



4-H Family Newsletter
Nebraska Extension in Madison County
1305 South 13 Street
Norfolk, NE 68701
Phone: 402-370-4040
Website: www.madison.unl.edu



December 2020

<https://www.facebook.com/UNLMadisonCounty>

4-H Calendar Fundraiser!

Last chance to order a 2021 calendar featuring 4-H members' photography! Call the Extension Office at 402-370-4040 to order.

- Cost: \$5 each
- Please make checks payable to "Madison County 4-H Council"

Winners with photos included in the calendar are from the following talented 4-H members:

Maddie Abler	Tessa Ferguson
Becca Arkfeld	Makenzy Neemeyer
Mercedes Barg	Emily Neemeyer
Daisy Begeman	Franklin Polacek
Carter Brabec	Isabel Preister
Dylan Brabec	Leah Rast
Sadie Brabec	Ashlyn Reynolds
Oliver Daniel	Serenity Strong
Hayden Ferguson	

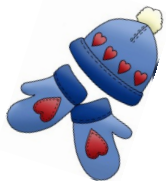
Festival of Trees

Support your local Norfolk Rescue Mission through the Festival of Trees at the Sunset Plaza Mall!



Canned food and nonperishable food items are being collected until December 24.

Vote for the 4-H tree for Nebraska Extension in Madison County by placing your canned food or nonperishable food item in the box next to the tree. Votes are collected and counted daily.



Hat and Glove Drive

Bring new or gently used hats and gloves for children to the Extension Office by Friday, December 18. Hats and gloves will be donated to a local school.

This would be a great community service project for a club or your family!

The Extension Office will be closed Thursday, December 24 and will reopen 8:00 a.m. Monday, January 4, 2021.



*Wishing you and yours
hope, health, and happiness
in 2021!*

Nebraska 4-H Camp Summer Program Seeking Staff



Summer Program Staff must be at least 19 years of age or older. They are seasonal, paid, full-time staff who live at camp and are responsible for daily programming and program areas.

Responsibilities

Summer program staff plan, direct and supervise daily programs and cabin activities. They actively carry out camp standards, policies, and procedures that lead to a quality and safe program. As a staff member, you will have the opportunity to help campers and counselors learn life skills and develop confidence as you can facilitate: canoeing, tubing, swimming, rappelling, climbing, zip line, ropes course, shooting sports, arts, environmental education, campfires, backpacking, fishing, and many more programs. Reference the program staff job description (PDF at the top of this page) for detailed information on duties, expectations, and how performance will be evaluated.

Application Deadline

The initial application deadline is February 1 or until filled. All applications received after February 1 will be accepted until all positions are filled. Find more information and an application form at <https://4h.unl.edu/camps-centers/summer-jobs>

Kids: Don't get bored this break!

See what at-home learning activities 4-H has to offer for all ages:

<https://4h.unl.edu/virtual-home-learning>

Or get a head start on 4-H projects! Explore options at the Pick Your Project website: <https://4hcurriculum.unl.edu/index.php/main/index>



2021 Madison County 4-H Council Scholarship Application

Attention High School Seniors! The 4-H Council Scholarship Application is available now! If you will be graduating high school in 2021, check it out now.

Deadline: DECMEBER 15

Application Link:

<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/madison/2021-madison-county-4-h-council-scholarship-opportunity/>

Pen Pal Program

Does your mailbox make you smile? It should! Spread cheer and get positive mail yourself by joining the Pen Pal Program through the Hastings Museum!



Open to all ages, so share this with your family members! Check it out at <https://hastingsmuseum.org/penpal-program/>



DID YOU KNOW?

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

WHILE WE CAN'T MEET IN PERSON, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR ONLINE INFORMATION SESSIONS AND VIRTUAL EVENTS.

CHECK OUT [ADMISSIONS.UNL.EDU](https://admissions.unl.edu)

Countdown to Christmas Take-home Kits

Towel Wrap

- * Little to no sewing experience required! Add casing, insert elastic, and sew on Velcro to make your fun, simple towel wrap!
- * \$5
- * Seven kits available



Mesh Ribbon Swag

- * Catch your guests' attention with this eye-popping door hanger or center piece made with sparkly mesh ribbon! (colors will vary)
- * \$5
- * Kits are limited.

Wreath

- * Make an inviting wreath for your home! Purple tulle or burlap options are available.
- * \$3
- * Three kits available



Needlepoint Gift Box

- * Make a small ornament or larger box to wrap a present! Attached lid opens to hide a surprise! Yarn and plastic provided.
- * \$2
- * Ten kits available

Friendship Bracelets

- * Learn different weaves as you create a bracelet for you and more for your friends!
- * \$1
- * Eight kits available



Pony Bead Ornament

- * Design and melt your own ornaments or sun catcher. Must have own metal cookie cutters.
- * \$1
- * Fifteen kits available

Call the Extension Office at 402-370-4040 to reserve yours today!

Basic supplies provided. Kits will be ready to pick up December 9.

Please make checks payable to "University of Nebraska-Lincoln."



Seeking Homes for Rare Donation of Items for 4-H Projects

A local family in Madison county with a passion and love for the 4-H program has contacted us with items for future 4-H projects for Madison county 4-H members.

Arrangements to look at the items will be made after the first of the year; however, we now need to know any interest, as well as which items you might be interested in refinishing or using for creative 4-H projects! Items will be donated or sold on a first come, first serve basis.

Please contact Sarah at spolacek2.unl.edu for more information.

Some items include: old furniture (vanities, dressers, chairs, tables), a unique older piano, wood-burning stove, pantry storage cabinet, grain-o-vator feed box, loading wagon, farm equipment, wooden grain wagons, and more. Pictures will be available at a later date.

4-H Livestock News



Livestock Committee and Horse Meeting Rescheduled for Tuesday, January 12 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm via Zoom.

RSVP to Sarah at spolacek2@unl.edu or call the office at 402-370-4040 for the connection details.

If we are able to meet face-to-face, I will contact those who RSVP with those options.

All are welcome to be part of this meeting to help develop a stronger 4-H and animal program in Madison County!

4-H Special Garden Project Revealed!

Try your hand at growing unusual vegetables and flowers! This project allows experienced 4-H gardeners to grow something new and different while letting those new to gardening get their feet wet in this project area. Last year, over 1700 4-H members were enrolled in the project.

The 2021 Special Garden Project is focused on the tasty **Hakurei Turnip**. These are not your grandmother's turnips.

Hakurei is a white salad turnip that is smooth, round and at its best when harvested under 2 inch. The roots can be eaten raw or cooked and the tops can also be cooked.

- o **Youth must enroll for the Special Garden Project through 4-H Online.** By enrolling through 4-H Online, youth will have access to the OneDrive folder with the educational materials including the growing newsletter & evaluation.
- o **Call the Extension Office to Order Your Seeds.** Call 402-370-4040 or email kgrant3@unl.edu by **February 1**. Cost is \$1 / youth. This should be enough for a 6" row of turnips.



Lee Sherry

Lee Sherry
Ext. Educator

Wayne Ohnesorg

Wayne Ohnesorg
Ext. Educator

Sarah Polacek

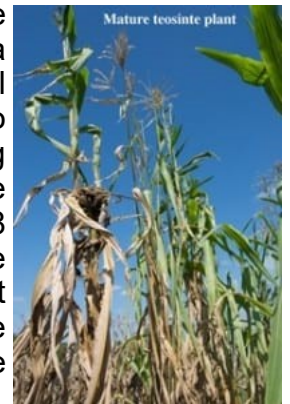
Sarah Polacek
4-H/Youth Ext. Assistant

New: 4-H Special Agronomy Project

Take this opportunity to experience a crop that is grown, was grown, or has the potential to be grown in Nebraska! You do not need a field to grow row crops! Youth will receive 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 he or she lives.

To kick-off the inaugural year of the special agronomy project, youth will explore **Teosinte**. The plant looks and is very similar to corn; in fact, it is believed to be the wild ancestor of today's corn!

Teosinte's stalks produce several small ears with a cob and hard, trapezoidal kernels. Being related to corn, planting and fertilizing is very similar. Plant the seeds 1 to 2 inches deep, 8 to 12 inches apart. Teosinte is a tropical grass, so wait until soils are warm before planting. Teosinte can take 180 days to mature.



- o **Youth must enroll for the Special Agronomy Project at 4-H Online.** By enrolling through 4-H Online, youth will have access to the OneDrive folder with the educational materials including the growing newsletter & evaluation.
- o **Call the Extension Office to Order Your Seeds.** Call 402-370-4040 or email kgrant3@unl.edu by **February 1**. Cost is \$1 / youth. This should be enough for two 6' row of teosinte.