

4-H Family Newsletter – March 2024

Month Events/Deadlines

- March 4
Growing Clovers Club Mtg.
6 pm @ Extension Office
- March 4
Jr. Leaders Club Mtg. 7:00 -
8:30 pm @ Extension Office
- March 8
YQCA Training 10:00 am @
Extension Office
- March 10
Daylight Savings Time
Begins
- March 15 – 16
State Robotics
Championship @ UNL
- March 19
Rural Recognition Banquet
6 pm @ Ag Park, Club
Room
- March 20
Communication Event
Online Registration Deadline
- March 29
County Fair Broiler Order
Deadline
- March 31
Easter
- April 1
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.

RURAL RECOGNITION BANQUET MARCH 19

Congratulations to Platte County 4-H award recipients who will be recognized at the Rural Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, March 19. Because of these leaders and volunteers and their continuous support, the Platte County 4-H program is stronger than ever!

Meritorious Service Award: Pinnacle Bank, Brad Christensen

Friends of 4-H Award: Artzy Haven, Jodi Covert / Sarah Glinsmann

Club Leaders' Years of Service:

10 years: Tricia Kersting, Brigen Kinnison

35 years: Renee DeLaCruz, Beau Klug

4-H Scholarship Winners and Diamond Clover Award recipients to be recognized:

4-H \$250.00 College Scholarship Recipients: Adyson Groteluschen, Lillian Hudnall, Eli Kreikemeier, Amber Spawn

Diamond Clover Award Recipients:

Level 1 Amethyst: Rayetta Anderson, Brooke Faltys, Claire Hellbusch, Marissa Hellbusch, Hunter Niedbalski, Evie Noyd, Knox Paulsen, Jada Rosendahl, Charlie Wilke, Cooper Wilke

Level 2 Aquamarine: Lucy Faltys, Natalie Faltys, Sydney Kosch, Brooke Kreikemeier, Ellorie Renner, Gavin Rosendahl

Level 3 Ruby: Delaney Cheloha, Karis Kersting, Alivia Kreikemeier, Cooper Niedbalski, Alaina Rosendahl

Level 4 Sapphire: Adelle Kinnison, Callista Reichmuth, Justine Reichmuth

Level 6 Diamond: Abby Schumacher, Amber Spawn, Rachel Spawn
Nebraska 4-H Gives Back: Lillian Hudnall

The public is invited to attend the Rural Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, March 19 at the Ag Park, Club Room, Columbus. Tickets can be purchased at the Columbus Chamber of Commerce office.

PLATTE COUNTY FAIR BOOK

Enclosed is the 2024 Platte County Fair Book. **ALL** information about exhibiting 4-H & FFA at the Platte County Fair will be in the book.

A few major division changes: Home Environment title has been changed to Home Design & Restoration with a lot of class changes. Horse division has been revamped, added Bottle Goat classes, Shooting Sports Trap is a new addition along with FFA Wildlife division.

Changes have been made throughout the fair book, so please take the time to read so you are well informed.

This book will be needed for the County Fair Online entry deadline of Saturday, June 15th.

ENROLL IN 4-H BEFORE YOU MISS OUT

4-H Members, Volunteers/Leaders and Council Members must re-enroll every year! Cost is \$5.00 per 4-H'er. No cost to leaders, volunteers, or Council members.

If not currently enrolled in 4-H, you will miss out on participating in contests, summer workshops, camps, and the County Fair.

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.

If you have enrolled in 4-H in the past, no need to set up a new account.

Any questions, please contact Sandra at the Extension Office at 402-563-4901 or send an email to sswanson5@unl.edu.

PROJECT VS. EXHIBIT

A *project* is centered around a topic of interest to members. Members can choose one or more topics to learn about. There are a whole range of projects for 4-H'ers, everything from animals, to gardening, to safety and more! A *project* should include a series of learning experiences related to that topic. When you enroll in 4-H online, you sign up for *projects*. A list of Platte County 4-H projects can be found at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/platte/Project-Listing-2024.pdf>.

An *exhibit* is the specific item or animal 4-H'ers bring to the fair. All eligible *exhibits* are found in the Platte County Fair book which is included with this newsletter. There is a separate online *exhibit* registration process for county fair that will happen beginning in May.

A 4-H'er must be enrolled in the *project* in order to *exhibit* at the County Fair.

Please contact any 4-H staff member at the Extension office, if you have any questions.

RECRUITMENT NIGHT

THANK YOU to everyone who showed their support of Platte County 4-H by stopping by Runza for our recruitment night! We were able to raise money for 4-H and speak to several families about what 4-H is all about!



STATE INDOOR 4-H ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIP HELD IN JANUARY

On January 26 and 27, the State Indoor 4-H Archery Championship was held at Ag Park, Columbus. Congratulations to Platte County 4-H Archers who competed.

Cub: Bowhunter Free Style

Bennett Naslund – 18th Place

Youth: Bowhunter Free Style

Erica Scribner – 13th Place

Young Adult: Bowhunter Free Style

Olivia Scribner – 21st Place

4-H Shooting Sports National Championship will be held in Grand Island, NE June 23– 28, 2024.

COMMUNICATION EVENT REGISTRATION DEADLINE – MARCH 20

Log into your 4HOnline account at <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> to register for any of these contests:

Speech

Public Service Announcement

Impromptu Speech

Presentation

4-H Jr. Leaders – March 4, 7:00-8:30

The Junior Leaders Club is a dynamic leadership group specifically for our local teens. By joining Jr. Leaders, you will gain leadership skills, personal growth, and help make meaningful contributions to our community. We are planning an array of activities, workshops, and projects. Join this group to help make a difference in Platte County! It's not too late to join!

At the March meeting we will be electing officers, deciding on a fundraiser, determining the details of the April meeting, and taking a tour of the new Columbus Area Children's Museum.

YOUTH ACTIVITY FAIR – MARCH 16th 9am – 11am

4-H will have a booth set up at the on the 3rd floor of the Columbus Community Building on March 16th for the Youth Activity fair. If you would like to volunteer to share your experience in 4-H with potential new 4-H families – please let Kimberly at the office know!



Thank you to those who came to our Valentines Workshop last month! We were able to deliver a WHOLE box of valentines to Brookstone Acres and their residents were able to enjoy your creativity for Valentine's day! What you do DOES make a difference. **WAY TO GO!**



NEBRASKA 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP OFFERED IN ALBION

A Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop is scheduled for mid-April in Albion. It will be held April 13-14 at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Albion. The early bird deadline to register for the workshop is April 3rd.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to become certified as an adult (21 years and older) or apprentice (14-20 years old) leader. Four project areas and ambassador training will be offered at the Albion Workshop – rifle, pistol, shotgun, archery, and ambassador. Ambassador training will be held in conjunction with instructor's workshop and up to eight teens will be accepted at the training session. Please help recruit qualified teen leaders, ages 14-18, who are excelling in their shooting sports projects.

There is a minimum number of participants needed to offer these disciplines at the workshop. Workshop participants will learn under expert instruction from members of the Nebraska State 4-H Shooting Sports Training Team.

The registration fee is \$90 per person for initial certification or those individuals adding an additional discipline except for Apprentice Instructors and Ambassadors. The registration fee for Apprentice Instructors (14 to 20 years of age) and Ambassadors (14-18 years of age) is \$80 for this workshop. The late registration fee is \$160 for both levels. This fee includes meals, supplies and program materials. Participants must make their own lodging arrangements. Registration on Saturday runs from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

While participants might need to bring limited, if any, equipment to the in-person discipline training site, there are a series of four National 4-H Shooting Sports online modules which individuals **MUST** complete prior to the training to become eligible for certification. Information on the modules and how to enroll, *4-H Shooting Sports Online User Guide*, can be accessed by using the link found on the Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports website under Calendar of 4-H Shooting Sports Events at <https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports>, under the "Albion Workshop" - this provides step-by-step instructions on how to sign up for and complete the entire series of modules before the workshop. Individuals who have already completed the Online modules are not required to complete them again.

As individuals follow each of the instructions in the Online User Guide, they will be asked to choose a payment method. Participants are responsible for the \$20 (per person) registration fee. The entire series of modules will take approximately 3-4 hours, so please plan some time accordingly.

For more workshop information and registration link, go to the [4-H Shooting Sports web page](#). Or contact Steve Pritchard at (402)395-2158 or (308)536-2691.

JR. 4-H CAMP ON-LINE REGISTRATION

Jr. Camp is scheduled for June 5-7, 2024 at Whispering Cedars near Genoa. 4-H'ers from Platte, Antelope, Boone, Merrick, Nance, Polk, Hamilton, and York counties are welcome to attend. Jr. Camp is for 4-H'ers age 8 – 11 and the cost is \$110.00 per camper.

See camp flyer included in this newsletter for all registration requirements including registering on-line, completing 4-H Participant Permission and Health form in their 4HOnline account, and payment information. Jr. Camp registration deadline is May 1, 2024.

All Jr. Camp information and links can be found on the Platte County website at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/platte/platte-county-4-h-jr-camp/>.

JR 4-H CAMP COUNSELORS

Are you ready to have the experience of a lifetime? Are you ready to make memories that will last forever? Are you ready to show off your skills? If you said yes – to those questions, then you might be ready to be a camp counselor at the 2024 4-H Jr. Camp.

This year we are taking things to a whole *new* level and igniting the 4-H Spark. The opportunity to be a role model for youth doesn't come around often so take the chance while it's here. And remember – camp was so AWESOME last year it won an award.... And this year things are only getting better... Trust me, you don't want to miss out on that!

Counselors must be 16 to 18 years of age before January 1 of the current year. No fee for Counselor to attend camp. Must complete an online Counselor Registration form and a Counselor Agreement by May 3, 2024 deadline. All forms can be found online at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/platte/platte-county-4-h-jr-camp/>.

NEBRASKA CATTLEMEN'S CLASSIC

Platte County 4-H was represented well at the Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic in Kearney. There were a total of 66 youth that competed in the contest. Here are a few of the highlights:

- 9th High Team Overall (out of 22)
- Briggs Klug 11th High Individual Overall
- Madilyn Klug 11th in Feedlot Cattle
- Briggs Klug 12th in Feedlot Cattle
- Briggs Klug 10th in Placings!!

Team Members included: Briggs Klug, Madilyn Klug, Marissa Hellbusch, Audrey Faltys



OMAHA FASHION WEEK

Platte County and 4-H were wonderfully represented at Omaha Fashion Week, one of the Midwest's largest fashion events. Delaney Cheloha and Karis Kersting were selected to model their own designs along with other high school-aged designers at the Omaha Design center.

The Nebraska 4-H collection included youth who sewn their garments in 2023; 32 youth from 18 counties were selected to participate in the 4-H collection.



Sunday, March 10



DAYLIGHT
SAVING
TIME
Spring
FORWARD



QUALITY ASSURANCE: Trainings will be offered through the program YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) again this year! Blake Wert will be offering face-to face sessions at the Platte County Extension Office and is available to conduct training at club meetings as his schedule allows. You can contact Blake at bwert3@unl.edu to set up a time. The deadline to complete quality assurance is **Friday, May 31**.

Registering for quality assurance will be online at <https://yqcaprogram.org/> using the Family 4-H Online login information for active youth. If you are in both 4-H and FFA, please register through the 4-H login option. Face-to-face sessions cost \$3 and online sessions cost \$12. This is paid online when you register. Youth will need to register before coming to the face-to-face session. Face-to-face sessions will last about an hour and the following dates have been set.

Friday, March 8 th	10am -11am
Monday, April 22 nd	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Monday, May 13 th ,	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Friday, May 24 th	3pm-4pm

STATE FAIR NOMINATIONS: Nominations will be online again this year via www.showstockmgr.com. State fair tags and DNA envelopes are available at the Extension Office. The deadline for ALL online nominations, including Market Beef, is **June 14**.

GENERAL LIVESTOCK: Nebraska 4-H Livestock Achievement Program enrollment is open! This additional opportunity for enrolled livestock project youth, is designed to promote all educational aspects of 4-H livestock projects including selection, production, leadership, and exhibition by recognizing youth striving to improve in their livestock project areas including beef, sheep, meat goat, swine, dairy cattle, dairy goat, rabbit, and poultry. For more information, contact Blake or visit <https://4h.unl.edu/livestock-achievement>.

PASE CONTESTS: If you are interested in livestock judging, quiz bowl or skill-a-thon, please let Blake know at bwert3@unl.edu or 402-563-4901 so you can be put on the email list. Livestock Judging will begin once we have a list of those who may be interested. Quiz Bowl and Skill-a-thon is a state contest. Those interested would practice at the Extension Office and would compete on June 20-21 in Lincoln. At least 4 members are needed for a team! The minimum age for a team member is 10 as of January 1.

MARKET ANIMAL DNA DAY: Save the date of Saturday, May 11 for the Market Animal DNA Day for goat, sheep, and swine at Ag Park in the Exhibit Hall parking lot! Beef was pulled at the February weigh-in. Appointments can be scheduled to pull DNA the week of May 6 if you are unable to attend on May 11. To schedule an appointment, contact Blake at bwert3@unl.edu or the extension office phone at 402-563-4901.

Dates to Remember:

March 8	Quality Assurance at Platte County Extension Office @ 10:00 am
March 16	UNL Poultry Extension Chick Days in Lincoln
March 29	Broiler order deadline for County Fair. Cost is \$2.25/bird. If you order 100 birds or more, the cost is \$2.20/bird.
April 22	Quality Assurance at Platte County Extension Office @ 6:30 pm

COMMUNICATION EVENT

DATE AND TIME : SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH, 2024 AT 4:00PM

LOCATION: WEST EDUCATION CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

REGISTRATION: ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.



DEADLINE : MARCH 20TH, 2024

CONTESTS YOU CAN ENTER

SPEECH CONTEST

An original speech with no visual aids
and no teams

PSA CONTEST

60 Seconds radio public service
announcement

IMPROMPTU SPEECH CONTEST

Present a speech over a topic given at
the event with 15 minutes to prepare

PRESENTATION CONTEST

An individual or team presentation
with the use of visual aids

CHALLENGE PRODUCT:
WOOD PALLET

2024 Platte County Fair Challenge Project

In order to qualify for this year's Challenge Fair Project, 50% of your project must be made from a wood pallet. Please contact the office if you would like to participate in the Challenge Fair Project, so we can keep track of the projects. This project can be submitted into any class in which you can make your project fit and that is where it will be judged. It will be displayed in a special recognition Challenge Project space. You may use your own pallet or you may contact the office and we will provide one for you. Please contact Sheila or Kimberly if you have questions.

402-563-4901 or shoppe3@unl.edu



Junior 4-H Camp

Whispering Cedars Camp, Genoa NE



June 5th-7th



Registration Deadline: May 1, 2024

Camp begins at 1 p.m. on June 5th and Ends at 11:30 a.m. on June 7th, 2024.

2024 Fee Schedule

Now until May 1st at 4 pm
Early Bird \$110

May 2nd- 8th at 4 pm - \$135

May 9th - Registration Closed

2024 Refund Schedule

Until May 1st at 4 pm -100%

May 8th – 50%

After May 9th – No refunds

Junior 4-H Camp counties involved are:

Polk, York, Platte, Merrick, Antelope,

Boone and Nance.

“Junior” Camp is open to ALL youth, 4-H ages 8-11. 12-year-old campers will be placed on a waiting list if registered and paid. If space allows after the deadline, they will be notified if they can attend. Final instructions will be sent after all registrations are collected.

Complete the on-line form using the link below and turn in the payment as soon as possible. If fee(s) are not received by the deadline, camper(s) registration will be canceled.

All participants must complete the 4-H Participant Permission and Health Form in their 4hOnline 2.0 enrollment.

Complete the Online Google Registration Form and return the form below along with PAYMENT to:

Nebraska Extension – Platte County, 2715 13th Street, Columbus NE 68601-4916



Name(s): _____

HAVE YOU COMPLETED :

<https://go.unl.edu/2024jrcamp>



The Google Form? YES NO

4-H Participant Permission and Health Form? YES NO

\$110 / \$135 Fee

_____ Cash _____ Check Number



MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PLATTE COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL





4-H Council Scholarship Application

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Club _____

**** Due Wednesday, April 10, 2024 ****

Scholarship(s) Applying For: (please list the camp or event you are requesting money for)

_____ Cost: _____



“Why I want to go to _____” (50-150 words)



List three things you hope to gain from participating.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Why do you think you should be awarded a scholarship?

Have you received a 4-H Council Scholarship in the past?

Yes, I have received a scholarship in the past for (list the camp/event)
 _____ and for this amount \$ _____.

No

Return completed application by the due date to:

Nebraska Extension – Platte County
 Attn: 4-H Scholarship Committee
 2715 13th Street, Columbus, NE 68601-4916



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: _____



BIG RED CAMPS

Cost: \$575-\$800
(varies by camp; covers lodging & meals, supplies, and other expenses as applicable - field trip expenses, uniforms, etc.)
Limited scholarships are available!

[HTTPS://4H.UNL.EDU/BIG-RED-CAMPS](https://4h.unl.edu/big-red-camps)

Nebraska 4-H facilitates multiple, simultaneously run Big Red Summer Camps at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This week long experience was created to give young people a better understanding of the college life experience based upon future careers of interest. We work to provide an experiential learning opportunity for all program participants. Campers come from across Nebraska and the nation.

WHY BIG RED CAMPS?

- An enriched learning opportunity, in a safe and inclusive environment, designed to provide hands-on postsecondary and workplace experiences
- Experience life on a college campus
- Network with local, area, regional, and/or state University faculty and staff as well as business & industry experts
- Gain knowledge to pursue a wide variety of postsecondary and/or career options
- Attain college and career readiness knowledge and skills and earn a digital badge
- A highlight of the week is the capstone project presentation for parents/guardians/chaperones/guests

2024 CAMP SESSIONS

- ROOTED in Agriculture
- Animation
- The Art of Teaching: Inspiring Minds, Igniting Potential
- Discover Fashion: Clothing Design, Sustainability, & the Future of Textiles
- Discover Cryptography - AGAM
- Discover Digital Media
- Discover Engineering
- Discover Esports
- Physics of Earth
- Discover Speech, Hearing, & Special Education
- STEM Odyssey
- Discover Unicameral Youth Legislature
- Discover Veterinary Science
- Discover Weather & Climate Science

STATE CONTACTS

Dr. Dawn Lindsley, Program Director

Claire Swanson,
Assistant Camp Director

BigRedCamps@unl.edu

PARTICIPANTS STATE THIS PROGRAM HAS HELPED THEM...
100% LEARN NEW INFORMATION
99% GAIN COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS SKILLS
(75 YOUTH, 2022 EVALUATION)

