



**Nebraska Extension-Seward County**  
 322 S. 14th St.  
 Seward, NE 68434  
 PHONE: 402-643-2981  
 WEBSITE: [seward.unl.edu](http://seward.unl.edu)

# Seward County 4-H

November 2023 Newsletter



On Behalf of the Seward County 4-H Staff, We are Thankful for YOU!



## Holiday Maker Day!

When: Saturday, December 2  
 Time: 9am-12pm  
 Where: 4-H Center, Seward County Fairgrounds  
 Registration required.

**Maker Day Volunteers Needed**

We welcome teens and adults:

1. Lead a station – we already have plans made, but we need volunteers to lead each of the day’s activities.
2. Station Helpers – assist the main maker station leader
3. Serve Hot Cocoa
4. Host the waffle iron cinnamon roll station
5. Registration Table

Please contact the Extension Office if you are interested in helping out!

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Nov. 1- 2023-2024 4-H Enrollment Begins
- Nov. 5 - Achievement Party
- Nov. 10 - Office Closed in observance of Veteran's Day
- Nov. 23-24 - Office Closed in observance of Thanksgiving
- Dec. 2 - Holiday Maker Day 9am-12pm
- Dec. 25 - Office Closed in observance of Christmas
- Jan 1 - Office Closed in observance of New Years
- Dec. 31 - End of Year Treasurer Reports due
- Dec. 31 - Leader Changes & Club Meeting Minutes due



**Reminder:**  
 Come in and check out your club mailbox area!

4-H Family Handbooks are available at the Extension Office. Please make sure you have one for your family. Information on deadlines and procedures are included!

Nebraska Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture. Nebraska Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

## Junior Leaders Community Service Trip

On October 14th, our Seward County Junior Leaders were busy serving at the Ronald McDonald Charity House in Omaha. They cooked a meal for the families staying in the house and were able to interact with a couple of parents to hear their story. They also donated a large stash of pop tabs and winter coats. If you have pop tabs that you would like to donate, drop them off at the Extension Office!

After serving at the Ronald McDonald House, our Junior Leaders got to celebrate their hard work at Top Golf. They had a blast!



### Achievement Party Details

All Seward County families are invited to attend the 2023 Achievement Party on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 2pm. We will celebrate your year in 4-H with an ice cream sundae bar provided by the 4-H Council. Please call the Extension Office to RSVP for an afternoon of fun and celebration!

### Please stop in and Pick up County Fair Awards/ Premium Checks

We still have County Fair Awards! Please stop by the Extension Office to pick up your awards and premium checks from county fair. If you earned a Champion, Reserve Champion, Outstanding, Grand/Reserve Grand or Supreme/Reserve Supreme honor, we have your awards waiting. County Fair Premium Checks must be picked up by Dec. 31 or will be forfeited. They are also available at the Extension Office.



The Seward County 4-H Foundation supports 4-H through a variety of grant opportunities. If your club has a special project, an individual wants to attend a training, or you are working on a special project, the Seward County 4-H Foundation may be able to help cover the cost.

Contact Cindy at the Extension Office to access applications and with questions.

cwolverton3@unl.edu  
402-643-2981





**VOLUNTEERS!** Join us in York on the evening of Tuesday, November 7, for a Volunteer Road Show. This is a great opportunity to gather fresh ideas! You'll gain hands-on experience in parliamentary procedure, color theory, and various projects, including rabbit, poultry, conservation, and wildlife. Register at [4h.unl.edu/volunteer-road-show](http://4h.unl.edu/volunteer-road-show).



---

## Reminder: Club information due

### Year End Treasurer's Report Due December 31

As we reach the end of the 2023 4-H year, 4-H clubs will need to prepare a Year Ending 4-H Club Treasurer's report. 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.

### 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 information coming in November

Seward County 4-H will award scholarships to deserving 4-H'ers in the 2024 graduating class. To be eligible for these scholarships, 4-H'ers must have submitted their Achievement Application (due Oct. 10). Letters for the 4-H scholarships will be mailed out in November to eligible seniors.

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

4-H Council will be electing new representatives for the next 4-H Council terms. The role of 4-H Council is important for raising funds for Seward County 4-H, interpreting and setting local policy, and providing direction to the 4-H program. At this time, we would like to thank the following candidates who have stepped forward to be on the ballot. All 4-H families are invited to vote at the 4-H Achievement Party on November 5, 2023. We are still looking for youth candidates. This is an opportunity for anyone ages 13 and older. If you are interested in adding your name, please contact [ann.dobesh@unl.edu](mailto:ann.dobesh@unl.edu) or we will have open floor nominations on Sunday, November 5th, at our Achievement Party.



### Adult Candidates:

- *District 3* -  
Stacey Blecha  
Charli Meinberg
- *District 4* -  
Courtney Kossow
- *At Large* -  
Jamie Nelson  
Julie Phillips

### Youth Candidates:

- *District 2* -  
Kyle Riley
- *District 3* -  
Corey Payne  
Cissanie Krohe
- *At Large*  
Kathryn Naber




---

## Enroll NOW for the 2023-24 4-H year!

It is time to re-enroll in 4-H for 2024. All 4-H'ers and volunteers need to re-enroll each year. The fee will be \$5.00 for each 4-H member and can be paid when you enroll online. If you have difficulties with this fee (either paying online or affordability), please visit with Extension staff.

Early enrollment date – April 1 – We strongly encourage all 4-H families to enroll as soon as possible. Re-enrolling helps ensure that you are on our mailing list (both email and mailbox). New enrollments and changes to projects will be accepted up to June 15 for fair participation.

Following are a few updates about enrollment this year:

- Starting in the 2023-2024 program year, project selection is now optional. By successfully completing the 4-H member enrollment by the June 15th deadline, youth will be eligible to participate and exhibit in any project area, contest, county, and state fairs. While project selection is optional, it is encouraged for youth to select projects they are interested in exploring.
  - Please note:
    - Youth are only eligible to exhibit in a project area or contest in a single county.
    - Horse and shooting sports projects will continue to require project enrollment due to the parental consent required to participate in these projects.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need help. You are welcome to set up a time to come to the office to enroll. We are here to help! Thank you!



# Building Better Babysitters

November 11th & 12th  
9:00 am - 3:30 pm

## YOU'LL LOVE IT

- ✓ Increase confidence in caring for children
- ✓ Learn basic care for infants and children
- ✓ Discover safe and age-appropriate activities
- ✓ Emergency preparedness
- ✓ Craft healthy snacks for children



**SIGN UP AND REGISTER NOW!**

## DETAILS

**Ages:** 12-18 yr. olds

**Fee:** \$30.00 made payable to UNL

Mail Check to:

Seward County Extension Office  
322 S. 14th St.

Seward, NE 68434

**Who:** Any youth in Seward County!

**Register:** Use QR code to register

**Location:** UNL Extension Office-Seward

**Questions:** Contact Emily Manning  
402-643-2981

or [emily.manning@unl.edu](mailto:emily.manning@unl.edu)





4-H Newsletter  
322 S. 14th St.  
Seward, NE 68434

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Seward, NE 68434  
Permit #20



## Extension Staff

**Ann Dobesh**, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

[ann.dobesh@unl.edu](mailto:ann.dobesh@unl.edu)

**Emily Manning**, Extension Educator, Early Childhood

[emily.manning@unl.edu](mailto:emily.manning@unl.edu)

**Brittney Emerson**, Extension Assistant, 4-H Youth Development

[bemerson4@unl.edu](mailto:bemerson4@unl.edu)

**Cindy Wolverton**, Extension Assistant, 4-H Youth Development

[cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu](mailto:cynthia.wolverton@unl.edu)

**Jill Payne**, Administrative Assistant

[jpayne15@unl.edu](mailto:jpayne15@unl.edu)

**Lori Hamling**, Support Staff & 4-H Afterschool Coordinator

[lori.hamling@unl.edu](mailto:lori.hamling@unl.edu)

**Julie Roebke**, Support Staff

[jroebke2@unl.edu](mailto:jroebke2@unl.edu)

### Important 4-H Club Information

**Volunteer Enrollment:** All 4-H volunteers need to re-enroll in 4honline every year. Please make sure that your club organizational leaders, as well as anyone who helps in any way with your club, is enrolled. Go to <https://ne.4honline.com/>

**Leadership Changes?** Let us know if your club will be changing organizational leaders as soon as possible, 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.

**Resources for Club Leaders:** Looking for ideas? Check out Nebraska 4-H's Resources for Club Leaders for leader, officer, meeting, and teaching resources. <https://4h.unl.edu/resources/club-leaders>