



KEARNEY COUNTY 4-H

Calendar of Events

- January 31 – End of Year Club Treasurers Report Due—Mandatory - Past Due
- February 20 – Parker Sturgis Hog Award Due
- February 26 – Quality Assurance, 7 p.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds
- March 4 -- Quality Assurance, 7:30 p.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds
- March 5 --- Quality Assurance, 7:00 p.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds
- March 9 – Market Beef Weigh-in, Ft. Kearney Consolidated Feeders 11-1 p.m.
- March 11 -- Discovery Night, 5-7 p.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds
- March 26 – Quality Assurance, 7 p.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds

4-H Enrollment Open

Kearney County 4-H Enrollment is officially open. You will find instructions for re-enrollment at www.kearney.unl.edu You will use the same username and password as last year. If you are a new member, you will need to create a family account. Please call the office if you have any questions!

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals-YQCA

Nebraska 4-H requires all youth enrolled in livestock projects to complete annual quality assurance certification through Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA). YQCA is a national multi-species quality assurance program focused on three core pillars: food safety, animal well-being, and character development.

YQCA certification is required for all 4-H or FFA members enrolled in any of the following projects: Beef (bucket calf, feeder calf, breeding beef, market beef), Goat (breeding meat goat, dairy goat, meat goat), Sheep (breeding sheep, market sheep), Swine, Poultry & Rabbits. YQCA is required annually. Face-to-Face Training In-person YQCA training courses cost \$3 per individual regardless of age. This fee is paid for by the Kearney County 4-H Council. Face to Face YQCA trainings will be held:

- February 26--Quality Assurance, 7:00 p.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds
- March 4--Quality Assurance, 7:30 p.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds
- March 5--Quality Assurance, 7:00 p.m. Franklin County Fairgrounds
- March 26--Quality Assurance, 7:00 p.m. Kearney County Fairgrounds

You will need to pre-register for face-to-face training. Please watch your email for details on how to do that.

Web-based Training can be found at <https://yqcaprogram.org> The online YQCA course costs \$12 per individual regardless of age.

Nebraska Extension in Kearney County

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Phone

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Email

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Market Beef Weigh-In

The Kearney County Market Beef Weigh-in will be held Saturday, March 9 from 11-1p.m. at Ft. Kearney Consolidated Feeders north of Minden. If you want to be a part of rate of gain, you must weigh in at this Beef Weigh-In.

NEW AWARD SPONSORSHIP

As we begin this new year, we are changing our awards program to give our youth the opportunity to select their preferred award. In making this change, we have established four levels of giving that Sponsors may choose from:

Bronze -- \$30

Silver -- \$50

Gold -- \$100

Platinum -- \$250

We are inviting any individuals, families, or businesses to join us in sponsoring these awards at one of the above levels. If you are interested, please contact the Extension Office. Sponsors are so important to our program and are so greatly appreciated!!

4-H Volunteers MUST Enroll!!

It is time for volunteers to re-enroll as a 4-H Volunteer for 2024. Nebraska 4-H has set up a rotation for individual counties to have 4-H Volunteers screened through DHHS every five years. 2024 is Kearney and Franklin Counties turn to have 4-H Volunteers screened. With this screening comes a new piece that is an on-line Volunteer Orientation. That orientation takes about 45 minutes. Both the screening and the orientation must be done for 4-H Volunteers to be approved. The DHHS Screening does cost \$5.00. If you would like to be reimbursed for this, please let our office know. For specific instructions please check the email from Shelly on January 11th. You must be enrolled and complete all steps before carrying out your volunteer duties. Please call the office with any questions!

Attn: Leaders!! Club Treasurers Reports PAST Due

Just a reminder that club treasurers reports are now past due. THIS IS MANDATORY! Club leaders or treasurers, if you haven't already done so, please email Shelly at shelly.gibbins@unl.edu immediately. We need your bank balance as of 12/31/2023 and an inventory of any equipment your club may own (over \$100). If you don't have a bank account or equipment, please tell us.

Parker Sturgis Livestock Hog Award

Have you always wanted to show a pig? Here is your chance. Parker Sturgis was a Kearney County 4-H'er who got his start in 4-H through the kindness of a family who wanted to help give him the experience of working with livestock. Tragically, Parker passed away in a car accident in December of 2015. Due to some generous donations, the Parker Sturgis Livestock Hog Award has been established in his honor to help a 4-H'er gain the same experiences that he was given. Now is the time to apply for this award! The award winner will receive a hog to show at the 2024 Kearney County Fair. For all the details and to fill out the application enclosed see the attached flyer/application in the last newsletter by February 20th.

Kearney County Fair Dates

Mark your calendar for July 17-22nd for the Kearney County Fair! Start planning now!!

Kearney County 4-H Calendar

Enclosed is the 2024 Kearney County 4-H Calendar! Mark your calendars and start planning now!!

4-H MONTH

4-H SPIRIT DAY

THURSDAY, February 1

4-H VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

THURSDAY, February 8

4-H SUPPORTER APPRECIATION DAY

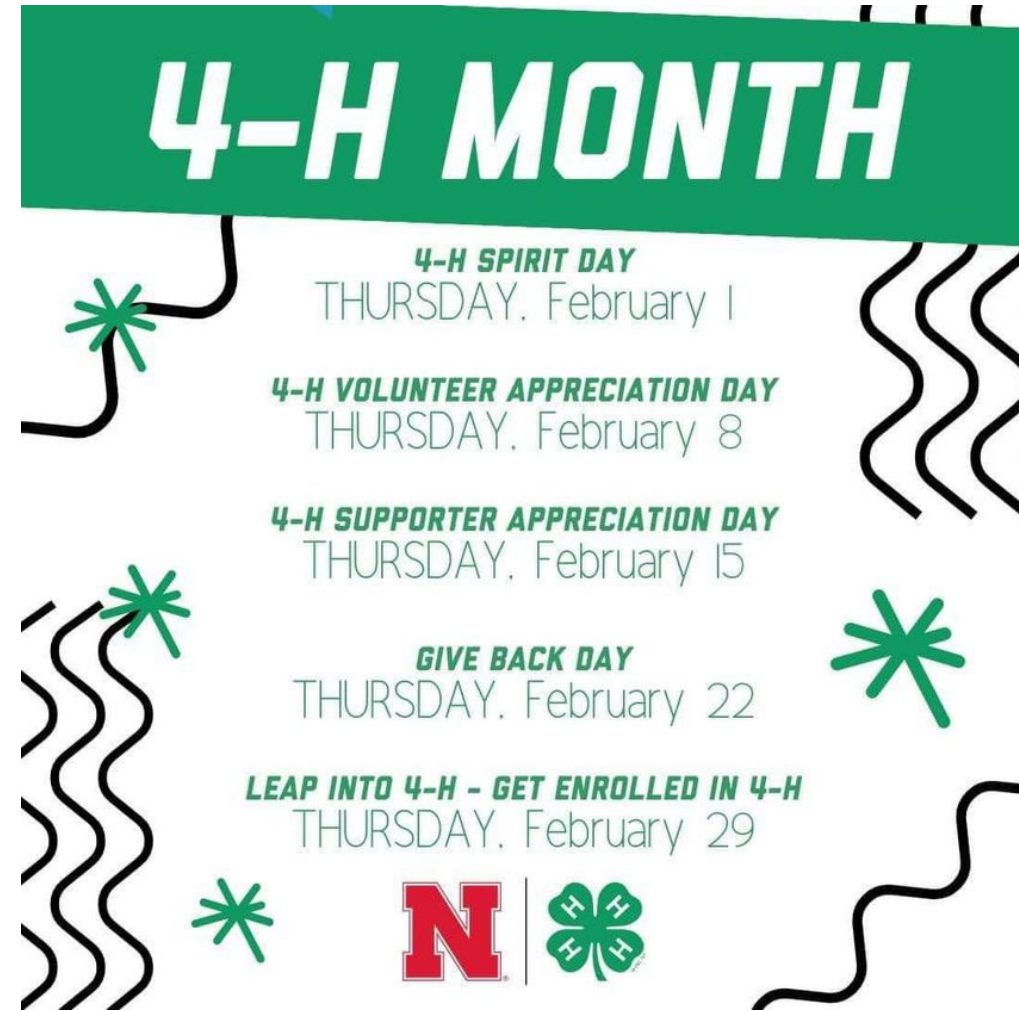
THURSDAY, February 15

GIVE BACK DAY

THURSDAY, February 22

LEAP INTO 4-H - GET ENROLLED IN 4-H

THURSDAY, February 29



SAVE THE DATE

MAY 29, 2024

NCTA, CURTIS, NE

Animal Science Discover Day is a hands-on educational program designed to engage youth in Animal Science topics and Agricultural Careers.

Registration information will be available after February 1st.



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