



**MAY — JULY 2023**  
**IMPORTANT DATES**

Jun 1— **DUE** by 5PM Extension Office State Horse ID's & Online Entries

June 15— **DUE** Extension Office

- ALL County Animal ID's
- State Fair Livestock DNA
- State Fair Livestock Entries, Online

July 10— **DUE** Extension Office

- ALL Pre-Fair Entries
- Cat & Dog Health Forms
- YQCA Training

July 22— Fair Clean-up, 9:00am until done, Fairgrounds

July 22— Bike Rodeo, 9:00am, Fairgrounds

July 22— Ice Cream Roll Contest, 11:00am, 4-H Building

July 25— Clothing Construction & Fashion Review, 9:00am, 4-H Building

July 25— 4-H Night & Performing Arts & Presentations Contests, 7:30pm, 4-H Building

July 29—August 2  
Merrick County Fair

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# MERRICK 4-H TIMES

## SUMMER 2023 Issue

Merrick County Extension . 1784 Fairgrounds Rd . Central City, NE 68826  
308-946-3843 . merrick@unl.edu . <http://merrick.unl.edu>



Find us on Facebook! Merrick County 4-H, Nebraska (UNL Extension)



### March 16, 2023 Pancake Feed

- ◆ Thank you to ALL those who volunteered their time and ate pancakes! The Pancake Feed was a HUGE SUCCESS this year thanks to ALL of you!
- ◆ Approximately \$3514 was made for scholarships and educational programming!
- ◆ Jr. Leaders Cake Walk made \$288!



Merrick County 4-H Ambassadors attended the Merrick County Board of Supervisors Meeting February 28, 2023 to present a proclamation declaring March - Merrick County 4-H Month! They are pictured here with the County Board of Supervisors!  
Keir Albert & Cole Brandes



### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to ALL the 4-Hers who participated in the **County Communication Contest!**

Genevieve, Victoria & Raegan

April 3, 2023

Also pictured, 4-H Ambassador Keir.



Raegan & Victoria have the opportunity to represent Merrick County at the Nebraska State Contest June 23, at UNL.

### 2023 Summer Workshops

#### Remember To:

1. Open the QR Code
2. Note Instructions
3. PRE-REGISTER!
4. LEARN & HAVE FUN!



### Are you JOINING 4-H in 2023?

⇒ Login to your family account at [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) or use the QR Code to re-enroll.



⇒ Need help? Click the QR Code for step-by-step directions!



Login Email
Password
<b>Sign in</b>



# Animal Science...



## PASE SPIN CLUB

(PREMIERE ANIMAL SCIENCE EVENT)

Pre-register here.  
Open to 4-Hers age 10-18 years.

**2023 Dates:**  
Merrick Co. 4-H Building  
(784 Fairgrounds Rd, Central City)

**TBD**  
Use the QR Code to tell us your availability and what you are interested in!  
\*Practices will then be scheduled according to interest.

**PASE Contests at UNL**  
(East Campus Animal Science Complex)

- Wednesday, June 21
  - Meats Judging
  - Poultry Judging
  - Livestock Skill-a-thon
- Thursday, June 22
  - Livestock Judging

For more information please contact  
Merrick County Extension Office  
308-946-3843 or  
email [kwells5@unl.edu](mailto:kwells5@unl.edu)

FUNDED IN COOPERATION WITH UNL AND THE MERRICK COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL. 4-H YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT ABIDES WITH THE NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICIES OF UNL AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, 1784 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD, CENTRAL CITY, NE 68824. 308-946-3843.

## UNL Horse Programs!



- State 4-H Rodeo
- Equine Webinars
- **Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo**
  - Entries **DUE, JUNE 1 by 5:00 P.M.** via [horse.fairwire.com](http://horse.fairwire.com)
  - State Horse ID's **DUE, JUNE 1 by 5:00 P.M.** to Extension Office

- Horsemanship Study Courses
- Horsemanship Advancement Levels

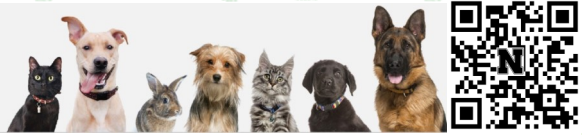
...and so much more HORSE can be found here!



## 4-H Companion Animal Opportunities

[4h.unl.edu/companion-animal](http://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal)

(Go to the website, click and explore!)



Merrick County 4H, Nebraska (UNL Extension)

Check-out the Facebook folder:

2022 Out-of-County 4-H Shows, Workshop, Clinics & Camps



## Are you showing an animal at the county fair? YES—Read on!

### Requirements:

Nebraska 4-H youth age 8-18, enrolled in any of the livestock projects below are required to complete YQCA annually either Instructor-Led or online at <http://yqca.org/>

- ◆ Beef (bucket calf, feeder calf, breeding beef, market beef)
- ◆ Goat (breeding meat goat, dairy goat, meat goat)
- ◆ Sheep (breeding sheep, market sheep)
- ◆ Swine (breeding swine, market swine)
- ◆ Dairy Cattle                      ◆ Poultry                      ◆ Rabbit



**YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS**

Youth enrolled in the following projects must complete YQCA:  
Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Swine  
Instructor-Led (\$3 per youth) or online at <http://yqca.org/> (\$12 per youth)

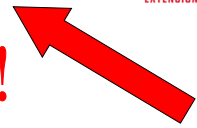
**PRE-REGISTER!**  
By 5:00 p.m. the weekday prior to class!

402-694-6174 Hamilton County Extension Office  
308-946-3843 Merrick County Extension Office

A parent or guardian **MUST ATTEND** with the youth 4-H ages 8-12!  
ALL youth must have YQCA completed by Monday, July 10th, 2023!  
Watch the county Facebook pages for more classes possibly to come.

The Youth Development Department (YQCA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It is a 4-H project of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is an Equal Opportunity Institution. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is an Equal Opportunity Institution. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

**DUE JULY 10!**



Contact the Ext. Office to book an Instructor-Led Class with your 4-H club!



# Jr. Leaders Journal

For all 4-H members ages 13-18 years!



March 13, 2023



## Jr. Leader Banquet

- ◆ Officer Installation
- ◆ Senior Recognition
- ◆ New Jr. Leader Initiation

# Leader Ledger

For all 4-H Leaders Past, Present, & Future!

### ⇒ Club Leader Resources



- Club Meeting How-To
- Club Activities & Projects
- Curriculum, Activities & Lesson Plans

⇒ Thank you club leaders and volunteers for all your help getting your club's file in order! If you would still like help getting your club back on track for the 2023 4-H year, call or email the Ext. Office, we're here to help, 308-946-3843 or merrick@unl.edu



# 2023 Tentative Plan



- ◆ Sunday, May 21, 5:00 p.m. –Escape Game, 4-H Building
- ◆ June –Help with Summer Workshops
- ◆ July –Fair Prep Meeting, 4-H Building
- ◆ July 30 –Judge Clover Kids Exhibits at Fair, 4-H Building
- ◆ Sept. –Fall Cookout w/Hamilton County
- ◆ Oct. –Review Clover Kid Record Books, 4-H Building
- ◆ Oct./Nov. –Achievement Party
- ◆ Nov. –Friendsgiving w/Hamilton Co.
- ◆ Dec. –Merrick/Hamilton Lock-In, Merrick 4-H Building

# Clover Kids Corner

For all 4-H members ages 5-7 years!

## Monthly Clover Kid Club!

Monthly meeting for 4-H Clover Kids and family to learn about a Clover Kid project 4-H has to offer!



### APRIL CLOVER KID CLUB PROJECT

APRIL 16TH, 2023  
4PM - 5PM  
MERRICK COUNTY 4-H BUILDING  
\$10.00 PER YOUTH

Woodworking is a valuable skill and this is a great project for anyone wanting to get started in woodworking. During this project, children will develop their decision-making skills, hand-eye coordination, and fine motor skills as they create a one-of-a-kind hedgehog to proudly display and can bring to the fair!

Open to the first 15 clover kids - registration closes April 7th, 2023!  
To register, visit: <https://go.unl.edu/40sm>  
or scan the QR code

May Clover Kid Club Project:

### FIRST AID KITS

Clover Kid ages: 5-7 years old  
YOUTH MUST BE ENROLLED IN 4-H TO PARTICIPATE

- May 21st, 2023 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- 4-H Building, Merrick County Fairgrounds
- \$10.00 per youth - Payment must be to the office by May 15th to hold your spot.
- Come and learn about the importance of first aid, build your own first aid kit, and possibly get the chance to explore a firetruck or ambulance
- To register, visit <https://go.unl.edu/70tr> or scan the QR code

\*Open to the first 15 Clover Kids. Registration closes May 15th, 2023. Youth must be enrolled in 4-H.  
For any accommodations, please call the Merrick County Extension Office (308-946-3843) 72 hours in advance.



Registration link for monthly Clover Kid Club will be delivered via email and on Facebook. Be on the look out!  
**More info each month!**



**Stop into the Merrick Ext. Office by June 10th for your seeds!**



**2023 Special Garden Project  
Mrs. Burns' Lemon Basil**



This project is open to all youth of 4-H age and it will give them the opportunity to learn about growing, harvesting, and exhibiting this unique herb.

The Special Gardening Project lets 4-H members try their hand at growing unusual vegetables, flowers, and herbs. The project allows experienced 4-H gardeners to grow something fun, new, and different while letting those new to gardening get their feet wet in this project area.

The focus of the 2023 project is Mrs. Burns' Lemon Basil. This herb can be used multiple ways. Lemon basil has a unique lemon flavor can be added to any recipe or to cut flower arrangements to add scent and interest.

**4-H members enrolled in the Special Garden Project will:**

- Receive a 'packet' of Mrs. Burns' Lemon Basil (one packet per youth) in March/April
- Receive a newsletter about:
  - Planting & growing basil
  - Basil problems & insects
  - Harvesting & using basil
- Be able to exhibit this unique herb at County and State Fair
  - State Fair Special Garden Project Educational Exhibit Class G-775-001
  - State Fair Special Garden Project Fresh Cut Flowers or Harvested Vegetables & Herbs G-775-002
  - Other fun county only ways to exhibit this unique herb like a story, poem, or poster. Each county is different so be sure to check with your local Extension Office.
- Complete an evaluation about their growing experience: <https://go.unl.edu/2023basileval>

Enroll for the 2023 Special Garden Project through 4-H Online and contact your local Nebraska Extension Office to order packets of seeds. The local Extension Office will order and distribute the seeds. Contact Elizabeth Exstrom at [elizabeth.exstrom@unl.edu](mailto:elizabeth.exstrom@unl.edu) or 308-385-5088.

\*Mrs. Burns' Lemon Basil photo courtesy of Johnny's Select Seeds, Johnnyseeds.com, 1-877-564-6697.

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**4-H Summer Reading Program**

Come and join us for fun during the 4-H Summer Reading Program! This year's theme is "All Together Now", following the Collaborate Summer Library Program theme and incorporating 4-H programming.

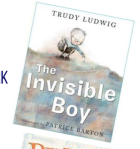
**4-H Summer Reading Program Schedule:**  
(June 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th)  
10am - 11am Central City North Park  
1pm - 2pm Clarks Library  
3pm - 4pm Silver Creek Library

**Grades  
K - 6**

**June 6**

**HEADING INTO THIS TOGETHER -**

THIS LESSON FOCUSES ON THE HEAD! WE ALL HAVE EMOTIONS, AND WE WILL TAKE A LOOK AT HOW OUR EMOTIONS AFFECT HOW WE WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHERS ON OUR TEAM.



**June 13**

**GUMBALL MACHINE -**

THIS LESSON FOCUSES ON THE HANDS! WE WILL USE A HANDS-ON APPROACH TO BUILD A MARSHMALLOW CATAPULT WHILE WE UNCOVER THE WORLD OF SCIENCE!



**June 20**

**I AM ENOUGH -**

THIS LESSON FOCUSES ON THE HEART! EACH OF US HAS TALENTS AND STRENGTHS. THESE STRENGTHS CAN BE UNIQUE TO US OR WE CAN SHARE SIMILAR TALENTS WITH OTHERS AROUND US. IT IS IMPORTANT TO USE OUR HEADS AND USE KIND AND AFFIRMING WORDS TO ENCOURAGE OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO BE THEIR BEST.



**June 27**

**AN APPLE A DAY...**

THIS LESSON FOCUSES ON OUR HEALTH! OUR HEALTH IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR LIVES AND WE WILL TAKE A LOOK AT HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES AND AT WHAT IT TAKES TO BEING IN A SUCCESSFUL GROUP, A FRIEND, OR IN A CLASSROOM.



**SHOOTING SPORTS**



**Indoor Archery Contests:**



**February 21 & March 7, 2023**

**Shotgun Contest:**

**April 22, 2023**



**Outdoor Archery Practices & Contest:**

**Outdoor Archery Practices**

- ⇒ Fairgrounds—Every TBD
- ⇒ TBD—TBD p.m.
- ⇒ MayTBD—JulyTBD
- ⇒ 4-H age 8—18 years



**Merrick County Outdoor Archery Contest**

- ⇒ Saturday, July 8
- ⇒ 8:30 a.m. Check-in
- ⇒ 9:00 a.m. Contest
- ⇒ Fairgrounds



**Four practices with a Certified Shooting Sports Instructor are required to compete in Merrick County shooting sports contests.**

**Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshops**

- ◆ For more information go to:
- ◆ <http://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports/instructor/calendar>



**HELP WANTED !**

**4-H Shooting Sports Coaches** are needed for young people who would like to shoot bb gun, air rifle & pistol, .22 rifle & pistol for Fall 2023-Winter 2024.

4-H Council offers a scholarship for registration fee.



**\*ALL youth participating must be enrolled in the particular project and be active at 4honline.com**



## Senior Scholarship Recipients!



Marlie Mundt



Kaylee Powell



Elaina McHargue



Hannah Siwinski



Cole Brandes



Bo Bushhousen

CONGRATULATIONS to our 4-H Council Scholarship recipients:

Marlie Mundt, Kaylee Powell, Elaina McHargue, Hannah Siwinski, Cole Brandes & Bo Bushhousen.

CONGRATULATIONS to our Dan & Susan Monaghan Scholarship recipients: Marlie Mundt & Kaylee Powell.

We wish all of these 4-Her's success in their future endeavors!

### Project vs. Entry!

⇒ **Difference between project and county fair entry.**

- Projects are curriculum in the form of a project manual.
- Projects help youth gain knowledge and skill.
- A product of learning is a county fair entry or exhibit.

⇒ **Ask: "What projects interest my child that they could learn from?"**

- The county fair entry or exhibit should be a result of learning.

⇒ **How to select a 4-H project?**

- Go to <http://4h.unl.edu> and type in "Pick Your Project" in the search bar (top right corner).
- Choose from over 150 different projects!
  - Select the ones your child is interested in.
  - If it's a new project, start with the first level, some areas have multiple levels.



⇒ **What are project camps for?**

- They're offered to supplement project learning.
- Remember to enroll in the corresponding project at 4honline.com.



2023 Premium Books

Are ready to be picked-up from the Merrick Extension Office!

#### 2023 Premium List



Here at Trax's U-Save we care about you! Find personal and professional care here!

1414 16th St, Po Box 252  
Central City, NE 68826  
Phone: (308) 946-3899  
Fax: (308) 946-3899  
Hours of operation  
Mon - Fri 9am to 6pm  
Sat 9am to 1pm  
Sun Closed

**April**– Ali Flodman, Emma Brandes, Kolt Francis, Camden Zancanelli, Charlotte Hale, Gavin Root, Cooper Root, Stephanie Kroeger, Kaleb Hood, Cooper Kremer, Tyron Ray, Delaney Moeller, Ella Zimmerman, Lane Mottl, Sawyer Groetzinger, Gavin Medinger, Camrie Brondel, Mason Strasburg, Daxton Lockwood, Cora Sanborn

**May**– Kinleigh Ekhoft, Landon Webb, Lydia Flodman, Augustus Stuhmer, Paul Johnson, Sophie Forbis, Owyn Herrick, Isabelle Deibert, Emmett Blanchard, Alaina Bearnes, Claire Blomstedt, Kaylee Powell, Levi Webb, Tyler Zimmerman, Matilda Paup, Drew Friedrichsen

**June**– Trig Brandes, Aleah Ericksen, Bexley Lutz, Josey Neel, Lucie Lautenschlager, Emmett Stettner, Norah Ratliff, Eliza Sanborn, Eli Ferris, Bo Bushhousen, Kindall Francis, Katelynn Blomstedt, Brayden Benson, Brynn Ratliff, Audrey Smith, Ryan Brandes, Taiya Buller

**July**– Kyra Ray, Jackson Roberts, Kyndall Talbott, Samantha Zmek, Bailey Meyer, Cole Broekemeier, Moza Perea, Brixton Lutz, Karter Kuck, Braysen Miller, Avery Blauhorn, Emmerson Earl, Riggan Earl, Addilyn Smith, Makenna Mottl, Jacob Zimmerman, Adam Schuele, Westyn Olson, Victoria Ferraro, Brinlee Galles, Hadley Dobson, Noah Dexter, Keir Albert, Grant Nielson, Hannah Siwinski, Maycee Nelson



2023 Fair Saturday, July 29-Wednesday, August 2!



# May 7, 2023 — July 29, 2023

For more information please contact the Extension Office 308-946-3843 or email merrick@unl.edu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
7 <u>May</u>	8	9	10 *6-7pm, Horse Judging Practice, 4HB	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 *6-7pm, Horse Judging Practice, 4HB	18 *5-7pm, Sheep & Goat, Rate-of-Gain Weigh-in, 4HB Arena	19	20
21 *4-5pm, Monthly Clover Kid Club, 4HB *5pm Jr. Leaders,	22	23	24 *Pitzer Horse Judging Contest, Ericson NE *9am-3pm, Wildlife Camp, Timberlake	25 *6-7pm, YQCA, 4HB	26 *11am-noon, Cat & Companion Animal Showmanship, 4HB *1-3pm, Rabbit & Poultry Project, 4HB	27
28	29 Office Closed— Memorial Day	30 *9am-noon, Home Env. 2D, 4HB *2-5pm, Home. Env. 3D, 4HB	31 *Jr. Camp. <b>DUE JUNE 1, 5pm— State Horse ID's &amp; Online Nominations</b>	1 <u>June</u> Whispering Cedars near Genoa, NE *10am-2pm, CK Plant Science, Hamilton Co. *10am-noon, Organic Vegetable Garden, CC	2	3
4	5 *9-11am, Yarn Painting, Hamilton Co.  *7pm 4-H Council Meeting, 4-H Building	6 *3 Locations, 4-H Library Programming	7 *8am-noon, Woodworking, 4HB *1-5pm, Woodworking, 4HB	8 *9-10:30am, Cake Decorating, Aurora Mall *1-2:30pm, Cake Decoration, Aurora Mall	9	10
11 *3-4pm, YQCA, 4HB	12 *9am-noon, Sew Fun-Pillowcase, 4HB *1:30-4:30pm, STEAM 1-PJ Shorts, 4HB	13 *3 Locations, 4-H Library Programming *9am-noon, Sew Fun-Pillow, Hamilton Co. *1:30-4:30pm, STEAM 2-Flare Jeans, Hamilton Co.	14	15 <b>DUE—ALL County Animal ID's &amp; State Fair DNA Ext. Office; SF Nominations, Online</b>	16 *9-11am, Magazine Strip Silhouette, Hamilton Co.	17
18 *4-5pm, Monthly Clover Kid Club, 4HB	19 Office Closed— Juneteenth	20 *3 Locations, 4-H Library Programming *10am-2pm, CK Making Food For Me, Hamilton Co.	21 *State PASE *1-3pm, Mosaic Tile Crafts, Hamilton Co.	22 Contests—UNL *1-5pm, FCS Day, Hamilton Co.	23 *State Communication Contest—UNL	24
25	26	27 *3 Locations, 4-H Library Programming *1-3pm, Rockets, Hamilton Co.	28 *1-3pm, Rocket Launching, Hamilton Co.	29 *9am-noon, Cooking 101-201, 4HB *2-5pm Cooking 301-401, 4HB	30	1 <u>July</u>
2	3	4 Office Closed— 4th of July	5	6	7 *10am LAST YQCA Instructor-Lead Class, 4-H Building	8 *9am Outdoor Archery Contest, Fairgrounds
9	10 <b>DUE—ALL Pre-Fair Entries, YQCA, &amp; Animal Health Forms, Ext. Office</b> *7pm 4-H Council Meeting, 4-H Building	11	12	13	14	15
16 *4-5pm, Monthly Clover Kid Club, 4HB	17	18 4-H Building Meetings 6pm Clothing Supers 7pm Static Supers 8pm Livestock Supers	19	20	21	22 *9am Fair Clean-up, Fairgrounds *9am Bicycle Rodeo, Fairgrounds *11am Ice Cream Roll, 4-H Building
23	24	25 *8am Clothing Construction, 4-H Building  *7:30pm 4-H Night & Performing Arts Contest, 4-H Building	26	27 *1-5pm Static Check-in 4-H Building	28 *8am-5pm Static Check-in, 4-H Building	29 *7am Horse Show, Indoor Arena *8am-noon Static Check-in, 4-H Building *4:30pm Cat & Companion Animal Show