



Nebraska Extension Seward County  
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Seward, NE 68434

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seward.unl.edu

@NebraskaExtension-SewardCounty

# 4-H ActionLine

SEWARD COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

November 2020

## All volunteers due for screening

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 be screened 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 screening rotation in the 2020-21 4-H year, which began Oct. 1. Screening is required for club leaders, parent and teen volunteers, Partners mentors, 4-H Council and Foundation members, fair superintendents, Extension staff and others. **Volunteers will not be allowed to begin their roles until their screening process 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>.

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 screening fees at the time the screening is submitted. Currently, the cost of the 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.

### Dates & Deadlines

## November

1	Achievement Party, Ag Pavilion (invite only)
1-10	Vote for 4-H Council members, Extension Office
2	4-H Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., Extension Office
3	Horsemanship Study Group 7 p.m., Extension Office
12	Meet the Educator 8 p.m., Virtual
26-27	Thanksgiving Extension Office Closed



*Holiday  
Maker Day  
is going mobile!*

Watch for info on Take & Make kits in late November.

## At Club Meetings:

Per UNL policy, 6-foot distancing is *required* at all 4-H meetings and functions (members of the same family may sit together). Masks are **highly** encouraged at all times, even while spaced. Attendance must be 50% or less of rated occupancy for an indoor space. MORE: [4h.unl.edu/documents/COVID-4H-Meeting-Guidelines-052820.pdf](http://4h.unl.edu/documents/COVID-4H-Meeting-Guidelines-052820.pdf)

## Achievement Party: details for the day

If you are receiving an achievement award, year pin or other honor, you should have received an invitation to attend the annual Achievement Party on Sunday, Nov. 1. The event will look a little different this year because of COVID-19. Please observe signs/directions, and take note:

- Masks are **required**.
- A meal will **not** be served.
- Youth will pick up their awards from their own table display, not during a ceremony.
- Open house, but invite only. If you RSVP'd, come and go anytime during the event window.
- Winners will have their picture taken and be able to walk the red carpet, Hollywood style.

# Reminder: send your club's reports & minutes

## Year End Treasurer's Report Due December 31

As we begin the 2021 4-H year, 4-H clubs will need to prepare a Year Ending 4-H Club Treasurer's report for 2020. Even if your club does not have a treasury and does not have an EIN number, please complete the Year Ending 4-H Club Treasurer's Report and submit it to the Extension Office. Extension staff will then forward the information to the IRS for the Form 990 or Form 990 EZ. This is important so that Seward County 4-H and the Nebraska 4-H Foundation can maintain their tax exempt status. The form may be found at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/seward/educational-programs/seward-county-4-h>.



## Leadership Changes?

Let us know as soon as possible if your club will be changing organizational leaders so we can update our address lists. Thank you to all of the 4-H club leaders who do the important work of positive youth development.

## Meeting Minutes

4-H Club meeting minutes are needed for each organized meeting your 4-H club holds. Thank you to those clubs who have been turning them in after each meeting. If your club has not turned them in yet, please do so before the end of the year.

## Scholarship info coming in November

Seward County 4-H will award scholarships to deserving 4-H'ers in the 2021 graduating class. To be eligible for these scholarships, 4-H'ers must have submitted their Achievement Application (due Oct. 1). Letters for the 4-H scholarships will be mailed out in November to eligible seniors.



## Enroll now for the 2021 4-H year

It's time to plan for the upcoming 4-H year! 4-H Enrollment for 2020-21 opened on October 20. You may make changes in your enrollment until April 1, 2021. This will help us make sure our records are kept up-to-date and that we are sending information to the correct addresses. All 4-H members need to re-enroll each year. Go to [ne.4honline.com](https://ne.4honline.com) and sign in to your account to re-enroll for 2021, or create an account if you're a new 4-H family. Call (402) 643-2981 with questions.

## Volunteers need to enroll, too

All 4-H volunteers need to re-enroll in 4HOnline every year. Please make sure your club organizational leaders, as well as anyone who helps in any way with your club, is enrolled. This includes parents who lead activities at meetings, anyone who helps with the county fair or in any other capacity directly involving 4-H youth. Volunteers must be enrolled and screened before they can help at 4-H functions.



# 4-H Checklist for November...

Start the new 4-H year off right (and help us tidy up the Extension Office)! Please remember to check the following tasks off your to-do list, if you haven't already:



- Pick up county fair awards
- Pick up fair premium checks by Dec. 31
- Pick up Achievement Application/Record Book
- Turn in year-end Treasurer's Report & Minutes
- Vote for 4-H Council representatives (youth & adult)
- Enroll as a 4-H member for 2020-21
- Remind club leader & other volunteers to enroll

**Call (402) 643-2981 with questions!**

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## Vote for your Council representatives: here's how

Every youth, parent and volunteer enrolled in Seward County 4-H has the opportunity to vote to elect Seward County 4-H Council representatives. The council is made up of six youth and six adults. Youth vote for youth, and adults vote for adults.

Elections typically take place each year at the 4-H Achievement Party. Because of COVID-19, Achievement Party is by invitation only. Those invited will have the chance to vote at the event.

**Anyone not attending the event will have the opportunity to vote at the Extension Office from 8 a.m. Monday, Nov. 2, to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10.** Votes will be tallied and announced following the close of the voting window. The names of those voting will be recorded to avoid the same person casting more than one ballot.

See the bios of those running for election on the following pages, and call the office with questions.

# Adult nominees for 4-H Council are...

## **Kent Fickel**

I am a lifelong Seward County resident. I graduated from Centennial High School and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Ag Economics program. I have spent 33 years farming in the Utica area. I was a 10-year 4-H member. I have two teenage daughters who have been in and out of 4-H, mostly because of a lack of a good fit for the clubs that were available to them, but they are excited about joining a local club in the near future.

I have always supported the goals and efforts of 4-H and believe that any chance that we have to grow our children's confidence, character, and responsibility should be pursued to the best of our ability. I greatly enjoyed my 4-H experiences and want every child to have the opportunity to do the same.

## **Allyson Krohe**

My name is Allyson (Volzke) Krohe from Utica. My husband Brian and I have 5 children, Cissanie (12), Derekka (10), Drayden (9), Channley (7), and Amaurra (6), and we live on my family farm north of Utica. We are a Navy military family, and Brian is currently deployed as a Navy Reservist. We own H and S Plumbing Heating and Air in Seward.

I was an active member in my father's 4-H club, Lincoln Creek Livestock, from the ages 8-18. With the help of all our great 4-H parents, I am currently the Lincoln Creek 4-H leader, and my kids are now the third generation of our family to belong to this club. As a 4-H member, I showed sheep and hogs, and I also did photography, heritage, and some limited sewing.

I have always had a tremendous love and respect for 4-H and what it has taught me over the years. Some of my greatest memories and friends are through 4-H. My father was a long time member of the Seward County Ag Society, so I have always been around 4-H and the fair. I feel that I have a lot of great ideas to help grow the 4-H program. I have the ability to give back to the program and the kids involved, and help aid improving and making the Seward 4-H program one of the strongest in our area. I am always striving to think of new ideas for the fair to enhance the fair experience.

## **Christi Arnold**

Hi, my name is Christi Arnold. I grew up in the Seward county community and now live by Garland, NE. I have 4 sons that are in 4-H. I enjoy volunteering my time for youth of any kind. I hope to bring a variety of ideas to help the council as well as being a positive mentor.

## **Pat Vrbka**

My name is Patrick Vrbka. I have been in 4-H since I was 8 showing sheep, chickens, cows and pigs. I have been a 4-H Shooting Sports instructor for 8 years. I have two children, Megan and Zack, who also have been in 4-H since they were 8. I have lived in Seward County my whole life. I am running for 4-H council because it is a way to stay involved since my kids are getting older and almost done with 4-H.

## **Sabryn Phillips**

I have been active in Seward County 4-H my entire life. I showed pigs, horses, dogs, poultry, and also did static exhibits. I was a member of Circle G Livestock from ages 8-18 and am currently a leader of the club. I am a junior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, with a major in Animal Science and the Engler Entrepreneurship minor.

I have served on 4-H Council in the past, and am glad to be able to have the opportunity to join again and continue to be involved in Seward County 4-H.

## **Jeanna Sick**

I live in Seward, and work at Tenneco. My husband, Erik, works for the Post Office, and our daughter, Alex, is a senior in high school. We have 2 pets that we all adore... our dog, Carlos, and Alex's 4-H show rabbit, Bella. They get along great and keep all 3 of us on our toes!

I have always had a passion for 4-H. Both my husband and I are 4-H alumni, and this is Alex's ninth year in 4-H. I feel that with all my experience I could be an asset to the 4-H Council. I would truly enjoy devoting my time and energy to support and encourage the 4-H youth of Seward County!



# Youth nominees for 4-H Council are...

## **Ellie Tempel**

I'm Ellie Tempel and this will be my ninth year in 4-H where I'm an active member of the Shooting Stars 4-H Club and the Seward County 4-H Jr. Leaders.

I served on the 4-H Council this past year and I would really like to continue serving on the council as a youth representative. I believe the leadership skills I've obtained through my club, Jr. Leaders, FFA, and other school organizations allow me to contribute well to the 4-H Council.

## **Cole Luebbe**

My name is Cole Luebbe. I'm 15 years old and a freshman at Seward High. I live on an acreage by Staplehurst. I have been involved in 4-H with showing boar goats and pigs and plan to keep showing.

I would like to participate in 4-H Council because it would be interesting to sit in on the meetings. I feel that I could contribute ideas and give opinions on how I see things from my perspective as a youth 4-H member.

## **Faith Winkelmann**

My name is Faith Winkelmann. I moved to Seward 3 years ago. I have been involved in 4-H for two years. I show goats and hogs. I have learned so much through many people about my projects, animals, leadership and 4-H as a program.

I am so thankful for all the opportunities that I have been given through 4-H. I hope to contribute to the Seward 4-H Council my knowledge and my teamwork as an individual to make Seward County 4-H better for the future.

## **Braeden Dey**

My name is Braeden Dey. I am 15 years old. I love being around animals. I show pigs and sometimes goats at the county fair. I have been in 4-H for six years. Next year will be my seventh.

In the past, I have been involved in 4-H by showing leadership and responsibility for my community. I want to be able to help my community grow and become stronger. I hope to contribute to the 4-H Council by teaching people to show kindness toward others. I want people to be kind to others so they feel like they are important. I will give my honest input on all matters that are brought to my attention.

Thank you for your consideration.

## **Maggie Odvody**

My name is Maggie Odvody, and 4-H is a big part of my life. I have been in 4-H for my whole life and have been

helping with the fair since I was a little baby.

I have learned a lot through 4-H including life skills, responsibility, and leadership. I would love to take this leadership opportunity to grow my involvement in 4-H and share my knowledge and leadership with those around me.

## **Nolan Eickhoff**

My name is Nolan Eickhoff, and I have been a 4-H member for eight years. Of these, I have been an officer for four years, with two years as vice president and, since 2018, two years as president. In 2019, I completed my Diamond Clover project, where I cleaned, repaired, and made directories for the seventeen abandoned cemeteries in Seward County. Since then, I've continued to maintain them, and have updated the directories with more information.

I was also chosen in 2019 as a delegate for the National 4-H Congress, and traveled to Atlanta last November. In addition, I am involved in several other organizations, including FFA, the Seward County Genealogical and Historical societies, and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society. I hope to use this position on the 4-H Council to help Seward County's 4-H members. I will do my best to listen to the clubs to inform my decisions, and help them in whatever way I can using the leadership and communication skills I have acquired throughout my years as an officer and at the National 4-H Congress.

## **Jessica Dybdal**

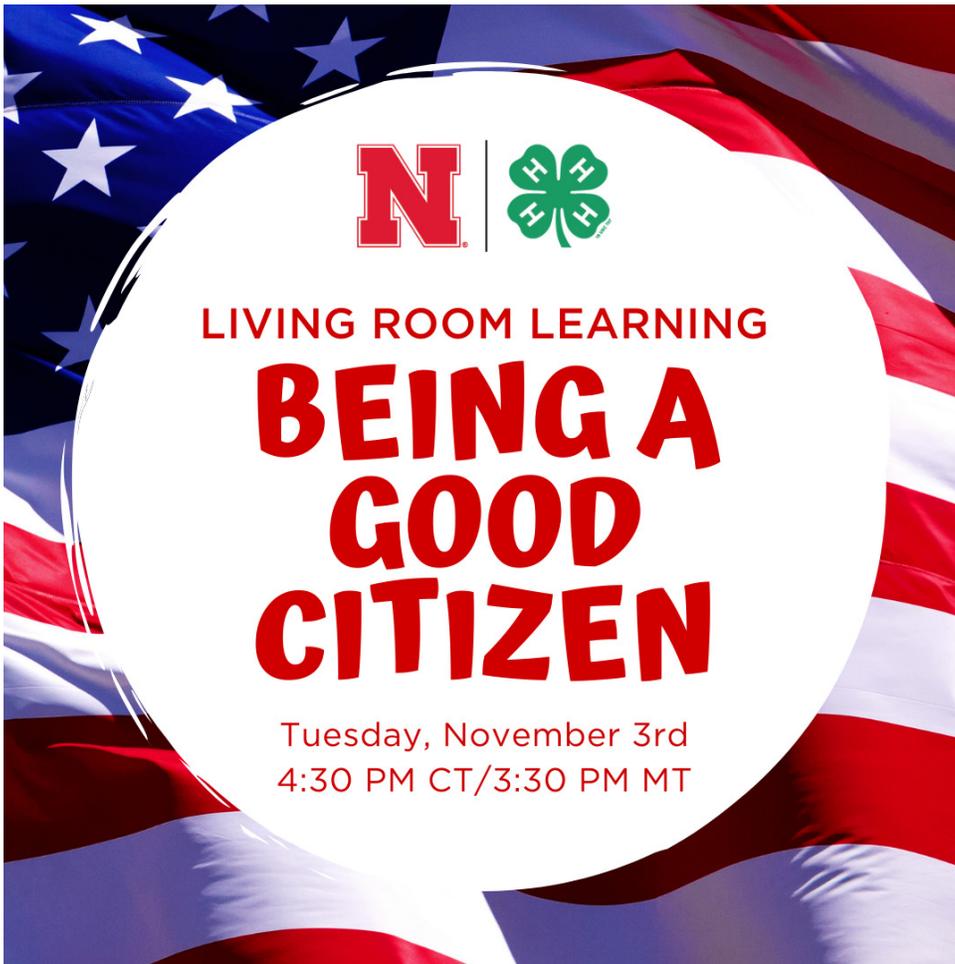
My name is Jessica Dybdal. I am a senior at Seward High School. I am a 10-year member of 4-H. Over my 10 years of 4-H, I have shown most of the livestock species. I have also been involved some with Jr. leaders and the last two years with 4-H council.

While on council I have helped with the promotions committee doing things like starting an Instagram account for Seward County. I hope to continue helping the council do the many things we do for this upcoming year!

## **Kaytlin Keilig**

Kaytlin is a four-year 4-H member from Milford in Seward County. She is a member of the Blue River Archers 4-H Club.





## Join us from your own living room!

Flags and voting. What do these have to do with being a good citizen? Join Living Room Learning on Election Day, Nov. 3, to find out! Learn more about it at [4h.unl.edu/living-room-learning](https://4h.unl.edu/living-room-learning).

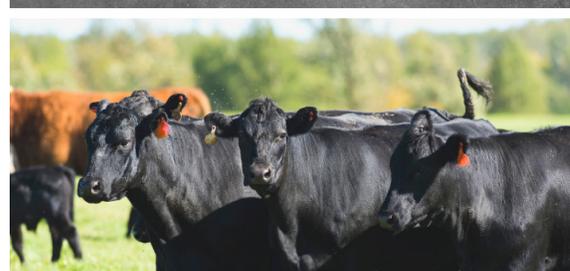
Living Room Learning is offered several times each month, providing hands-on virtually guided activities for youth. Each session focuses on a new activity that can be done with materials found at home. Living Room Learning activities are perfect for youth in 3rd-5th grades. Each session will be recorded and made available for on-demand viewing. Youth do not need to be 4-H members to participate. See the link above for previously recorded sessions.

## Join us from your home or classroom!

Embryo flushing and transfer can help beef producers reach the maximum potential within their herd to meet consumer needs. During our trip, we will travel with Dr. Glen Engelland and Dr. Nate Baribault with Sun Valley Embryo Transfer company as they show us the many services they offer within large and small ruminant reproductive services.

Virtual Field Trips with Nebraska 4-H take you on-site to learn more about science, agriculture, technology and more! Offering facility tours, educational experiences and additional resources for teachers, Virtual Field Trips are perfect for youth in 7th-12th grades. Each session is recorded and made available for on-demand viewing. Youth do not need to be 4-H members to participate. Learn more and view past sessions at <https://4h.unl.edu/virtual-field-trips>.

A graphic for a session titled 'Embryo Flushing - Collecting for Herd Progress'. It features a dark, textured background. At the top, there is a white 'N' followed by a white 4-H clover logo. Below the logo, the title 'EMBRYO FLUSHING - COLLECTING FOR HERD PROGRESS' is written in large, bold, white, italicized letters. At the bottom, the date and time 'Wednesday, November 4th 11:00 am CT/10:00 am MT' are written in white.





# 4-H Clovers Club

Open to all youth who turn  
6, 7, or 8 in the 2021  
calendar year.

## WHAT WILL CLOVER KIDS LEARN?

- Like a traditional 4-H Club and Clover Colleges, but tailored to a younger audience.
  - Pledges and age appropriate learning activities
- Club members will learn by doing and enjoy new experiences with science, animals, healthy lifestyles, citizenship and more!

## MEETING STRUCTURE

- 4:00-5:00 P.M., First Thursday of the month (December - July)
- Seward County Extension Office, 322 S 14th Street, Seward
- Parents are strongly encouraged to attend meetings.
- 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.

## ENROLLMENT

- [ne.4honline.com](http://ne.4honline.com)
  - Enrollment information will be covered at the first meeting.

## COST

- There may be a small fee (~\$3-5) for some meetings depending on the activity.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[go.unl.edu/sc4hclovers](http://go.unl.edu/sc4hclovers)

Kara Kohel, Extension Educator, The Learning Child  
[kara.kohel@unl.edu](mailto:kara.kohel@unl.edu) - 402.643.2981

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Are you curious about what the Learning Child Educators and Team do in your county and across Nebraska? Do you have questions, suggestions, or need resources for early childhood care and education in your community? Kara Kohel, Learning Child Educator for Seward, York, Hamilton, Merrick, Polk, and Butler counties, is hosting three virtual Meet The Educator events to get to know parents, providers, caregivers, teachers, and stakeholders, share information about The Learning Child, and talk about her passion for intergenerational relationships! Please register to attend and receive additional information.

JOIN KARA FOR A VIRTUAL

# MEET THE EDUCATOR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8  
8:00 PM CENTRAL

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
AND TO REGISTER VISIT

[GO.UNL.EDU/MTE\\_SE6](https://go.unl.edu/MTE_SE6)



# FED STEER

# CHALLENGE

The Nebraska 4-H Fed Steer Challenge is designed to enhance the educational value of the traditional 4-H market beef project. The contest rewards production merit and carcass value of the market animal, along with accurate record keeping, industry knowledge, and producer engagement by the 4-H member.

## 4-H MEMBERS WILL:

- Select and raise a commercial steer to a finished market weight
- Utilize management and nutritional protocols similar to a commercial feedlot
- Maintain detailed records related to management and feeding
- Participate in monthly educational opportunities with animal science faculty, industry leaders, and Extension educators
- Exhibit steer in the 4-H Fed Steer Challenge class at the Nebraska State Fair
- Sell cattle on a Quality and Yield Based Carcass Grid
  - Following the live exhibition, steers will be transported to a commercial packer, harvested and evaluated.
- Develop and present a Project Showcase highlighting their project and knowledge gained to industry representatives
- Learn from and engage in interviews with representatives from the cattle industry.

Participant applications for the 2021 Fed Steer Challenge are due December 1, 2020.

[4h.unl.edu/fed-steer-challenge](https://4h.unl.edu/fed-steer-challenge)





4-H *ActionLine*  
322 S. 14th St.  
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**Remember COVID-19 safety protocols are required  
at club meetings...Contact the office for details!**

## Staff



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