



Nebraska Extension Seward County  
322 S. 14th St.  
Seward, NE 68434

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seward.unl.edu

@NebraskaExtension-SewardCounty

# 4-H ActionLine

SEWARD COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

January 2021

## Gearing up for a great 4-H year in 2021

Happy New Year! We are excited to get 2021 off to a fresh start, and look forward to all the 4-H activities to come this year. As of Dec. 28, the Four Corners Health Department risk dial is in the orange, which means 4-H programs may happen in person as long as proper COVID-19 safety protocols are followed. This includes requiring masks and social distancing during 4-H activities, as well as enhanced sanitation. If the risk dial moves back into the red, activities need to go virtual.

To check the status of the risk dial, go to [fourcorners.ne.gov](http://fourcorners.ne.gov).

For more information on these Nebraska Extension guidelines from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, call the Extension Office at (402) 643-2981.

As we navigate January still in the pandemic, we will plan to host meetings and events in accordance with these guidelines. Please keep watch on your email and our Facebook page for any last-minute cancellations or events that must be moved to a virtual format.

### Dates & Deadlines

## January

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Happy New Year!<br>Extension Office Closed                 |
| 3  | Jr. Leaders Meeting<br>4 p.m., Extension Office            |
| 4  | 4-H Council Meeting<br>6 p.m., Extension Office            |
| 5  | Horsemanship Study Group<br>7 p.m., Extension Office       |
| 8  | 4-H College Scholarship<br>Applications Due by 5 p.m.      |
| 7  | 4-H Clovers Club Meeting<br>4 p.m., virtual                |
| 7  | The Learning Child January<br>class series begins, virtual |
| 11 | College Scholarship<br>Interviews begin at 6 p.m.          |
| 18 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day<br>Extension Office Closed     |
| 23 | Market Beef Weigh Day<br>10-11:30 a.m., Beaver<br>Crossing |

**A Volunteer Training Day  
will be offered in February.  
Details coming soon!**

# MARKET BEEF WEIGH DAY

January 23, 2021  
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Jon Eberspacher Farm  
740 364th  
Beaver Crossing

**All market beef must have a EID tag. EID tags will be available at weigh day. \$2.75 / tag, payment to Seward 4-H Council. If cash, please have exact amount.**



**DNA Envelopes will also be available.  
DNA is required to show at the NE State Fair.**

Contact Cindy Wolverton at 402-643-2981 with any questions



## Scholarship apps due by January 8

Seniors enrolled in Seward County 4-H should have received a letter in the mail with details on applying for 4-H Council and 4-H Foundation college scholarships. Applications are due to the Extension Office by 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 8. If you did not receive a letter, call (402) 643-2981.

# Enroll by June 15 to participate in county, state fairs

It's time to plan for the upcoming 4-H year! Nebraska 4-H recently set a statewide 4-H enrollment date of June 15. This is a change from the previous county deadline of April 1. All 4-H members who wish to participate in the Seward County Fair or the Nebraska State Fair must be enrolled by June 15. For all events and contests prior to June 15, youth do need to be enrolled to participate. For example, Performing Arts contest, District Horse Show, or a Shooting Sports competition.

You may make changes in your enrollment until June 15, 2021. This will help us make sure our records are kept up-to-date and that we are sending information to the correct addresses. 4-H members need to re-enroll each year. Go to [ne.4honline.com](http://ne.4honline.com) and sign in to your account to re-enroll, or create an account for new 4-H families. Call (402) 643-2981 with questions.



## 2020 COUNTY FAIR T-SHIRT



## Purchase a t-shirt

WE HAVE A FEW T-SHIRTS LEFTOVER  
FROM COUNTY FAIR

Please call the Extension office if you would like to purchase a shirt. Each shirt is \$8.00, payment to Seward 4-H Foundation



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## Salad, bread in a bag ready for 4-H youth!

Seward County Extension was the recipient of a Healthy Habits grant, which we used to assemble to-go kits for two recipes, Cowboy Black Bean Salad and Bread in a Bag. The bags contain a recipe and most ingredients to make each one.

All Seward County 4-Hers are welcome to stop by the Extension Office in January to pick up one of each bag at no cost. One of each recipe per family, while supplies last.





## 2021 Special Agronomy Project- Teosinte

The Nebraska Extension Special Agronomy Project gives 4-H members an opportunity to experience a crop that is grown, was grown or has the potential to be grown in Nebraska. Youth participate by receiving seed and resources to grow the crop, research traits of the crop and determine the viability of that crop in the part of the state they live. The project allows 4-H members interested in agronomy to grow something fun, new, and different.

To kick-off the inaugural year of the special agronomy project, youth will explore teosinte. The plant looks and is very similar to corn, in fact it is believed to be the wild ancestor of today's corn!

### 4-H members enrolled in the Special Agronomy Project will:

- Receive a 'packet' of teosinte seeds (one packet per youth) in March/April
- Grow their seeds in their garden or pots
- Receive written resource materials AND virtual, live or recorded videos/field trips
- Be eligible to enter an exhibit at both the County and/or State Fair in the agronomy project area:
  - G750011 - Special Agronomy Project - Educational Exhibit (SF259)
  - G750012 Special Agronomy Project -Video Presentation
  - G750013 Special Agronomy Project (Freshly Harvested Crop)

Enroll for the 2021 Special Agronomy 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 Brandy VanDeWalle at [brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu](mailto:brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu) or 402.759.3712  
Or Aaron Nygren at [anygren2@unl.edu](mailto:anygren2@unl.edu) or 402.352.3821

# All volunteers due for screening in 2020-21

Volunteers are the heart of the 4-H program here in Seward County and across the state. Nebraska 4-H requires all volunteers who work directly with youth to complete a background check through the Department of Health and Human Services when they sign up to volunteer, and on a five-year rotation after that.

Seward County is due for its five-year rotation in the 2020-21 4-H year, which began Oct. 1.

Background checks are required for club organizational leaders, Afterschool club leaders, parent and teen volunteers who help at meetings, Partners mentors, 4-H Council and Foundation members. **Volunteers will not be allowed to begin their roles until their background check is complete.**

All volunteers must enroll through 4HOnline at [ne.4honline.com](http://ne.4honline.com). From there, they will receive a link to the DHHS screening questionnaire. The questionnaire

also may be found online by visiting this site:

<https://go.unl.edu/volunteerscreen>.

County fair superintendents do not need to complete a DHHS background check, as they are considered indirect volunteers. They will be asked to complete an indirect volunteer screening form.

Be assured the volunteer screening process is confidential. Volunteers are screened in order to ensure a safe, positive and nurturing environment for all youth involved with Nebraska 4-H programs and provide protection for the child, volunteer, educator, 4-H Council, Extension Board and UNL Extension.

Volunteers are responsible for covering background check fees at the time the check is submitted. Currently, the cost of the DHHS screening is \$5. Please contact the Extension Office at (402) 643-2981 if this cost is a barrier to volunteering, or if you have other questions.

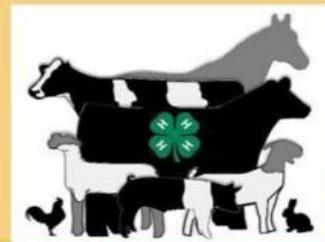


## YQCA INSTRUCTOR LED TRAINING

**FEBUARY 11**  
**FEBUARY 18**  
**MARCH 16**  
**MARCH 23**  
**APRIL 20**  
**APRIL 29**

Limited to 10 participants/Training  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Seward County Extension Office



Contact Cindy at 402-643-2981 or [cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu](mailto:cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu) for more information.

Four Corners DHM will be followed



All livestock, rabbit and poultry exhibitors must pass YQCA yearly to be eligible to exhibit at the Seward County Fair and NE State Fair shows. Youth may enroll in online classes or attend a trainer led class. Instructions on how to create, log into and sign up for YQCA training is listed below. Please contact Cindy at the Extension Office if you have any questions.

Before you can create or enroll in a YQCA training you first must enroll as a current 4-H member for 2021. You can enroll for the 2021 4-H year at <https://ne.4honline.com>. Note: Remember your password.

YQCA Login and Course Complete Instructions may also be found here: <https://4h.unl.edu/yqca-instructions>.

Step 1: Enroll as a current 2021 4-H Member at <https://ne.4honline.com>.

Step 2: Login/Create an account

Go to <https://yqca.learn-grow.io/account/login>

- A. Select to sign in with 4-H Online
- B. You will be prompted to select the state 4-H program you are enrolled in. Select “Nebraska 4-H Youth Development”.
- C. Then enter the login information for your family 4-H Online Account.
- D. After successfully logging in, you will be given a list of active family members. Select a family member and begin the account creation process.
- E. After creating your account, you can still log in using your 4-H Online credentials. The username will be used if you decide to disconnect your account from 4-H Online.

Step 3: Accessing and Paying for Courses

- A. To begin, click one of the courses listed.
- B. Select the training you want to take: Web-based or Instructor-Led training.
- C. Read the descriptions of the courses carefully to make sure the individual associated with the account meets the requirements.
- D. Select the appropriate course and course options for your age. Youth completing lessons on their own time must select and pay for the “Web-Based Training” option.
- E. The Instructor-Led Training option is only for face-to-face YQCA trainings.
  - a. Instructor-Led Trainings can be set up for your 4-H club or attend one that is already scheduled.
- F. Purchase the course by entering your credit card information. You will only be able to purchase one course at time.

Step 4: Accessing Certificates of Completion

- A. For Web Based Training
  - a. Once all the lesson quizzes have been successfully completed, the participant will have access to their Certificate of Completion.
  - b. Return to the course menu screen to print the certificate or download a PDF file and send the certificate electronically to [cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu](mailto:cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu).
  - c. A copy of the certificate must be on file at the Seward County Extension Office by June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- B. For Instructor Led Training
  - a. Once the training is completed the instructor will go online and mark everyone that attended “completed”. Once that is done then all participants will have access to their Certificate of Completion.
  - b. Return to the course menu screen to print the certificate or download it as a PDF and send it electronically to [Cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu](mailto:Cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu).
  - c. A copy of the certificate must be on file at the Seward County Extension Office by June 15<sup>th</sup>.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021

# ***Seward County 4-H Clovers Meeting***

4:00-5:00 PM, Online via Zoom

To Register for the Zoom Link visit: [go.unl.edu/sc4hclovers](https://go.unl.edu/sc4hclovers)



At our first meeting we will learn each other's names, discuss the importance of names and their stories, and learn about different names across the world.

Come prepared to share the story behind your own name!



**4-H Clovers is like a traditional 4-H Club and Clover Colleges, but tailored to a younger audience. We will meet from 4:00-5:00 P.M. on the First Thursday of the month (January - July). Parents are strongly encouraged to attend and participate in meeting. Meetings will be led by Extension staff and teen and parent volunteers. Extension staff will provide guidance, curriculum, activities, and information about working with 6-8 year-olds.**

**Youth do not need to be enrolled in a traditional 4-H Club to participate in 4-H Clovers. Enrollment information will be covered at the first meeting.**

The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based upon any protected status.  
Please see: <https://www.unl.edu/equity/notice-nondiscrimination>





## 2021 Special Garden Project Hakurei Turnip



\*Photo courtesy of Johnny's Select Seeds

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 tasty vegetable.

The Special Gardening Project lets 4-H members try their hand at growing unusual vegetables and flowers. 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 2021 project is the Hakurei Turnip. These are not your grandmother's turnips. Hakurei is a white salad turnip that is smooth, round and at its best when harvested under 2". The roots can be eaten raw or cooked, and the tops can also be cooked.

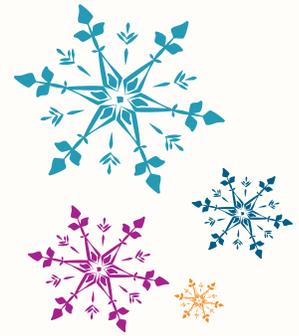
### 4-H members enrolled in the Special Garden Project will:

- Receive a 'packet' of Hakurei turnips (one packet per youth) in March/April
- Receive a newsletter about:
  - Planting & growing turnips
  - Turnip problems & insects
  - Harvesting & using turnips
- Be able to exhibit this unique vegetable 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 G-775-002
  - Other fun county only ways to exhibit this unique vegetable 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/2021turnipeval>

Enroll for the 2021 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.

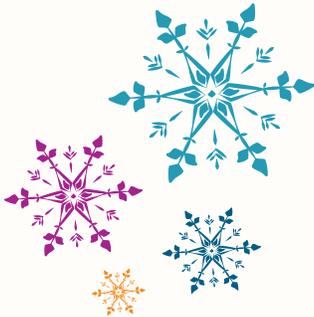
\*Hakurei turnip photo courtesy of Johnny's Select Seeds, Johnnyseeds.com, 1-877-564-6697.



# January Classes

JOIN US FOR OUR FREE, ONLINE  
CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES

**VISIT [GO.UNL.EDU/ONLINEPD](https://go.unl.edu/onlinepd) TO REGISTER**



- **Thursday, January 7th:** Mindfulness and Self-care
- **Monday, January 11th:** Fit and Healthy Kids Series -  
Serve and Return: Play with Babies Promotes Their Early Learning
- **Wednesday, January 13th:** Indoor and Outdoor Activities for Children in the Winter
- **Tuesday, January 19th:** Read for Resilience
- **Thursday, January 21st:** A Treasure Trove of Activities and Resources for School Ageds: Introduction to 4-H

Nebraska Extension's The Learning Child team is pleased to offer live, interactive, online professional development opportunities. These classes will be FREE, as we do our part to support our communities during the pandemic.

All classes offer NDE APPROVED in-service hours!

VIRTUAL

# COMPANION

ANIMAL CHALLENGE



Entries due: 5:00 p.m., April 2, 2021

FEE: \$5 (for youth ages 10-18)

- CONTESTS:
- DEMONSTRATION
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- DOG TRIVIA
- CAT TRIVIA
- ESSAY
- ART



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Grace Kim at [grace.kim@unl.edu](mailto:grace.kim@unl.edu) or visit <http://go.unl.edu/cb83>.



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For youth ages 10-18

Contest rules & entry forms are available at: <https://4h.unl.edu/horse/stampede>.

## 4-H Horse

# STAMPEDE

MARCH 27, 2021 UNL ANIMAL SCIENCE BUILDING

CONTESTS: • Demonstration • Photography • Horse Bowl • Speech • Art

Cost: \$10

Entries due, March 5, to your county office.

For more information, contact Grace Kim at [grace.kim@unl.edu](mailto:grace.kim@unl.edu).



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**Happy New Year!**

## Staff



**ActionLine**

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