



Saline County News & Views



December 2017

4-H Members, Leaders & Volunteers Recognized

Congratulations to all those who were recognized at the 2017 Saline County 4-H Recognition Program. I Dare You Award winners were Madalyn Coe-Ahl, Crete and Abbey Vales, DeWitt. Michelle Kotas, Western, was recognized as the Outstanding 4-H'er. The 4-H Alumni Award was presented to Tanya Brown, Crete and Farmers Cooperative was recognized as our Friend of 4-H for 2017.

Also recognized were recipients of County Award Medal winners, Camp Scholarships, and Diamond Clover Awards.

4-H Leaders were honored for their years of dedicated volunteer service to the Saline county 4-H program. First and ten year 4-H members who completed the 4-H Career Portfolio were recognized.

Makenna Coe-Ahl, Crete, and Bailey Taylor, DeWitt were each presented with the Equine Legacy Award.

Congratulations to all of the Saline county 4-H members on a successful 4-H year!

If you were unable to attend, please stop by the Extension Office to pick up your Career Portfolio. We ask that you check with your club leader first, as they may have picked up the portfolios for the entire club.



Pictured (L to R): Eric Stehlik, Abbey Vales, George Kasl (Farmers Cooperative representative), Madalyn Coe-Ahl, Bailey Taylor & Makenna Coe-Ahl.



Eric Stehlik, 4-H Program Associate and Tanya Brown, 4-H Alumni Award winner.



Michelle Kotas, 2017 Outstanding 4-H'er.



MARKET BEEF WEIGH DAY

On Saturday, January 13, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. we will be tagging, pulling DNA, and weighing 4-H & FFA market steers and market heifers at Weber Feedyards located 2 miles west of Dorchester just off County Road 1200 (big tan building).

Market Beef (4-H & FFA) to be exhibited at State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben must be identified with an EID tag and DNA sample. Cost is \$8/animal (EID & DNA). Market Beef to be exhibited at County Fair only will also use the EID tag at a cost of \$2/tag.

Youth who exhibited bucket calves at the 2017 Saline County Fair who are planning to bring back these calves in 2018 as Performance Market Steers/Heifers will need to weigh Performance Calves at this weigh day. Clover Kids who exhibited bucket calves in 2017 who are now 8 years of age by Jan. 1, 2018, may show last year's bucket calves as Performance Calves. Calves must be weighed at the weigh day to be eligible for market classes. If you have questions, please ask.

NOTE: Market Beef MUST BE weighed at the Saline County weigh day to be eligible for county Rate of Gain contest. NO EXCEPTIONS!

**~ SAVE THE DATE ~
2018
Saline County Fair
July 17-22**

We Need Your Orphaned Gloves!

If you have any orphaned gloves, gloves missing its mate or gloves that don't fit you or your children (cotton gloves), would you please consider donating them to the Extension Office. They will be put to good use for the Clover Kids after school program activity. Please bring them to the office by December 20, 2017.



Clover Days Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete our survey in order to help us plan and develop the sessions for our Clover Days activities for the summer of 2018.

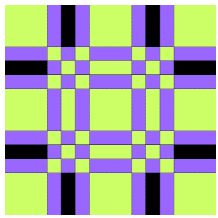


The survey can be found at: <https://go.unl.edu/2018cloverdaysurvey>

We value your input as we begin to plan for this event. Survey closes on December 20th.

4-H Quilting During Holiday Break

Youth wanting to get a head start on your quilting projects for 2018 are invited to come to the quilting session at the Extension Office in Wilber on **Wednesday, December 27th**. We will begin at 10 a.m. You are free to leave when you need to.



Liz Possnecker will be here to help you with your projects.

Please bring your quilt pattern, fabric, sewing machine, cutting tools, mats, and notions.

If you are new to quilting and need ideas for a project please let us know. Most new quilters begin with a tied lap quilt. Call for

supply list.

You are asked to RSVP by Thursday, December 21st if you plan to attend.

Community Service

Now is a great time for clubs to work on community service projects - winter clothing collection, recycling assistance, food donations to food pantries, trash pick-up, holiday decorations for the elderly, raking leaves, Christmas donations for the needy, helping with a community holiday meal are all great ideas for your club.

In order to meet the community service requirement to be a 4-H Club of Excellence you must actually do something to help your community. Monetary gifts for trophies are appreciated, but do not involve the youth working to make a difference.

Excellent photo opportunities for youth Career Portfolios and newspapers can be found when the members are busy doing jobs and completing tasks!

Animal Advisory Meetings

Thank you to those who attended the Animal Advisory meetings to review rules, policies, etc. for each area.

We appreciate your attendance and offering suggestions in regard to agenda items discussed for each specie area.

Once approved the changes will be noted in future issues of the News & Views newsletter.



Nebraska 4-H Club of the Month

The Nebraska 4-H Foundation and the Nebraska 4-H Ambassadors are selecting a Nebraska 4-H Club of the Month each month.

Monthly, a 4-H club is chosen as the Nebraska 4-H Club of the Month. In order to be chosen, 4-H clubs must nominate themselves by filling out the application found at: <http://www.ne4hfoundation.org/> then click the Recognition tab at the top. The club who is chosen to be Club of the Month will receive a \$50 cash card from the Nebraska 4-H Foundation.

Scholarship Opportunities

High school seniors should visit the "Scholarships" link on the 4-H page of our website. We have added information about scholarships we have received to date. We will add other scholarship information as it becomes available to us so check regularly for updates.

Thinking of Starting Your Own 4-H Club?

Parents, now would be a great time to start the process of beginning a new 4-H club in your area or community. Ask around in your circle of acquaintances to see if they have children who would like to be part of a new 4-H club in your area. No experience is necessary. Even if you were not a 4-H'er, you can become an organizational or project leader.

An organized club needs to have at least 5 members from three different families.

In the Crete area we have a need for another club.

Call our office if you are interested and we can help you begin the process so when the 2018 enrollment website opens your members can begin enrolling.

Interested in Sharing With Younger Youth?

Last year the Ag Innovator project focused on healthy soil, and it was really fun to see the students discovering, trying their project and revising. The activities was to build a model crop planter powered by a nonobot (bug bot). It was quite an experience to see these 9-10 year olds design and build a model planter and try it out.

This year the project will feature Monarch Butterflies, with a hands on training before we use it. I would like to find one or two 12-14 year olds that would help teach younger students in the after school setting.

Please contact Eric with any questions or if interested, have some fun for yourself as you help others discover.



Did You Move, Change Phone Numbers, Etc.

When you re-enroll your children in 4-H online for 2018, please be sure to change any information on your family profile such as address and phone numbers or emergency contacts if they have changed. We use the information in 4HOnline for our contact list.





4-H ADVANCEMENT LEVEL STUDY COURSES

Prepare for the advancement level tests 1 and 2
Beginning Horseman: 4-H Advancement Level 1 Study Course
Intermediate Horseman: 4-H Advancement Level 2 Study Course

To get access to courses, please visit: <http://4h.unl.edu/horse/advancement>
For more information contact Lena Luck at lena.luck@unl.edu.
Cost: \$10 per course for a 3-months subscription
For youth 8-18 years



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4-H & FFA License Plates

Take your support of "Making the Best Better" and "Learning to Do" wherever you go with the new license plates showcasing Nebraska 4-H and Nebraska FFA! The Nebraska 4-H Foundation and Nebraska FFA Association in cooperation with the Nebraska FFA Alumni, have teamed up to create the first ever license plate supporting the two largest youth organizations in Nebraska.

There must be 250 applications received before the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles will begin issuing this organizational plate. Order yours today by filling out the application form at <http://ne4hfoundation.org> and mailing it along with the \$70 fee to the Nebraska 4-H Foundation.

Be one of the first 4-H and FFA license plate owners and show the world you are an advocate of these outstanding youth organizations.



EXPLORE NEBRASKA RED LETTER DAYS AT UNL

Experience for yourself what life is like as a student at Nebraska. During your Red Letter Day, you'll tour campus with a current Nebraska student as your guide, explore your academic interests, visit a residence hall, learn more about student involvement opportunities, discuss important admissions, scholarship and financial aid information, and discover the many services that help students at Nebraska succeed. Red Letter days will be: Feb. 16, Feb. 23, March 9, March 12 (Pre-Health), March 16 & April 27.

Register at: <https://admissions.unl.edu/events/on-campus/red-letter-days/>

News & Views
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**Merry Christmas From the Staff at the
Saline County Extension Office.**



Visit us on the web at: www.saline.unl.edu

Special Garden Project For 2018

In 2018, the Special Garden Project will be the unique, Delft Blue Nigella. Delft Blue Nigella is named for the famous Dutch Delft Blue pottery. They have unique flowers with blue splashed on flower petals in varying shades of blue and grey, and intricate deep-purple centers.

This special garden project can be exhibited at the county fair.

Seed packets will cost 50¢ each. Please call our office at (402) 821-2151 to order your packet(s) by **January 17**. Seed packets will be available in March. Participants will also receive a newsletter at that time with planting & growing information, how to handle problems & insects, as well as harvesting and exhibiting tips.

4-H members must also enroll in the Special Garden Project when enrolling in 4-H for 2018.



4-H ~ Your First Class at The University of Nebraska

UNL Extension Youth Development - Saline County
306 W 3rd Street, P.O. Box 978, Wilber NE 68465
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Website: www.saline.unl.edu
Email: saline-county@unl.edu

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with Counties and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the non-discrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.