

4-H Family Newsletter - January 2024

Month Events/Deadlines

- January 1
New Year's Day – Office Closed
- January 8
Growing Clovers Club mtg
6 pm @ Extension Office
- January 8
Jr. Leaders Club mtg 7 pm @
Extension Office
- January 15
Martin Luther King Jr. Day –
Office Closed
- January 19
Leader Training Registration
Deadline
- January 22
Leader Training 5:15 pm @
Extension Office
- January 22
4-H Council mtg. 7:30 pm @
Extension Office
- January 27
State Indoor 4-H Archery
Championship @ Grand Island
- February 3
County Fair Market Cattle
Weigh-In 10 am – Noon @
Columbus Sale Barn
- February 4
Trap Club Safety mtg.
- February 5
Growing Clovers Club mtg.
6 pm @ Extension Office

Staff

Sheila Hoppe	Kelly Feehan
Kimberly Johnson	Beth Jones
Blake Wert	Sandra Swanson

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

4-H LEADER TRAINING

Mark your calendars for Monday, January 22 for the 2024 4-H Leader Training. This training must be attended by at least one representative from each club. Changes for the 2024 4-H year will be discussed, including new staff, enrollment, Quality Assurance, projects, fair updates and more.

A meal will be served 5:15 – 5:30 p.m. and the training will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Extension Office. RSVP to Sandra by Friday, January 19th. Can call 402-563-4901 or send an email to sswanson5@unl.edu by deadline.

WELCOME 4-H EXTENSION ASSISTANT

Blake Wert will be serving as the new 4-H Livestock Assistant in Platte County beginning January 8th.

He is from Hordville, NE and was active in 4-H for 12 years, where he showed cattle and sheep. Blake received his Associate of Applied Science in Animal Science at Northeast Community College where he was also on their Livestock Judging Team. He then transferred to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science with a Business/Communication Option. While at UNL, Blake was a member



of the 2022 University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team. 4-H has made a huge impact on Blake's life and he looks forward to working with the Platte County 4-H youth and their families.

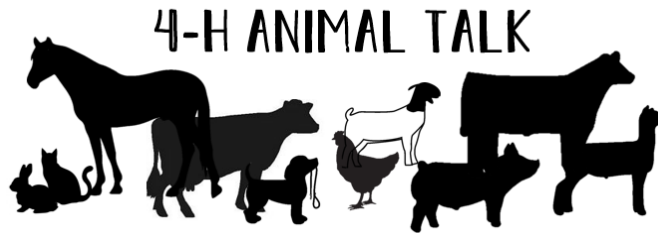
STAY IN TOUCH WITH 4-H

Platte County 4-H utilizes many social media tools to keep our 4-H families informed. Please bookmark, like us, or follow us on any or all of the following to stay on top of Platte County 4-H program.

Website: <http://platte.unl.edu>

Facebook: Nebraska Extension – Platte County

Twitter: Platte County 4-H @UNLPLATTE COUNTY



BEEF: The County Fair Market Beef Weigh-In will be Saturday, February 3 from 10 am to Noon at Columbus Sales Pavilion. This is the only weigh-in time offered so get it on your calendar!

- Led cattle are NOT required to weigh in for rate-of-gain, but MUST attend on February 3 for DNA pulls. Pen of 3 cattle are required to use EID tags again this year, rather than the red county tags. EID tags cost \$2.53/each and county fair tags cost \$1.00/each both can be purchased at the Extension office in January.
- **NEW:** To alleviate some wait times for families weighing in cattle on February 3rd. The following schedule will be followed.
 - Families with 1-10 head of cattle will weigh in and/or DNA pulled 10:00 – 10:45 am.
 - Families with 11 or more head will weigh in and/or DNA pulled 10:45 am – 12:00 Noon.
(Families with 11 or more head are asked to please wait to back up to chute till families with less head are done.)

DAIRY GOATS: Five dairy goats are available for free for any 4-H'er interested in learning, caring, and showing them at the Platte County Fair. Goats will remain at the Littlefield Farm in Surprise. If interested in learning a new animal project, please contact Susan Littlefield at slittlefield@ruralradio.com or 402-270-5267.

GROWING CLOVERS – A 4-H CLUB FOR CLOVER KIDS!

Our first meeting will be Monday, January 8th, 2024, 6-7 pm at the Extension Office!

Remember this club is open to all youth who turn 6,7, or 8 during the calendar year and who plan to enroll in 4-H in 2024! We have lots of fun projects planned this year. For more information contact Kimberly at the Extension office at kjohnson36@unl.edu.

CALLING YOUTH LEADERS

Platte County 4-H Jr. Leaders is looking for new members ages 13-18! Join us on January 8th 7pm-8pm at the Extension office to learn about our *revamped* Jr. Leader Program! This year we will be building our 4H leadership skills, going on local tours and increasing our community involvement! See enclosed flyer.

Being a Jr. Leader looks GREAT on resumes and the club leaders are perfect people to get letters of recommendations from! Contact kjohnson36@unl.edu or sheila.hoppe@unl.edu with questions!



Monday, January 15
Office Closed

ENROLL IN 4-H BY JANUARY 31ST

AND BE ENTERED
TO WIN



VARIOUS PRIZES!!

LIKE PRIME FAIR PARKING, POP STAND VOUCHER, FIRST
SPOT IN THE LINE AT THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL & MORE!

On-line enrollment is open to enroll or re-enroll your 4-H'er(s) for 2024. 4-H leaders along with Council members are required to enroll or re-enroll for the new year.

The enrollment website is <https://v2.4honline.com> or you can go to our county website at <http://platte.unl.edu> for enrolling or re-enrolling instructions to the 4-H Online enrollment website. Google Chrome and Firefox are the recommended web browsers to use when enrolling online.

Enrollment fee for 2024 is \$5.00 per 4-H'er and no charge for leaders or Council members. Payment is required at end of enrollment process.

NEW for 2024 Enrollment: A simplified project list has been implemented for the new enrollment year. This is to make enrolling in 4-H easier for families and promote consistency statewide. Remember this is project enrollment NOT fair exhibit entries. A project is centered around a topic of interest to members. A project should include a series of learning experiences related to that topic. When you enroll in 4HOnline, you sign up for projects.



IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ:

If you are re-enrolling in 4-H, please DO NOT create a new enrollment. Use your email address and password from last year to log in and start your re-enrollment for this year.

K-9 COMMANDERS YOUTH DOG CLUB

DOG CLUB

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH @ 6:00 P.M.
NEBRASKA EXTENSION - PLATTE COUNTY OFFICE
2715 13TH ST., COLUMBUS

ARE YOU A KID
AND HAVE A DOG?
THEN WE WANT
YOU!

- LEARN HOW TO WORK WITH YOUR DOG
- TRAIN YOUR DOG TO DO TRICKS
- LEARN LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS



EXTENSION



4-H Photography Workshop



This skill-building workshop will cover beginning photography basics. Each youth will receive a photography level 1 workbook to utilize during our sessions. This workshop will meet multiple times and it is **important** to attend each session as the lessons build on each other. It is required to bring your own camera or picture-taking device (phone, tablet, etc.). The lessons are tailored to traditional cameras, but if you are using something else, like a phone or tablet, we will do our best to help you. You will need digital storage space as we will be taking a lot of pictures. There is a maximum of 10 spots available – so sign up early! Once it does warm up, we will be going outside and using the skills that we learned to take pictures. **Meetings will take place from 5:30 – 6:30 in the Extension office unless otherwise stated** (when it is warmer, and we are outside we may meet somewhere else and lessons might be 30 minutes longer)

Meeting Dates:

2-12-24 4-08-24
3-11-24 4-29-24
3-25-24 5-20-24
 5-27-24

Registration Deadline: January 26th

Ages: 9+
Cost: \$12.00

**There is no guarantee you will get a picture for fair – but you will learn the skills needed to take a wonderful picture!*

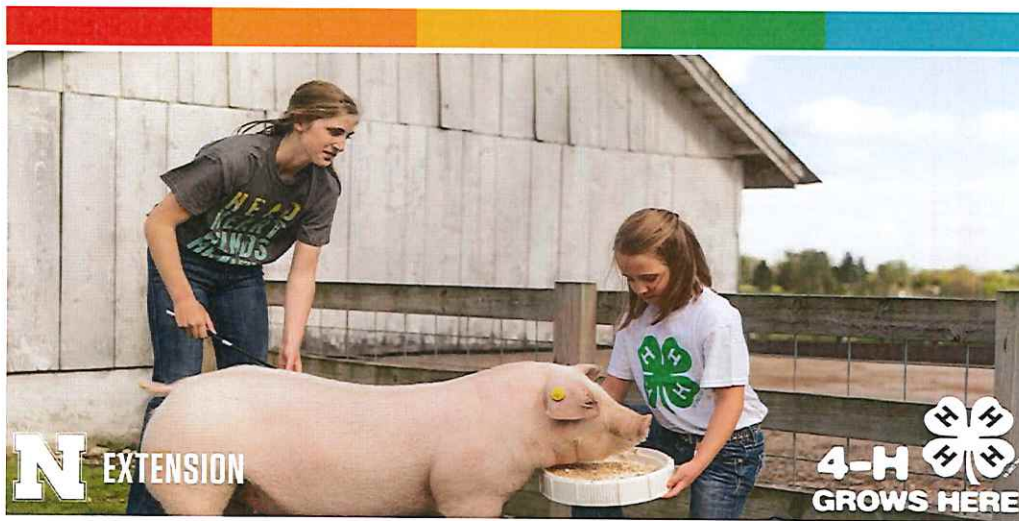
Registration Information:

4-H'er Name(s): _____ Age(s) (as if 1/1/24): _____

Parent Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Email: _____ Total Cost: _____
(\$12.00 per 4-H'er)

By signing this, you give permission to use your child's name/photograph in publications, advertisements, 4-H webpage, Facebook, or news articles.
Return this form and payment by Friday, January 26 to Nebraska Extension – Platte County, 2715 13th Street, Columbus NE 68601-4916.



Farrowed and Owned Swine Cohort

A Farrowed and Owned Breeding and Market Swine division for youth interested in learning more about the swine industry is available again at the Nebraska State Fair in 2024! 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 as of January 1, 2024, complete YQCA, farrowed their project animal(s) and participate in monthly virtual educational meetings.

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 biosecurity, meat science, economics of raising swine and more.
- The cohort will meet virtually the first Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m. CT, the months of February, March, April, May and June.
- 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 2024 Nebraska State Fair with the opportunity for special recognition as a result of participating in the cohort.

Register [here](#) by February 1, 2024!

****Optional special virtual education session on farrowing will be held on January 7th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Register by January 5th to participate!****

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.



2024 Special Garden Project Princess India Nasturtium



Photo: Johnny's Select Seed

- * *Grow an unusual or different flower*
- * *Learn about growing Nasturtium*
- * *Enter an exhibit/s at County Fair*

\$3.00 per Family - Enroll on-line in Special Garden Project by May 1st. Clip and return form below with money by April 10th to receive seeds.

This project is open to all youth of 4-H age. The Special Gardening Project lets 4-H members try their hand at growing different vegetables and flowers. The project allows experienced 4-H gardeners to grow something fun, new, or different while letting those new to gardening get their feet wet in this project area.

4-H'ers enrolled in the Special Garden Project will:

- * Receive a packet of Princess of India Nasturtium seed (one per family) in late April/early May
- * Receive a newsletter about:
 - Planting & growing Nasturtium
 - Using Nasturtium – an 'heirloom' annual flower whose leaves and blossoms are edible
- * Be able to enter the flower or related exhibits at County Fair (Classes G-775-1 to G-775-2)
- * Complete an evaluation at: https://ssp.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bEPpobWHj8BcwHY

2024 Special Garden Project Fee

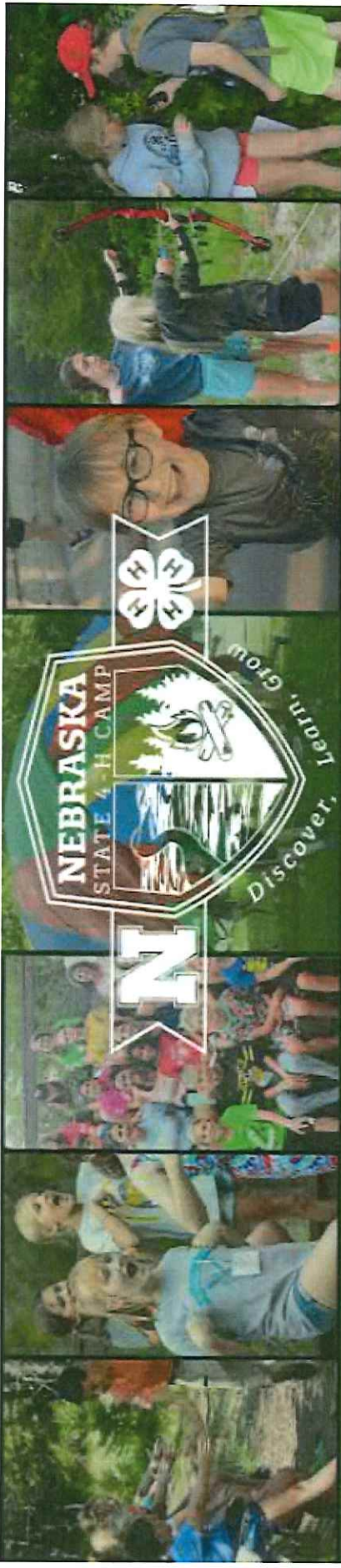
I have enrolled in this project on-line and I am enclosing my \$3.00 fee with this form to cover the cost of seed and mailing of seed/newsletter.

Make check payable to: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Mail form and payment to Nebraska Extension – Platte County, Attn: SGP, 2715 13th Street, Columbus NE 68601

NAME/S: _____

ADDRESS: _____ E-MAIL: _____



Summer 2024 CAMP

The power of
being  green



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

CHADRON
JUNE 1-5
JUNE 6-8

10-14 YEARS
8-10 YEARS

COZAD
JUNE 16-20
JULY 1-3

10-14 YEARS
8-10 YEARS

BURWELL
JULY 17-19
JULY 20-24

8-10 YEARS
10-14 YEARS

