



4-H Family Newsletter
Nebraska Extension in Pierce County
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Pierce, NE 68767-1224
Phone: (402) 329-4821
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April 2024

Reminder Important Dates:

- Horse ID Sheets, Horsemanship Advancement Level requirements, entry process for State Horse Show **Due - 5:00 p.m. on June 1**
- Nebraska State Fair Nomination Due - **June 15th**
- DNA Envelopes & Livestock (Horse, Beef, Goat, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, & Rabbit) ID Sheets **Due at Extension Office before -June 15th**
- Clothing Judging day is **Friday, July 19th**
- Fair Grounds Clean Up day is **Monday, July 22nd**
- Pierce County Fair is **July 24th - July 28th**

Reminders:

- Now is a good time to complete the written tests for Horse Levels. Written Test horse levels must be done before July 15th for Pierce County 4-Hers. Please call the office to setup a time, so a test can be ready for you.
- All 4-H/FFA **BREEDING** livestock, **MARKET** livestock and **FEEDER CALVES** are required to submit a DNA sample/envelope to be eligible to exhibit at the Nebraska State Fair. Stop by the office to get your NEW DNA envelopes.
- Families the planning on taking livestock to Nebraska State Fair need to put their animal information into the Showstock Manager database <https://showstockmgr.com> and pay the nomination fee by **June 15**.

2024 4-H Kids University & Summer Programs

Be on the look out in middle April for the Kids University and Summer programs that Pierce County will be having in 2024. We will be emailing them to families.



4-H Online is Open

Go to <https://v2.4HONLINE.com>



Please do not create a new profile if you have previously enrolled in 4-H, even a different county or state.

ALL Youth and Volunteers/Club leaders must be enrolled by **June 15th, 2024**.

Please make sure to include youth T-shirts size in case we have T-shirts donated.

This year there are changes to the project selection when enrolling. The project selection is now optional with the EXCEPTION of HORSE and SHOOTING SPORTS PROJECTS due to the parental consent required for participation.

Find instructions for returning families can be found at <https://4h.unl.edu/enroll/returning-member>

For new families, find instructions here: <https://4h.unl.edu/enroll/new-member>

For volunteers/Club leaders, find instructions here: <https://4h.unl.edu/enroll/returning-club-leader>

Before your enrollment can be accepted, dues must be paid. You can either pay the Extension Office with cash or check or pay online with credit card.

*Enrollment Fees: 4-Hers and Clover Kids will continue to pay an fee of \$5.00 per 4-Her and Clover kid.

Contact Brittany for help enrolling by calling 402-329-4821



4-H Livestock News

4-H Horse

Horsemanship Clinic:

- A unique opportunity is happening April 13, 2024 at the Adams County Fairgrounds. Clinicians Sarah and Hanah Eberspacher are coming to provide a Horsemanship Clinic. Cost is \$50 per youth. Please reach out to Tia Douglass (402-984-7546) to reserve your spot.

Fort Robinson 4-H Horse Camp:

- The 50th annual Ft. Robinson 4-H Horse Camp will be held June 6-8, 2024 at the Ft. Robinson State Park in Crawford, NE. Brochure and registration forms will be available March 22nd. For more information reach out to the Dawes Country Extension Office at 308-432-3373.

4-H State Horse Show:

- July 13-17, 2024 at Fonner Park in Grand Island, NE
- Online entry deadline June 1, 2024 (Includes hippology and horse judging entries), Horses ID forms and Advancement level deadlines to hand into county offices also due June 1, 2024. <https://4h.unl.edu/horse-expo>



Livestock & Small Animal Events

There are many livestock & small animal events that are happening starting April. If you would like to see all the horse, livestock, & small animal events that are happening in Nebraska please go to <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/pierce/4-h-2024-spring-summer-horse-livestock-small-animal-events/>. The list is updated when we get a new event sent to use.

Great Plains Livestock Judging Circuit

The Great Plains Livestock Judging Circuit is a lineup of contests held throughout the state giving youth the opportunity to perfect their skills in preparation for the Nebraska 4-H Premier Animal Science Event (PASE). Qualifying youth must attend a minimum of two contests in addition to the PASE livestock judging contest in order to be eligible for awards and scholarships. The top 5 individuals in the Senior and Intermediate divisions will be recognized as part of the All-State Team during the Grand Drive at the Nebraska State Fair. Go to 4h.unl.edu/great-plains-livestock-judging-circuit for more information.





Livestock Achievement Program

Through the Nebraska 4-H Livestock Achievement program, youth can receive recognition as Members of Excellence for engaging in various project-related activities. NEW in 2024:

Members as young as eight will be able to participate.

Applications are due June 15, but why wait? Visit 4h.unl.edu/livestock-achievement to get started.



Tractor & Farm Safety Course

Tractor and farm equipment safety courses are now open for registration!

Teens ages 14- 15 who work on farms, or others who are interested in learning about tractor and farm equipment safety practices, can register for a safety training course offered at seven locations across Nebraska from May 21 through June 13. Learn more at

<https://www.unmc.edu/publichealth/cscash/outreach/farm-safety-days.html>

Special Agronomy Project

The Nebraska Extension Special Agronomy Project, providing a unique experience for 4-H members to delve into the world of crops in our state. About the Project: Youth participants will receive seeds and resources to cultivate a crop, explore its traits, and assess its viability in their region. This year, we're celebrating the fourth year of the special agronomy project by spotlighting sugar beets, a significant contributor to the U.S. sweetener industry. **If you signed up for the Special Garden Seeds with the Pierce County Extension Office, your seeds are ready to be picked up. We will have extras if any would still like to participate in the Special Agronomy Project.** Visit: <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/special-agronomy-project> for more information or call the Extension Office or email Brittany at bkolterman2@unl.edu.



Special Garden Project

The 2024 Special Garden Project is focused on the Princess India Nasturtium. This Victorian-era heirloom flower can be grown in a variety of ways including in containers. It provides a splash of color from its scarlet flowers and much of the plant can be eaten. **If you signed up for the Special Garden Seeds with the Pierce County Extension Office, your seeds are ready to be picked up. We will have extras if any would still like to participate in the Special Garden Project.** Visit: <https://4h.unl.edu/special-gardening-project> for more information or call the Extension Office or email Brittany at bkolterman2@unl.edu.



Livestock Quality Assurance 2024



All youth planning to show beef, bucket calf, dairy, goats, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and swine at the Pierce County Fair, Nebraska State Fair, or Ak-Sar-Ben must complete YQCA training. This can be completed at a Face-to-Face training or online.

Face-to-Face Training

Face-to-Face trainings are scheduled for May 29th (1 p.m. and 6 p.m.) at the Wayne County Fairgrounds and June 11th (1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.) at the Pierce County Fairgrounds. To register for this Face to Face training you will need go to the YQCA website is yqcaprogram.org. Log on and select "Pierce County YQCA" and the time that you want (either 1 pm or 6 pm). After you have selected your time will have to pay a \$3 fee per youth. This fee has to be paid online and not in the office. Pierce County 4-Hers - if you attend the in person training at the Wayne County YQCA or the Pierce County YQCA, we will be reimbursing you the \$3 at the event for coming to the in person training.

Web-based Training

If you are interested in completing the online YQCA course, now is a good time. The YQCA website is yqcaprogram.org. The online YQCA course costs \$12 per individual regardless of age. Each session purchased includes three modules - a knowledge builder, a skills lab, and a quiz. The knowledge builder is where content is delivered. The skills lab provides an opportunity to apply the content. The quiz test knowledge.

To receive certification, 80% must be achieved on the 10-question quiz. These modules, completed in their entirety, will provide 2-3 hours of experience.

Testing Out

Test-out options are only available to youth in the first year of Intermediate (age 12) and Senior (age 15) age levels. There is no test-out option for Juniors. If passed, youth will not be required to complete the annual training requirements for the remainder of their current age level (Intermediates: 12-14; Seniors: 15-18). Each test consists of 50 randomly selected questions and has a pass rate of 80% or better for certification.

Participants will have only one chance to take the test-out option. If youth fail, they will not be provided another opportunity to test out of that age level. Participants who do not pass will be prompted to take the instructor-led training or web-based training annually.

If the youth passes, payment for the completed test-out course will be required after the completion of the test. No payment is required to attempt the test. Test-out costs are:

Intermediate: \$36 (\$12 x 3 years of certification)

Senior: \$48 (\$12 x 4 years of certification).

If passed, youth will receive access to online modules that correspond with the age levels, found on the user's "My Library" page.



2024 Pierce County Speech & Illustrated Presentation Contest Winners



2024 Pierce County 4-H Speech Contest and Illustrated Presentation was held on Monday, April 1, 2024, at the Extension Office Meeting Room.

In the Junior Division Public Speaking, Luke Bauermeister's speech "Cookies" received a purple ribbon and Grand Champion Junior Speech. Luke received a \$25 registration scholarship to a 2024 4-H event of his choice, sponsored by The Randolph Times.

Henley Marks's speech "Henley 4-H Feelings" received a purple ribbon and Reserve Champion. Beckett Marks's speech "I Got a Feeling" received a blue ribbon. Luke and Henley are able to represent Pierce County at state-level communication contest on June 18th, 2024, in Lincoln.

Eleanor Bauermeister received a purple and Grand Champion with her speech about "Food Safety" in Public Speaking in the Intermediate Division. Eleanor was awarded with a \$25 registration scholarship to a 2024 4-H event of her choice, sponsored by Pierce Dental Office. Amberlin Marks received a purple and Reserve Champion with her speech "Detecting 4-H Feelings". Eleanor and Amberlin are able to represent Pierce County at state-level communication contest on June 18th, 2024, in Lincoln.

Riley Kuhl, a Clover Bud, received a special recognition ribbon and Grand Champion for her speech, "The Monkey".

For Illustration Presentation Junior Division participant, Noah Bach presented on the "Monsters from Greek Mythology." Noah was awarded a blue ribbon.

Weston & Wyatt Stemick's Illustrated Presentation, "Next Clip Job", received purple, Grand Champion, and each received a \$45 dollar registration scholarship to a 2024 4-H event of their choice. This scholarship is sponsored by Midwest Bank of Pierce, Security Bank of Osmond, Midwest Bank of Plainview. Weston & Wyatt will be able to attend the state-level communication contest on June 17th, 2024, in Lincoln.



Back row left to right: Wyatt Stemick, Weston Stemick.

Front row left to right: Henley Marks, Beckett Marks, Amberlin Marks, Eleanor Bauermeister, Luke Bauermeister, Riley Kuhl.

On the computer is Noah Bach, who presented via zoom.



Diamond Clover

It's time to work on those Diamond Clover plans! This program encourages youth to engage in a variety of age-appropriate experiences and rewards youth for trying new things, setting goals, and keeping records. Learn more and find planning forms at 4h.unl.edu/diamond-clover.



Big Red Summer Academic Camps

Exciting News! Big Red Summer Academic Camps registration is NOW OPEN! Don't miss out on the opportunity to develop new skills, prepare for college, explore career paths, and make lasting connections. Register today at 4h.unl.edu/big-red-camps.

2024 Summer Camps

The summer 2024 theme is The Power of Being Green. Youth will get to explore and interact with their natural world in six different sessions. Youth will learn how they can use their head, heart, hands, and health to make our natural world a better place for all. The 2024 sessions offer tailored age cohorts, providing sessions for younger campers between the ages of 8-10, and an older cohort for ages 10-14. Dates, session summaries, and registration information can be found by visiting <https://4h.unl.edu/camps-register>.

| Location | Dates | Age Groups |
|----------|------------|-------------|
| CHADRON | JUNE 1-5 | 10-14 YEARS |
| | JUNE 6-8 | 8-10 YEARS |
| COZAD | JUNE 16-20 | 10-14 YEARS |
| | JULY 1-3 | 8-10 YEARS |
| BURWELL | JULY 17-19 | 8-10 YEARS |
| | JULY 20-24 | 10-14 YEARS |

REGISTER TODAY
4H.UNL.EDU/CAMPS-REGISTER

Attention 4-H Families

We still have some County Fair and State Fair exhibits here in the office if you could please pick up as soon as possible.



Extension Educator
Ann Fenton

Extension Educator
Julie Schultz

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Phone: 402-329-4821 Fax: 402-329-6417








Stay up to date at UNL Extension and 4-H in Pierce County, Nebraska

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Nebraska Extension is a Extension of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture. The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

April Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|-----------|--|--|--|
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| |  | | | | | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | 4-H Council Meeting 7:30 P.M. | | |  | | Horsemanship Clinic in Adams Co. Fairgrounds |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
|  | Pick Up Beaded Wind Chime Take Home Project | | | | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| |  | | | Take Home Project Macrame Coaster Set Registration DUE | Arbor Day Extension Observed - Office Closed | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | |  | | | | |

May 2023

- 6-10: Pick up April Take Home kits - Macrame Coaster Set
- 27: Memorial Day Extension Observance - Office Closed
- 29: Wayne County YQCA at 1 p.m and 6 p.m. at Wayne Fairgrounds



June 2023

- 1: 4-H State Horse entry deadline (Horse ID Sheets & advancement levels due at office)
- 6-8: Fort Robinson 4-H Horse Ca
- 11: Pierce County YQCA Class at 1 P.M. and 6 P.M. at Pierce Fairgrounds.
- 14: DNA SAMPLES DUE at Extension Office
- 15: All ID's DUE
- 15: Livestock Quality Assurance DUE
- 15: Last Day to Enroll on 4-H Online
- 17: State-level Communication Contest - Illustrated Presentation
- 18: State-level Communication Contest - Speech
- 19: Juneteenth Extension Observance - Office Closed

Macramé Coaster Set

April Take Home Project



\$10

Includes:

- Two macramé yarn colors
- Four round cork coasters

Choose two colors:

- Cream
- Muted Clay
- Water Green

*You will receive enough supplies to create four coasters.

Call the Extension Office by April 25th to sign up!
(402-329-4821)

Pick up projects 5/6-5/10 at the Extension Office

Fair Entry: Design Decisions C-257-010
Accessory-Textile-2D