



# KEARNEY COUNTY 4-H

## Calendar of Events

January 31 – End of Year Club Treasurers Report Due—Mandatory  
 January 31 –Orders for Special Garden Project Due  
 February 1 – 4-H Spirit Day—Wear your 4-H Swag!! Celebrate!!  
 February 20<sup>th</sup> – Parker Sturgis Hog Award Application Due  
 March 9 – Market Beef Weigh-in, Ft. Kearney Consolidated Feeders 11-1 p.m.

## 4-H Enrollment Open

Kearney County 4-H Enrollment is officially open. You will find instructions for re-enrollment at [www.kearney.unl.edu](http://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!

## 4-H CWF!

If you are interested in attending CWF in 2024. There is still time to sign up! CWF is going to look different in 2025 and if you will be 14 before we go in June you are eligible to go. Please call a.s.a.p. if you are interested. We are looking at some unique opportunities for those that are signing up late to fundraise.

## 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.

## 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 11<sup>th</sup>. You must be enrolled and complete all steps before carrying out your volunteer duties. Please call the office with any questions!

## Club Treasurers Reports Due

**Just a reminder that club treasurers reports are due by January 31<sup>st</sup>. This is mandatory! Club Leaders should have received an email from Shelly.**

## Nebraska Extension in Kearney County

### Address

PO Box 31  
Minden NE 68959

### Phone

308-832-0645

### Email

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### Website

<http://kearney.unl.edu>

### Social Media

[Nebraska Extension in  
Kearney County](#) 

## Office Staff:

**Rhonda Herrick**  
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**Shelly Gibbins**  
Office Manager

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### **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, see the enclosed flyer/application. Completed applications must be received in the office by February 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Kearney County Fair Dates**

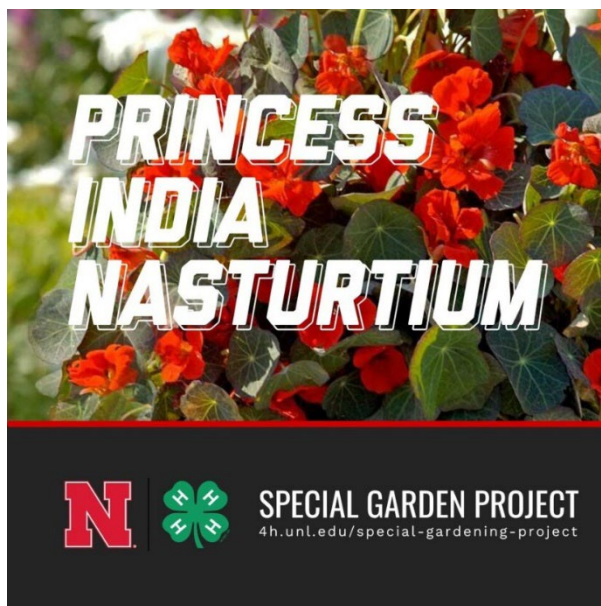
**Mark your calendar for July 17-22<sup>nd</sup> for the Kearney County Fair! Start planning now!!**

### **February-Nebraska 4-H Month**

Every year, Nebraska 4-H Month brings thousands of young people, parents, volunteers, and alumni together to celebrate all the ways in which 4-H helps youth find a place where they belong. Across the state, Nebraska 4-H invites community members to celebrate! Start Nebraska 4-H Month on February 1<sup>st</sup> with Spirit Day! Wear your 4-H swag and celebrate 4-H!

### **Special Garden Project—Order Soon!**

As you begin making plans for 2024, be sure to check out the Special Garden Project. It offers a unique introduction to plant science. Members are given seeds and guided through planting, growing, and harvesting seasons. Members can exhibit a cut flower or harvested vegetable at the fair if all goes well. Otherwise, youth can share their experience through a poster, story, or video exhibit. Next year, members will work with the PRINCESS INDIA NASTURTIUM. IF you would like seeds for this Special Garden Project, please call the office by January 31. <https://4h.unl.edu/special-garden-project>



## Special Agronomy Project

The Nebraska Extension Special Agronomy Project gives 4-H members an opportunity to experience a crop that is grown, was grown or has the potential to be grown in Nebraska. Youth participate by receiving seed and resources to grow the crop, research traits of the crop and determine the viability of that crop in the part of the state they live. The project allows 4-H members interested in agronomy to grow something fun, new, and different. This year, we honor a crop grown in the panhandle!

In the fourth year of the special agronomy project, youth will explore sugar beets! Sugar beets are a major contributor to the U.S. sweetener industry and occur in a vast range of different food products. Be eligible to enter an exhibit at both the County and/or State Fair in the agronomy project area. Enroll for the 2024 Special Agronomy Project through 4-H Online by enrolling in the Agronomy project and contacting your local Nebraska Extension Office to order packets of seeds. The local Extension Office will order and distribute the seeds to members.



Happy 2024 4-H Year!!

