6.) Exhibitors will select which animal entries they have chosen to show at State Fair on the State Fair pre-entry website. All nominated and validated animals will be automatically listed as a choice option for pre-entry registration.
- 7.) 4-H and FFA youth participants will declare which youth organization they will show their animal projects by August 10 in ShoWorks.
  - A.) If an animal is shown in FFA at the State Fair, it is no longer eligible for AKSARBEN. If an animal is entered in FFA, but isn't exhibited, that animal will still be eligible to be exhibited at AKSARBEN.
- 8.) 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 exhibitors name should be identified on the registration paper.

\*\* The due dates below are when all tagging is to be finished, animal information should be submitted online via the AKSARBEN database, DNA collected and completed DNA Envelopes should be in the possession of the County Extension Staff.

| Project Area     | Identification Requirements                   |   | Due Date                 | Show Entry Deadline |                 |
|------------------|---|---|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
|                  | State Fair                                    | AKSARBEN  | State 4-H                | State Fair          | AKSARBEN        |
| Market Beef      | EID Tag, DNA Envelope & Online Nomination     | EID Tag, DNA Envelope & <b>Online Nomination</b>            | April 15                 | August 10           | August 31       |
| Breeding Beef    | Tattoo & Online Nomination                    | Tattoo & <b>Online Nomination</b>                           | June 15                  | August 10           | August 31       |
| Feeder Calves    | FFA Only                                      | EID Tag, DNA Envelope & <b>Online Nomination</b>            | AK Online Entry: June 15 | -----               | August 31       |
| Market Swine     | EID Tag, DNA Envelope & Online Nomination     | EID Tag or Notches, DNA Envelope & <b>Online Nomination</b> | June 15                  | August 10           | August 31       |
| Dairy Cattle     | ID Sheet Drawing                              | ID Sheet Drawing  | June 22                  | August 10           | August 31       |
| Market Sheep     | Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & Online Nomination | Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & <b>Online Nomination</b>        | June 15                  | August 10           | August 31       |
| Breeding Sheep   | Scrapie Tag & Online Nomination               | Scrapie Tag & <b>Online Nomination</b>                      | June 15                  | August 10           | August 31       |
| Market Goat      | Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & Online Nomination | Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & <b>Online Nomination</b>        | June 15                  | August 10           | August 31       |
| Breeding Goat    | Scrapie Tag & Online Nomination               | Scrapie Tag & <b>Online Nomination</b>                      | June 15                  | August 10           | August 31       |
| Rabbit & Poultry | No nomination required                        | Broiler Online Order & Entry                                | AK Online Entry: July 8  | August 10           | Broiler: July 8 |
| Horse            | ID Sheet Drawing                              | <b>Online Nomination with Picture Upload</b>                | AK: 6/15                 |                     | August 31       |

Online Nomination Website: [www.showstockmgr.com](http://www.showstockmgr.com)

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

# HARLAN COUNTY EXTENSION NEWSLETTER

## Calendar of Events



- March 10 - Harlan Cattlemen's Banquet @ 6:30pm - Orleans
- March 23 - 4-H Spring Dance @ 7:00pm - Orleans Ag Center
- March 26 - Homemakers Scholarship Luncheon @7:00pm - Orleans Ag Center
- March 26 - Harlan County 4-H Speech Contest @7:00pm - Harlan County Courthouse, Alma
- March 27 - MAD Science @ 4:00pm - Hoesch Memorial Library - Alma
- April 1 - Lamb Lottery sign up deadline
- April 3 - MAD Science @ 4:00pm - Hoesch Memorial Library - Alma
- April 5 - Market Beef Affidavits & DNA due to Extension Office
- April 15 - Market Beef State Fair Online Nominations due
- April 15 - Shooting Sports Competition @ 1:00pm - Dunlay Range - Orleans
- April 17 - MAD Science @ 4:00pm - Hoesch Memorial Library - Alma
- April 23 - 26 - Quilt Week @ 9:00am -5:00pm - Orleans Ag Center
- April 24 - MAD Science @ 4:00pm - Hoesch Memorial Library - Alma

### In This Issue

- New Extension Educator
- MAD Science Events
- Harlan County 4-H Speech Contest
- 4-H Spring Dance
- County, State Fair and AKSARBEN ID Process
- Shooting Sports
- More!!

***SAVE THE DATE***  
**Homemakers Scholarship Luncheon**  
**March 26th @ 12:30pm**  
**Orleans Ag Center**

Harlan County Extension  
PO Box 258  
706 Second Street  
Alma, NE 68920

**EXTENSION**

