



4-H Family Newsletter

March 2021

Nebraska Extension in Madison County
1305 South 13th Street Norfolk, NE 68701
Phone: 402-370-4040

Website: www.madison.unl.edu
Like Us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNLMadisonCounty



4-H Club Leaders Meeting March 9 **CANCELLED.**

To the 4-H Club Leaders: please watch your email for a spring update from Sarah.

Encourage your members to enroll by April 1.

Let us know if you have any questions! Want someone to visit your club from our office, just give us a call and we will make arrangements!



Join 4-H by
April 1 at 11:59pm.

Get started at ne.4honline.com

EACH member, leader, and volunteer must enroll for the 2020-2021 4-H year! By enrolling online and paying dues, you are covered by the insurance of 4-H during activities related to 4-H. Online payment is not an option in Madison.

Dues for the current year are:

- \$5.00 for all 4-H members (ages 5-18)
- \$1 insurance coverage for all 4-H volunteers and leaders

Make checks payable to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Independent Members: You must pay dues to the Extension Office before enrollment is accepted. Contact Kristen at 402-370-4040 if you are unsure about your payment status.

Club Leaders: You will receive an invoice after all your club members have enrolled.

Club Members: If you don't pay your club membership dues, you will not be accepted as a 4-H member. Please pay your club so that they can submit your enrollment fees!



4-H Kickoff Party 2021

Kick-off the 4-H year on Friday, March 26 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Extension Office in Norfolk! See the movie *The Croods*, *A New Age*, eat popcorn, and have fun!

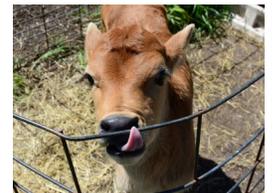
Computers will be available to help with enrollment and we will answer all 4-H questions!



4-H Bucket Calf Time Change Survey for 2021 Madison County Fair

There has been some suggestions that we consider a different time slot for the 4-H Bucket Calf show during the Fair. Please follow the link below to complete the survey by March 15. We realize this is a short turn around, but we need to get the schedule set so we can print books. Thank you for your time and input!

Take Survey Here: <https://forms.gle/RJ3qZ6oSYQQJAdCu5>



4-H Fridays

April

Spring is in the air...join us for our annual 4-H Fun Day April 5! Later in the month, plant seeds and learn the basics of gardening when you "Sprout into Fun."

Monday, April 5: 4-H Fun Day NOW HEAR THIS!

1 to 4 p.m.

*In-person Workshop held at the
Nebraska Extension office in Norfolk.*

*Take-home Kits will also be available
upon request.*

Free!

April Fools—our annual 4-H Fun Day is on a Monday instead of a Friday!



Join us for a fun day focusing on the 4-H Communications project! Prepare a PSA, record yourself reading a children's book, and complete a hands-on project! Also, if you want you can get great advice and assistance with your 4-H speech preparation. We can't wait to hear you!

Open to ages 8+

April 16 : Sprout into Fun

3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

*In-person Workshop held at the
Nebraska Extension office in Norfolk.*

*Take-home Kits will also be available
upon request.*

Cost \$10.00



Get ready for spring with this fun planting workshop! First, plant a miniature grassland or farm. Add animals, scatter seeds, and watch your farm grow! All materials provided, but you can bring your own personal fences and figurines (such as Legos) if you prefer.

Secondly, start seeds to transplant in your garden in a few weeks. Learn the proper way to propagate seedlings!

Open to ages 5+

4-H Friday registration deadline for April events is March 26. (This will allow time for staff to put to order supplies and put together kits for participants.) 4-H members and non-members are welcome to participate!

To register, complete the Google form: <https://forms.gle/og4ehdcMTLCdCPMD7>

Payment is due by March 26. Please make checks payable to University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Pick up date will be date project is offered above.



Madison County 4-H RUMMAGE SALE April 23-24



Accepting Donations

Open to 4-H families only: donate clean, good-quality items. All proceeds from the sales will go toward the Madison County 4-H Program.

Bring items to the Madison County Fairgrounds:

- o Monday April 19, Wednesday April 21, Thursday April 22 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- o Tuesday, April 20 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Items to donate include:

- Clean clothing of all sizes (no animal hair or stains, etc.)
- Households items
- Small furniture (i.e. end tables, lamps, chairs, etc.)
- Lots of others stuff!

The following will NOT be accepted:

- Electronics
- NO large furniture, mattresses, large appliances, building / plumbing materials, bean bag chairs, cribs, auto parts, firearms

Please call the office at 402-370-4040 if you have questions regarding a donation.

Items not sold will be taken to Orphan Grain Train, Salvation Army, or Goodwill at the close of the event.

Volunteer Opportunity

Manpower is needed from 4-H families and clubs to accept donations, set up and tear down, price items, and help during the event. Watch your email for the invitation to sign up for a shift or two!

Bonus Coupon to shop at the garage sale will be given to volunteers and donors for supporting this event!



Come Shop!

Madison County Fairgrounds

**Friday, April 23
4 to 7 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 24
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



Contact 402-370-4040 with questions.
Or e-mail Sarah at spolacek2@unl.edu or Kristen at kgrant3@unl.edu

Staff and Volunteers have the right to deny select items.

4-H Speech and PSA Contest

Did you participate in high school speech? Or have a fun poem you like? Share it at the speech contest! Contest is open to all 4-H ages 5 to 18. Rules are below.

Practice your public speaking skills at the Madison County Speech and PSA Contest April 26 at the Extension Office. The contest begins at 6 p.m.

Registration is due Friday, April 16. Contact Kristen at kgrant3@unl.edu or 402-370-4040 to sign up for the contest.

PSAs must be submitted April 16 to be judged prior to the contest.

We would love to help you prepare a speech or practice! Contact Sarah or Kristen at 402-370-4040 to set up a time! Or find resources at <https://4h.unl.edu/public-speaking>

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.50 Red \$3.00

NO costumes, props, visual aids, etc. will be allowed. Note cards are acceptable.

Select the purpose of the speech, whether to inform, entertain, persuade, or motivate the audience. Organization should include an introduction (capture attention and provide central thought of speech), the body (present main points through discussion and examples), and a conclusion (restate central thought and summarize points). Acknowledge the source of information used in the speech. For example, an article from a magazine may be used for reference and should be cited if directly quoted.

Contestants must qualify at the regional contest to compete in the state competition. Only senior division PSA and Speech Regional winners will advance to the state competition.

Cloverbuds – Ages 5 to 7 (reading a poem, story or speech)

Novice – Ages 10 and under and has never given a speech before (under 3 minutes)

Junior Division – Ages 8 to 10 as of January 1; has given a speech before (1 to 3 minutes)

Intermediate Division – Ages 11 to 13 as of January 1 (3 to 5 minutes)

Senior Division – Ages 14 to 18 as of January 1 (5 to 8 minutes)

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Did you know US92 will record your PSA and add sound effects? Or come to the Extension Office and we will help you write, record, and fine-tune your PSA!

Purple \$4.00 Blue \$3.50 Red \$3.00

Public Service Announcement – must be 60 seconds. The state theme for 2021 is “Opportunity 4 All”.

Must promote 4-H and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska any time of the year. Include the following tag line in the last 10 seconds of the PSA: “Learn more about the Nebraska Extension 4–H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu”. Include the within the 60-second total time limit. Sound effects and public domain music may be used. Copyrighted material may not be used. Radio PSA’s will only be submitted to the regional and state competitions electronically as a .wav or mp3 format.

Junior Division – Ages 8 to 10 as of January 1

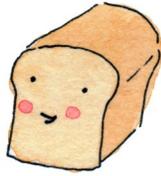
Intermediate Division – Ages 11 to 13 as of January 1

Senior Division – Ages 14 to 18 as of January 1



Bake and Take Month

Bake a product made from wheat and take it to a neighbor, friend, or relative! March is Bake and Take Month, when wheat organizations encourage people to bake a wheat good and give it to others.



Share the love—bake and take this March!



Camper Spots

Reservations for camper spots open to 4-H families on Friday, April 30 at

8:00 a.m. To reserve your camper spot, call the Madison County Fair Office at 402-454-2144 or stop down and the fairgrounds in Madison.

North lot camping prices are \$125 for the week of fair. You must pay at time of reservation Credit cards will be accepted with a transaction fee applied.

* * * * *

Tickets on Sale NOW!

The 2021 Madison County Fair and Rodeo entertainment will be REO Speedwagon on Saturday, July 10 and Aaron Watson on Sunday, July 11. Get your tickets through etix.com or call 1-800-514-3849.

2021 4-H Fair Book Update

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey about the 4-H Fair Book! We will be printing more, but you can come to the Extension to get a copy now!

See the February newsletter for a list of changes.

A Link to the online copy will be coming soon!

Please see front page about potential schedule change survey.

NEBRASKA STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK NEWS!

It is with great excitement that Nebraska 4-H will be offering new livestock classes and divisions at the 2021 Nebraska State Fair! With the decision to shift 4-H and FFA livestock shows to the two different weekends, new shows and programs for 4-H can be offered. Here's what is NEW!

4-H BEEF

- a feeder calf show
- a junior breeding heifer class to all of our breeding classes
- 4-H members will now be eligible to show up to a total of five beef animals. A 4-H'er can exhibit up to two market beef, three breeding heifers and two feeder calves as long as the total number of entries does not exceed five beef animals.

4-H SWINE

- a breeding gilt show. This breeding gilt show will include 9 purebred classes as well as a crossbred class.
- In our market swine show, we will be creating a more diverse show by including 9 purebred classes
- We will also be adding new "Farrowed and Owned Breeding and Market Swine" divisions. See attached flyer.
- 4-H members will now be eligible to show up to a total of five swine projects. A 4-H member is limited to exhibiting three market hogs and two breeding gilts

4-H SHEEP

- 4-H members will now be eligible to show up to a total of five sheep maximum, if at least two are breeding ewes. In no case will a 4-H member exhibit more than three market lambs.

4-H GOAT

- 4-H members will now be eligible to show up to a total of five goats maximum, if at least two are breeding does. In no case will a 4-H member exhibit more than three market goats.

Lee Sherry, Extension Educator in Madison County, is Retiring.

Nebraska Extension in Madison County is honored to announce Lee Sherry's retirement. Lee has worked with Nebraska Extension in Madison County since 2002. She has served as the 4-H Youth Educator and currently as the Learning Child Educator. Lee created and taught creditable, educational programs for youth and adults, for which she has received national recognition from her peers for her contributions to youth and adult programs. Programs include: school enrichment focusing on science and healthy living and the CHIME program. Since her employment 4-H enrollment increased 38.8%. She was a successful grant writer: \$1,956,158; 25 UNL funded total \$1,416,398; 31 grants for \$539,760 (prior to UNL) and \$79,000.00 donations. Her career started with Extension in UT and she has spent 38 years organizing, directing, motivating, and teaching volunteers, and youth. She served as Unit Leader in both Nebraska and Utah.



Lee has made an impact in many lives and for that, we are thankful for her time, service, dedication, and passion for Extension. Feel free to share memories, pictures, or congratulatory messages by sending them to spolacek2@unl.edu.

You may also mail cards to:

Nebraska Extension-Madison County, Lee Sherry, 1305 S. 13th St. Norfolk, NE 68701

Or you can email Lee directly at lsherry2@unl.edu

**Congratulations to our 2021
4-H Council Scholarship
Recipients:**

- Becca Arkfeld
- Madelyn Lingenfelter
- Megan Lutt
- Leah Rast
- Jenna Ruge
- Reilly Schlomer



**Amazing resources available from
Nebraska 4-H that are always being
added and updated! Check them out!**

**Virtual and At-
Home Learning**
[https://4h.unl.edu/
virtual-home-learning](https://4h.unl.edu/virtual-home-learning)



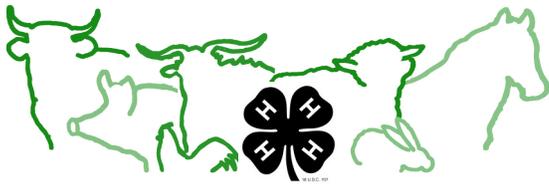
NOTE ...to Parents

We highly encourage parents to stick around and become involved in your 4-H members' club meetings! Many announcements and items are shared during this time that will help ease the information you receive from the Extension Office via newsletters and emails!

Also, please feel free to reach out to staff at the Extension Office or your club leaders for clarification and help with your 4-H experience! We are here to help and are excited you are a part of our 4-H family!

NOTE ...to Leaders & Volunteers

If you have made arrangements to use a facility for club meetings, please follow through with the request of the facility staff, such as picking up the key on time, communicating the meeting schedule or the need to change/cancel, and especially leaving the place better than you found it! 4-H is so appreciative of the many places that we are able to use for little to no cost! Please help us keep it that way! Thank you.



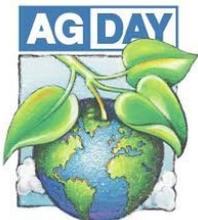
4-H Livestock News

Be a Superintendent!



Be a part of two growing programs in Madison County! Superintendents are needed for both dogs (show date Wednesday, July 7) and goats (show is Friday, July 9).

Contact Sarah at 402-370-4040 or spolacek2@unl.edu for more information.



National Ag Week
March 21-27, 2021

Thank a Farmer for the Food on Your Table!

Livestock Boosters Seeking New Representatives

For the last four years, the Livestock Boosters 4-H Club has diligently raised funds to provide bonus checks for those showing all species in Madison County, both large and small animals.

For the program to continue, they are seeking adults to fill two vacant positions. Parents or volunteers age 18+ are eligible. If no one steps up, the program will fold.

Please contact Sarah at 402-370-4040 or spolacek2@unl.edu to get involved!



Beef Weigh-In Madison County Fairgrounds

Monday, March 15
from 6 to 7 p.m.

Bucket Calf Program

As calves are being born, we wanted to remind families that the bucket calf program expanded last year. Here are the exhibitor age divisions:

Cloverbud 5, 6, & 7 years old

Junior 8 & 9 years old

Intermediate 10 & 11 years old

Senior 12, 13, & 14 years old

Record books for ALL age divisions are due Monday, June 28. Come to the Extension Office to get your record books and ear tags!

Second-year Bucket Calf

To be eligible for this class, the calf must have been shown as a bucket calf the previous year (2020) and must be shown by the same exhibitor. Calf must have same ear tag as last year.

If you choose to exhibit the animal in the second-year bucket calf class, it will NOT be allowed to show as a market beef or breeding heifer.

A bucket calf may be exhibited by a Cloverbud and then shown the following year as a second-year bucket calf as long as the exhibitor is 8 years old as of January 1.



Farrowed and Owned Swine Cohort

New Opportunity for 4-H Swine Exhibitors

A new Farrowed and Owned Breeding Market Swine division for youth interested in learning more about the swine industry. The Nebraska 4-H Farrowed and Owned Swine Cohort is designed to enhance the traditional 4-H swine project and cultivate the next generation of leaders in the swine industry by providing opportunities focusing on swine production as a goal of the 4-H member's project, along with accurate and complete record-keeping, industry knowledge, and engagement by the 4-H member. In order to participate, youth must be 4-H age 10-18, complete YQCA and farrowed their project animal(s).

Youth participating in the Farrowed and Owned Cohort will:

- Network with 4-H members across the state who are also participating in the cohort experience.
- Participate in learning opportunities hosted by Extension Swine Specialist Benny Mote about nutrition, feeding, genetics and more.
- Gain knowledge related to their project and the swine industry as a whole.
- Maintain records related to swine management and basic care.
- Exhibit their Farrowed and Owned project animals at the 2021 Nebraska State Fair with the opportunity for special recognition as a result of participating in the cohort.

Register by April 1st to participate in 2021!

<https://bit.ly/30fTx9H>

After the registration deadline, youth will receive more detailed information via email.

For questions, contact Nebraska Extension Swine Specialist Benny Mote at

bmote8@unl.edu or 402-310-9878.

4-H Calendar

March

- 9—**CANCELLED!** 4-H Leader Meeting, Extension Office
- 15—Beef Weigh In, Madison County Fairgrounds, 6 to 7 p.m.
- 26—4-H Friday Registration Deadline



April

- 1—Market Beef DNA envelopes due to Extension Office
- 5—4-H Fun Day, Extension Office, 1 to 4 p.m.
- 16—4-H Speech and PSA Contest Deadline
- 16—4-H Friday: Sprout into Fun, Extension Office, 3:30 to 5 p.m.
- 19-22—Item Drop-off for Rummage Sale, Madison County Fairgrounds
- 23-24—Madison County 4-H Rummage Sale, Madison County Fairgrounds
- 26—County Speech and PSA Contest, Extension Office, 6 p.m.
- 26—4-H Council Meeting, Extension Office, 7 p.m.

May

- 3—Project Add / Delete Deadline on 4-H Online
- 7—District and State Horse Entry Deadline



June

- 1—DEADLINE DAY for Fair
- 14—4-H Council Meeting, Extension Office, 7 p.m.
- 24—4-H Council Meeting, Madison County Fairgrounds, 5:30 p.m.
- 24—4-H Clean Up Night, Madison County Fairgrounds, 6 to 8 p.m.
- 24—4-H Plant and Insect Identification Contest, Ag Park in Columbus, 12:15 p.m.
- 26—4-H Static Exhibit Judging Day, Madison County Fairgrounds, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- 26—4-H Style Revue, Madison County Fairgrounds, 3 p.m.
- 28—Bucket Calf Record Books Due
- 30—State Public Speaking Contest, Lincoln

July

- 6—4-H Food & Horticulture Judging Day, Madison County Fairgrounds, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- 6-11—Madison County Fair and Rodeo!
- 8—4-H Presentation Contest, Madison County Fairgrounds, 4 p.m.
- 10-14—State Horse Show, Fonner Park Grand Island



Art Contest Theme's to help you start preparing your ideas.

- *Heart: Nebraska 4-H Month—February (still accepting artwork)
- *Health: World Health Day is April 7 and Volunteer Appreciation Week
- *Hands: Join Hands Day is May 1
- *Head: Thinking of You Week is September 20-26

Lee Sherry

Lee Sherry
Ext. Educator

Wayne Ohnesorg

Wayne Ohnesorg
Ext. Educator

Sarah Polacek

Sarah Polacek
4-H/Youth Ext. Assistant