http://dodge.unl.edu March/April 2012

DODGE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

Inside this issue:

General 4-H Information	1
4-H Kick-Off	7
Animal Science	8
Family & Consumer Science	10
Scholarship Information	10
Career Development	11
Important Dates & Deadlines	12
Public Speaking Contest	13

The 2012 4-H club enrollment packets are available to be picked up at the Extension Office

4-H ENROLLMENTS DUE - MAY 1
4-H ENROLLMENT DEADLINE - JUNE 15

ENROLLMENT FEE POLICY*

Enrollment submitted by May 1 - **$10** per member
Enrollment submitted May 2 - May 15 - **$15** per member
Enrollment submitted May 16 - June 1 - **$20** per member
Enrollment submitted June 2 - June 15 - **$25** per member

* If unable to pay, dues will be waived.

Enrolling in the Dodge County 4-H Program can be done any time of the 4-H year. However the following policies have been established:

MAY 11 DEADLINE (date set on state level): 4-H Horse project members entering/exhibiting at District and/or State 4-H Horse Exposition are required to have ALL paperwork completed by MAY 11. Paperwork includes; 4-H enrollment, ID sheets, advancement level tests and district/state entry forms. 4-H Horse project members submitting paperwork of any kind AFTER the May 11 deadline will be INELIGIBLE to exhibit at the 2012 district and state shows.

JUNE 1 DEADLINE: 4-H Horse project members NOT entering/exhibiting at District and/or State 4-H Horse Exposition are required to have ALL paperwork completed by JUNE 1. Paperwork includes 4-H enrollments, ID sheets and horsemanship advancement level tests. 4-H Horse project members enrolling AFTER the June 1 deadline will be INELIGIBLE to exhibit in the 2012 fairs/shows.

JUNE 15 DEADLINE: 4-H livestock and all other project member enrollments and fees are required by June 15. 4-H members enrolling AFTER the June 15 deadline will be INELIGIBLE to exhibit in the 2012 fairs/shows.

Members may make changes (drop/add) to their project enrollment until June 15.

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2012 4-H Summer Camp Brochures Available

The 2012 4-H Summer Camp Brochures are available at the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County. The camp brochure is also available at http://4h.unl.edu/camp.
The brochures are packed with exciting opportunities at three unique locations. You can SAVE 10% on registration fees by registering before **April 15, 2012**.

Fremont 4-H Fair
July 11 - 14, 2012
Christensen Field, Fremont, NE

Dodge County Fair
August 1 - 5, 2012
Dodge County Fairgrounds, Scribner, NE

Nebraska State Fair
August 24 - September 3, 2012
Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

The 4-H Volunteer Leader Team

The size and number of members in a 4-H volunteer leader team will vary from club to club, depending on the size and structure of the club. Each club will identify its individual needs and decide on the leader team that will work best.

Some volunteer 4-H Leader Options:

- *Organizational Leader* - This is the main leader that serves as the primary contact between the club and the extension office and gives leadership to manage and organize the club.
- *Project Leader* - There might be several project leaders. Helping select projects and working on project activities would be the main focus for the project leader.
- *Activity Leader* - This leader would organize club activities such as community service, fundraising, trips and tours, promotional activities and more.
- *Career Portfolio Leader* - Reviewing the Career Portfolio with members and helping them keep records and complete the Career Portfolio would be the roles of this leader as well as being knowledgeable about possible awards and scholarships available.

4-H Volunteer Screening

Any adult currently working (or plans to work) with one or more 4-H Youth in a non-public setting will be required to follow this policy. The purpose of the 4-H volunteer screening is to ensure the safety of our 4-H members. Although this screening process does not guarantee absolute safety, it does provide reasonable precautions and a statement of intent to provide an environment for our youth.

By completing and submitting the "4-H Volunteer Enrollment Form" and "4-H Volunteer Screening" as a Dodge County 4-H leader, you will receive accident insurance through the Dodge County 4-H Program and general liability coverage through the University of Nebraska. Failure to complete and submit forms by the June 15 deadline will restrict volunteers from being enrolled as a Dodge County 4-H Leader. In addition, the Dodge County 4-H Program will NOT extend the accident insurance, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will NOT extend the general liability coverage to you as a 4-H (University of Nebraska Extension) volunteer. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 402-727-2775 or call the Nebraska 4-H Program Administrator, Dr. Beth Birnstihl at 402-472-2966.

Dodge County 4-H Update

The Dodge County 4-H Staff will be holding a 4-H Update for all Dodge County 4-H volunteers. It will be held at the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County on **Wednesday, March 21, 2012**. The training will begin with a catered meal sponsored by the Dodge County 4-H Council at 6:30 p.m. 4-H volunteers and parents will learn about the new programs and changes to the 4-H program for the upcoming year. We will also focus on the new data entry system for 4-H enrollments. This meeting is not required; however, it is strongly recommended so that all clubs are aware of the new information and can pass this information on to their members. This training is open to all 4-H leaders, parents and volunteers in Dodge County. Please contact the Dodge County Extension office by **March 14**, to RSVP.

The 4-H Emblem

The official 4-H Emblem is a clover with four leaves and an "H" on each leaf. The clover's stem must point to the right as you look at the image. The 4-H Emblem is not a plain four-leaf clover. If you are a 4-H member or volunteer, you are permitted to use the 4-H Name & Emblem once your program is chartered with the official 4-H charter from National 4-H Headquarters at the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension service (CSREES) within the United States Department of Ag (USDA). If you need more information or clarification contact the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County at 402-727-2775.

NE 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop

The Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop is scheduled for **March 17-18, 2012** at the Seward County Fairgrounds in Seward, NE. Registration deadline is **March 8**.

Adult volunteers and junior leaders can choose one of six disciplines to become certified. Muzzle-loading, hunting-wildlife, archery, rifle, shotgun and pistol will be offered.

The registration fee is $90 per person for initial certification and $80 per person for recertification or to add a discipline. The fee includes meals, supplies and program materials. If you need lodging accommodations, it is your responsibility to make those arrangements. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 17.

For more information and/or registration materials go to: http://4h.unl.edu/programs/environment/shootingsports or contact Steve Pritchard at 402-395-2158 or 308-536-2691.

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

GEAR-Tech-21 Camp Mini-Grants Available

The 2012 GEAR-Tech-21 Camp mini-grants are now available. Participants at the camps learn about science, engineering, and cooperation through hands-on LEGO NXT robotics, GPS, and digital mapping activities.

The camps are led by program volunteers throughout the United States and last at least 20 hours. Most camps are for middle school age youth. The camp programs are intentionally designed to allow leaders flexibility in adapting the camp to various environments and a schedule that best meets their group's needs and resources. Some camps are during the day while others are overnight. Camps have been successfully hosted by traditional camp sites, schools, community centers, and college campuses.

Mini-grants range from $500-$2,000, depending upon the size of the camp program. Applications will be accepted until all funding has been awarded.

For information on applications and requirements go to: http://4hset.unl.edu/4hdrupal/node/165.

2012 Big Red Summer Academic Camps

Next fall, when your friends ask you what you did during the summer, you can say…

"I made an edible chocolate flower." "I directed my own film." "I ran my own business." "I worked with animals." "I taught with technology." "I learned how to feed the world." "I found new friends, explored a new major and discovered a new career."

These are just a few of the options available to you at the **2012 BIG RED ACADEMIC CAMPS** to be held this June. These career exploration camps are a chance for you to explore the UNL campus, meet people from across the state, spend time investigating an interest or potential career and have lots of fun.

The **2012 BIG RED ACADEMIC CAMPS** will be hosted by Nebraska 4-H and UNL faculty members in various academic areas across campus. After spending several fun-filled days exploring a specific topic like filmmaking or veterinary science, we'll invite your family to join a special "capstone event" where you can showcase your work. Learn more about the camp offerings available during 2012 at: http://4h.unl.edu/web/4hcamps/campofferings.

4-H Council Camp/Workshop Scholarship Applications

Dodge County 4-H Members who are between the ages of 5 -18 may apply for camp/workshop scholarships for the 2012 4-H Year. Go to: http://dodge.unl.edu/scholarships to complete the form and send to the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County at 1206 W. 23rd Street, Fremont, NE 68025 by **MARCH 12, 2012.** Scholarship winners will be notified by March 22. If you are planning on attending a 4-H Camp in Halsey, Gretna or Alma remember the early bird discount of 10% deadline is April 15.

REMINDER:

If you are a recipient of a Dodge County 4-H Foundation or 4-H Council Camp Scholarship you will need to send the completed camp registration form to the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County. The Dodge County 4-H Council/Foundation will write a check for the AWARDED amount directly to the camp, and you will provide the additional funds that are necessary to fulfill the camp requirements. The Extension office will then forward the camp registration form to the appropriate camps.

2012 Camperships Available

In the 2012 4-H Summer Camp Brochure on page 8, there is availability of camperships for families in need of financial assistance to attend a 2012 summer camp. With the support of the Nebraska 4-H Foundation and its donors, there is a limited number of $100 camperships available to support the participation of young people at the 2012 camps.

If you are in need of support for a camp, you can apply for a campership by submitting the following information to Jill Walahoski.

1. A request for campership support from your parent/guardian. Please be sure to include your age and gender for the camper and the location and session you would like to attend.
2. A brief statement from your parent and you, the camper, expressing why you would like to attend camp this summer.

Once a request has been approved, families will receive notification from Jill and receive instructions for documenting the support on your registration form.

Please send your requests to:

Jill Walahoski, State 4-H Office
114 Agricultural Hall
Lincoln, NE 68524 or email to: jwalahoski2@unl.edu

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

Start Out your 4-H Year with the Diamond Clover

4-H members of all ages are encouraged to get involved in the Diamond Clover Program. It is a statewide form of recognition. Participation in the program is optional. Member's participation will enhance their efforts with their Career Portfolio. 4-H members will gain self-esteem from successfully completing the requirements of each of the levels. Other opportunities the program offers includes: satisfaction gained through progress made towards self set goals, provide opportunity for developing youth and adult partnerships, and projects completed will be valuable additions to resumes.

If you did not participate in the Diamond Clover Recognition Program last year, now is the time to choose what level you want to start with. If you did participate last year then you need to move up to the next level and set your goals for this year. After filling out the front side of the form, give it to your leader for safe keeping throughout the year. In October, your leader will return the form and you can fill out the back page with your accomplishments. All forms need to be turned in by November 1, 2012.

Planning your Club Year

Planning is one of those things that many of us just never seem to get around to. The new 4-H year is always a busy time; enrollment information is due, county recognition events are coming up, and new members are joining your group. In the midst of all this, taking time to plan the activities for the entire year may seem silly, but it can pay big dividends in the long run. Involving members in planning and designing club activities and events helps to build young people's leadership skills and increases their commitment to carrying out the plans. 4-H clubs and groups are excellent places for young people to build leadership skills.

March 2012 - Celebrate 4-H Awareness Month

The 4-H Promotional Window Display should be a display to promote 4-H during the awareness month in any Dodge County business window. The display should be large enough so a passerby can see it without entering the business. Please send a picture of the window display with your club's name and the name of the business your display is in by **April 15, 2012** to the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County. The 4-H Council will award your 4-H Club $20.00. During the Dodge County 4-H Awareness Month all 4-H clubs should make a special effort to promote 4-H. Involve and encourage people that are not in 4-H to become aware of the valuable life skills one can learn by being a 4-H member.

2012 Pick-a-Project Guide

The 2012 Pick-a-Project Guide is only available online this year. You can view the complete guide at: http://4h.unl.edu/web/4hcurriculum/pickyourproject

This guide provides categories of project areas, project name and manual numbers, a list of what you can do in each project and printed materials available for members and leaders to purchase.

2012 Photography Themes Set

Nebraska Theme Unit 2: Newsworthy Event. Explore a career as a Nebraska Photo Journalist. The goal of a photo journalist is to tell a story through their work. Capture a photo of a newsworthy event in your Nebraska community.

Nebraska Theme Unit 3: Nebraska Landscapes. Explore a career as a Nebraska Photographer. The goal of an artistic photographer is to portray a unique or interesting image through their work. Capture photos of Nebraska landscapes where creative composition is the goal.

Dodge County Theme: It's all there in black and white.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

The UNL – Dodge County Extension is on Facebook. Also, our Dodge County 4-H website is http://dodge.unl.edu/county4h. Come and check us out. We list updates, programming information, project ideas, entry forms, newsletters, contests, scholarships, etc.

Dodge County Fair Website

Check out the Dodge County Fair website at: http://www.dodgecountyfair.org, for the latest events and contacts for the fairgrounds.

4-H SILENT AUCTION...DONATIONS NEEDED

The Dodge County 4-H Council will be hosting a 4-H Silent Auction to be held during the 2012 Dodge County Fair. Our goal is to raise $2,000. The 4-H Council is asking each 4-H Club or family to donate items that will be put on the silent auction.

The money raised through the silent auction will go towards funding of the overall 4-H program. All 4-H members will benefit from this money making event. More details will appear in future newsletters.

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

NPower Leadership Conference

The NPower Leadership Conference focuses on youth leadership and is the premier leadership development experience for Nebraska's future leaders. NPower has a partnership between 4-H, FFA, FBLA, FCCLA, DECA, SkillsUSA, HOSA, and Nebraska Human Resources Institute to provide a leadership development opportunity for all Nebraska youth leaders entering 6th-12th grades. NPower is all about:

Nebraska's youth leaders
Networking to
INfluence community change and
INitiate positive action for the
Next generation

The conference will be **July 9-11, 2012 or July 12-14, 2012**. Youth can pick which 3-day session they wish to attend. The cost is $150 and registration is available at www.nestudentleadership.org. The curriculum can also be found at this website.

KateLynn Ness Serves on Advisory Council

The Youth Advisory Board is an event board whose members are selected by the PASE/Life Challenge Event Coordinators. As a member of the board, KateLynn will be part of a 12 person team that will advise the coordinators of PASE and Life Challenge on youth issues and have an official voice in shaping the experience had by all youth at this event. Each board member serves a one-year term with the option to reapply each year.

The Nebraska State 4-H Office is pleased to announce the 2012 PASE/Life Challenge Youth Advisory Board.

Joleen Rupe, Frontier
Sarah Maul, Hamilton
Stephanie McClung, Deuel
Maddie Gabel, Lancaster
Sheridan Swotek, Lancaster
CaLee Thomsen, Howard/Central IV
KateLynn Ness, Dodge
Emily Steinbach, Lancaster
Morgan Lease, Morrill
Eleanor Wagner, Boone
Evey Choat, Boone
Audrey Foster, Custer

PASE/Life Challenge

Each summer, over 500 4-H'ers convene at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus to test their skills in Animal Science and Family and Consumer Sciences during PASE (Premier Animal Science Events) and Life Challenge. Teens compete in a variety of different contests including: livestock, meats and poultry judging, livestock skillathon, livestock quiz bowl, life challenges and clover challenge. While on campus, young people have the opportunity to take part in faculty-led workshops, campus tours, and special sessions by UNL recruiters.

In order to participate in the PASE/Life Challenge event, 4-H'ers must have pre-qualified at the county level. The event will be held **June 25-26, 2012.** The entry timeline will be from **May 16th- June 8th.**

For more information please contact the Dodge County Extension Office at 402-727-2775.

FSA Loans Available

Farm Service Agency (FSA) likes to partner with organizations for the betterment of agriculture. The rural youth program makes operating loans to individuals who are 10-20 years old to establish and operate income producing projects. The projects must be planned and operated with the assistance of a 4-H leader, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. These loans can finance such projects as cow/calf, farrow to finish, raising crops, etc. The loan can be made for up to $5000 to purchase the livestock, machinery or operating cost inputs. The repayment of the loan will depend on the type of project. Interest rates are posted at the local FSA office. For more information contact the FSA office 402-721-8455.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dodge County 4-H Update

An update for ALL 4-H leaders, parents & volunteers! A light meal will be served and is sponsored by the Dodge County 4-H Council.

Wednesday, March 21, 2012
6:30 p.m.
UNL Extension Office, Fremont
RSVP By March 14, 2012, 402-727-2775 or hlacy2@unl.edu

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

4-H Foundation Memorial

Do you have someone that you would like to remember with a memorial? The Dodge County 4-H Foundation is an avenue for you to consider for your memorials. Funds donated to the Dodge County 4-H Foundation will help with scholarships for college, national and state 4-H events, camps, 4-H programming and materials, and Dodge County 4-H events. A memorial letter will be sent to the family of the person that is being remembered. If you have any questions about donating contact the UNL Extension office in Dodge County.

Think Spring! Special Gardening Project...Firecracker Sunflowers

The special 4-H gardening project is back again this year. We are offering a special flower project of Firecracker Sunflowers. The first 12 4-H members who call will have a packet reserved for them, and will receive a packet of the sunflowers in early April. Please call the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County at 402-727-2775 to reserve your packet. Those members signing up for the packets and project, will receive a special newsletter about planting. There will be special fair exhibits for these flowers. Only 12 packets have been ordered so get your packet reserved early!

Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center Dinner

You are invited to help the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center raise funds for camp scholarships and facility upgrades. Join them on Tuesday, **March 13, 2012**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center Lodge near Gretna. The cost is $40 per person. The speaker for the event will be Dick Turpin, former Nebraska Game and Parks Law Enforcement Chief, along with former scholarship recipients. The evening will begin with a social hour, and there will be door prize drawings and a silent auction. For more information contact the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center at 402-332-4496.

NREA Youth Energy Camp

The 2012 NREA Youth Energy Camp will be **July 9 – 13, 2012** at the State 4-H Camp at Halsey, NE. To be eligible for the camp you must be in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade and be sponsored by a Nebraska Rural Electric Association Member system. You must RSVP by **May 15, 2012** to your rural electric system. For more information visit http://nrea.org/content/nrea-youth-programs.

Operation Military Kids – Purple Up!

In celebration of April as Month of Military Child, OMK programs across the Nation are encouraging everyone to wear purple on Friday, **April 13, 2012**. Purple is the color which represents all branches of Military, and a Nationwide Purple Up! is a visible way to thank military children of Nebraska for their strength and sacrifice. Your help in raising awareness in your community is greatly appreciated. OMK hopes everyone will take this opportunity to appreciate and celebrate these young heroes. For more information please visit www.nebraskaomk.org.

Retaining 4-H Members

A new excited family joins 4-H in your local club. They soon become active in the club and county events. Before you know it they no longer show up for your activities and do not enroll next year. Attracting new 4-H members is not a problem for most 4-H programs across the state. The challenge is to keep them in the program after they join a club. According to the research, most families leave 4-H for the following reasons: lack of understanding of the 4-H program (goals, activities, events, and time commitment); moved; never felt welcome or part of the group; conflicting time commitments; or project groups didn't meet often and/or frequently enough to satisfy children. How can we retain new families into our 4-H programs at the local club and county levels?

Here are a few suggestions for leaders and educators to incorporate:

- Implement a new-family mentoring system to support first-year members. This will assist new families to learn the "4-H language" and understand the deadlines associated with the program.
- Conduct a needs assessment for intermediate and senior members to develop programs and activities to keep them active in 4-H, especially with their competing school and community activities.

Helping new families feel welcome to your 4-H program should allow them to stay active in the program and continue their membership. It is also suggested that current 4-H families need to spend time with the members to get to know them.

JOIN 4-H &

JOIN THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

http://www.4-h.org/about/revolution/

During Dodge County 4-H Awareness Month

MARCH 2012

DODGE COUNTY 4-H KICK OFF PARTY

Sunday, March 25 from 2-4 p.m.

Fremont YMCA - 1558 E Military Ave

✓Mark your calendars NOW to attend!
✓Youth and adults can skate FREE at the Fremont YMCA Skinner Ice Arena . . . after . . . or before . . . everyone is encouraged to check out the 4-H project exhibits or just enjoy watching!
✓To top off the event, refreshments will be served to everyone attending!
✓The event is sponsored by the Dodge County 4-H Council. The refreshment break and skates are FREE to all youth and adults interested in being part of 4-H. Don't forget to bring all of your friends who are interested in 4-H!
✓If your 4-H Club is interested in organizing a project and/or contest display table to be exhibited during the Kick Off Party, please contact the UNL Extension Office, 402-727-2775.

4-H Club Opportunity:

During the Dodge County 4-H Awareness Month, all 4-H clubs should make a special effort to promote 4-H. Involve and encourage people that are not in 4-H to become aware of the valuable life skills one can learn by being a 4-H member.

JOIN THE REVOLUTION
by bringing one can food item or a package of pasta. We will donate the items to the Low Income Ministry Center Pantry in Fremont.

All 4-H Clubs are encouraged to develop a 4-H Promotional Window Display to promote 4-H during Dodge County 4-H Awareness Month, MARCH 2012. The window display needs to include the contact information for 4-H Office (University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Dodge County, 1206 W. 23rd Street, Fremont, NE 68025, 402-727-2775, dodge.unl.edu) and should be large enough so a passersby can see it without entering the business. 4-H Council will be awarding $20 to each 4-H club that promotes 4-H with a window display during Dodge County 4-H Awareness Month. To receive the funds, 4-H clubs are asked to send a photo of the window display by April 15, 2012 to the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County.

IANR

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.

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

ANIMAL SCIENCE INFORMATION

Burt County Beef Preview - Oakland, NE
The 2012 Burt County Beef Preview will be Saturday, **April 7, 2012** at the Burt County Fairgrounds in Oakland, NE. The fairgrounds will be open Friday, April 6 at 2:00 p.m. for early arrivals, and check in will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Check in will also take place Saturday morning from 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. The show will begin at 10:30 a.m. Entry forms can be found at http://dodge.unl.edu/progressshows. Early registration is due by **April 2, 2012**. For more information contact Mike Nissen at 402-380-2772.

Seward Calf Classic – Seward, NE
The 14th Annual Seward Calf Classic will be Saturday, **April, 14, 2012** at the Seward County Fairgrounds in Seward, NE. Check in will be from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m., and the show will start at 10:30 a.m. The fairgrounds will be available on Friday, April 13. Registration is due by **April 11, 2012** and be found at http://www.seward.unl.edu. For more information contact Bev Hain at 402-535-2817.

Blue Valley Beef Review – Fairbury, NE
The 2012 Blue Valley Beef Review will be Friday & Saturday, **April 20 & 21, 2012** at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Fairbury, NE. The fairgrounds will be open Friday, April 20 at 12:00 p.m. for early arrivals and check in will be from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Check in will also take place Saturday, April 21 from 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Showmanship will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, and the show will start at 10:00 a.m. in Ring 1. Early registration is due by **April 10, 2012**. Entry forms can be found at http://www.manamlivestockservices.com. For more information contact Chad Schroeder at 402-754-4343.

2012 District and State Horse Show Dates
Dates and locations for the 2012 District and State Horse Shows include:

- June 11 - Buffalo County, Kearney, NE
- June 12 - Box Butte County, Hemingford, NE
- June 13 - Cherry County, Valentine, NE
- **June 14 - Lancaster County, Lincoln, NE ****
- June 20 - Knox County, Bloomfield, NE
- June 21 - Lincoln County, North Platte, NE
- July 16 – 19 ; STATE 4-H Horse Show, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE

For additional information, including district maps go to: http://animalscience.unl.edu/web/anisci/anscdistrictandstate4hshows

**** This is Dodge County's assignment.**

Loup Valley 4-H Conference Horse Shows
For more information on these horse shows go to www.glw.unl.edu

Chase County Open Horse Show
The Chase County Open Horse Show will be **June 30, 2012** in Imperial, NE. More information will be available at a later date.

NDA Recognized Schooling Show
An NDA Recognized Schooling Show will be hosted by the Lancaster County Horse VIPS on **April 28, 2012** at the Middle Cross Stables in Roca, NE. The show is open to both youth and adults. For more information and registration form go to:
http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/horse/MiddleCrossSchoolingShow.pdf

Nebraska 4-H Roping Clinic
The Nebraska 4-H Roping Clinic will be held **March 24 – 25, 2012** at the Lilienthal Indoor Arena, Grand Island, NE. Registration is limited, so participants will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Registration fees are $25/day without a horse, $50/day with a horse, and spectators are free. Registrations and payment are due **March 20, 2012.** For more information contact Monte Stauffer at 402-689-0189. For the complete flyer and registration form go to: http://liferaydemo.unl.edu/web/dodge/projects.

Companion Animal Science and Wildlife Career Day
There will be a career day for any high school student interested in a career with companion animals or wildlife at the UNL East Campus (38th & Holdrege) on **March 15, 2012** from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The career day is free of charge and a lunch will be provided. There is a limit of 50 participants. It will feature career panels with directors and experts from the zoo, Humane Society, a pet food company, Games and Parks; a student panel talking about internships and careers; and educational sessions on animal anatomy and physiology, animal reproduction, and vet school. If interested please contact Dr. Lisa Karr-Lilienthal at lkarr-lilienthal2@unl.edu, 402-472-6458, or
Sue Ellen Pegg at spegg2@unl.edu, 402-472-7471.

Paws – On Dog Workshop
The UNL Extension will be hosting the Paws On Dog Workshop at the Exhibit Hall of Lancaster Event Center on **April 28, 2012** from 9:00 - 4:00 p.m. Check in will begin at 8:30 a.m. Youth are asked to bring their dog. The fee for youth is $15 and any parent who would like a lunch is an additional $5. Registration is due by **April 20, 2012**. Registration forms are available at http://companionanimal.unl.edu. For more information contact Dr. Lisa Karr-Lilienthal at 402-472-6458 or at lkarr-lilienthal2@unl.edu.

ANIMAL SCIENCE INFORMATION

Lancaster 4-H Rabbit Show

On **Saturday, March 24, 2012** at 9:00 a.m., Lancaster County will be hosting a Rabbit Show for youth to participate. Registration is from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. The event will be at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln NE. For more information go online to: http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/documents/RabbitShowSpring12.pdf

4-H Market Livestock Identification

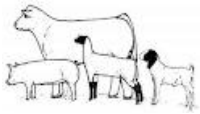
In addition to the visual identification of market animals, DNA sampling will be utilized for all market animals, including beef, sheep, swine and meat goats to be eligible for NE State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben. Ak-Sar-Ben will handle all samples in terms of sending out materials and receiving envelops and dollars with no additional charge to Nebraska 4-H. In other words, hair samples for DNA must be taken and sent in for 4-H animals to be eligible to be exhibited at the Nebraska State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben.

Market Broilers for Dodge County Fair

4-H or FFA members (ages 8-18 on January 1, 2012) who are interested in raising and exhibiting commercial market broilers at the Dodge County Fair are in luck. A Commercial Broiler Pen of Three is to be six to eight weeks of age. Only exhibitors who ordered/purchased chicks through the UNL Extension Office in Dodge County are eligible for this class. Exhibitors will show a pen of three selected from the 25 or more birds purchased/received. To order your market broilers, contact the office at 402-727-2775 before **MAY 15, 2012** by 4:30 p.m. There is a minimum order of 25 and each broiler chick costs $0.96. Market broiler chick pick-up will be on **JUNE 21, 2012** by 4:30 p.m.

Livestock Selection Clinic

A livestock selection clinic has been designed for 4-H and FFA members and is scheduled for Saturday, **March 17, 2012** from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. It will be held at the Omaha Home for Boys Cooper Farm 4-H facility located at 8602 Morman Bridge Rd. Omaha, NE 68104, Exit I-680 at 48th St. (Hwy 75) and go south. Take this free opportunity to learn how to select the best show goats, pigs and lamb prospects as your project. A representative from Sullivan Supply will be on hand to answer your questions on grooming. For more information visit http://dodge.unl.edu/progressshows.



Dodge County 4-H Family Livestock Judging Contest

Mark your calendars! The Dodge County 4-H Family Livestock Judging Contest will be held **Wednesday, June 20, 2012** at the Masonic Home in Fremont, NE. This event is open to other counties and their families. This event is sponsored by the Dodge County 4-H Council. More information will be available at a later date.

Quality Assurance (QA) Certification

The Nebraska 4-H Program REQUIRES 4-H and FFA members (8-18 years old) exhibiting beef, sheep, swine, dairy cattle, bucket calves, goats, poultry and rabbits to be trained or tested in Quality Assurance. This program is mandated by the Nebraska 4-H Program and will be implemented into the Dodge County 4-H Program. Therefore, youth exhibiting BEEF, SHEEP, SWINE, DAIRY CATTLE, BUCKET CALVES, GOATS, POULTRY and/or RABBITS at the Dodge County Fair, Fremont 4-H Fair, Nebraska State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition are required to be QA certified by Friday, **June 15, 2012** to be eligible to exhibit.

2012 QA Certification Requirements

Age (01-01-12)	Certification Requirements
8-11 years	Attend Training
12-14 years	Take/Pass Intermediate Test (once passed, certification is not required until 15 years old) **OR** Attend Training
15-18 years	Take/Pass Senior Test (once passed, certification is no longer required) **OR** Attend Training

Dodge County Training & Testing Dates Set

Friday, June 8 at UNL Extension Office Dodge County,

- Training (REQUIRED for Juniors, 8-11 yrs old) 2:00-3:30 p.m.
- Intermediate Level Testing from 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Senior Level Testing from 9:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m.

Monday, June 11 at UNL Extension Office Dodge County,

- Training (REQUIRED for Juniors, 8-11 yrs old) 10:00-11:30 a.m.
- Intermediate Level Testing from 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Senior Level Testing from 9:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m.

For more information, contact the UNL Extension office in Dodge County. Dates and locations of additional training and testing will be announced at a later date.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Consumer Challenge

The 2012 4-H Consumer Challenge is scheduled for Saturday, **March 17, 2012** from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Sunset Plaza Mall in Norfolk, NE.

Apply what you have learned from various 4-H projects to a challenge testing your consumerism skills. Youth between the ages of 8 and 18 will be challenged in teams of two individuals. There will be two ago divisions; 8-11 year olds and 12-18 year olds. Youth will be paired on the day of the event or inform staff of their teammate when registering. Each team must complete their investigation by 11:30 a.m. Teams will not be purchasing the items they investigate. Team members must shop as a team.

Pre-register by contacting the UNL Extension Office in Wayne County at 402-375-3310 by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **March 14** with the name of the participants/teams and/or for more details.

Explore an Amazing Career in Textiles

Save **July 10, 2012** to explore the International Quilt Study Center for Museum and the Department of Textiles, Clothing, and Design to learn about the exciting possibilities of a career related to fabrics and textiles. This event if for 4-H'ers 12 years of age and older. More details to come soon!

March is annual Bake and Take Month

The purpose of Bake and Take is to promote community awareness and wheat education by baking a wheat food item and sharing it with someone else. In years past, several have participated in Bake and Take in the community, and we'd like to encourage you to participate again. The Nebraska Wheat Board has new recipe cards and stickers available. This year's recipe's are whole wheat sugar cookies and cheesy breadsticks. You do not have to bake these items to participate, they are simply suggestions.

The official date for Bake and Take is **March 24, 2012**, however, Bake and Take can be celebrated anytime during the month. If you have any questions, or would like to request recipe brochures and stickers, contact the Nebraska Wheat Board at 402-471-2358 or email wheat.board@nebraska.gov.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

NACEB Scholarship

The Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards Scholarship Program for the 2012/2013 academic year includes the following:

- One $1,000 scholarship at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) or in the College of Education and Human Services (CEHS) for and incoming student (freshman or transfer student).
- One $500 scholarship for a current student (sophomore or higher) enrolled in CASNR or CEHS.
- Application deadline is **March 15, 2012**.

For more information and application go to: http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/programs/2012NACEBScholarship.pdf

The Russell and Nancy Lang College Scholarship

The Russell and Nancy Lang College scholarship will be presented annually, in the amount of $500. It is available to high school seniors who belong to a Dodge County 4-H Club. Additional requirements are as follows:

- Must have been involved in 4-H for at least seven years (including the current year).
- Must be an active 4-H member at the time of application.
- Open to males and females.
- Must plan to attend a post-secondary school in Nebraska.
- The applicant must have plans to return to production agriculture.
- Application must be completed and returned with proper signatures to the Dodge County Extension Office by **April 1** of the current calendar year. After submission, applications will not be returned.
- Notification of selection committee results will be made after May 1 of the current calendar year.

In addition, the application will request the following information:

- A list of all 4-H projects and activities that the applicant has been involved in.
- A short essay or statement (one or two paragraphs) stating "Why I want to return to production agriculture."

For more information and application go to our website at: http://dodge.unl.edu/scholarships

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Consider Nebraska!

Academics and Support

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is a leader in academic excellence, offering world-class opportunities to extend your interests with 150 majors and 285 programs of study. Learn more about academics and support. Go to: http://nebraska.unl.edu/academics/

Campus Life

You'd be hard-pressed to find a major university with a stronger sense of community, a more feverish school spirit, or deeper commitment to involvement than Nebraska, where you can choose from 400 student organizations. To learn more about campus life go to: http://nebraska.unl.edu/campus_life/

Cost and Aid

Consumers Digest and Kiplinger.com rated NEBRASKA as a "Best Value in Public Colleges" for our academic excellence and residential experience at a low cost. To learn more about costs and financial aid go to: http://nebraska.unl.edu/value/

Diversity

Nebraska is committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse student body. To learn more about diversity at Nebraska go to: http://nebraska.unl.edu/diversity/

Lincoln Life

With 250,000 people, Lincoln has the same movies, stores, shows, restaurants, and coffee shops that you'd find in other major cities. To learn more about life in Lincoln go to: http://nebraska.unl.edu/lincoln_life/

UNL Equestrian Team Clinic

Are you a high school student interested in competing in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association? On **March, 31, 2012** the UNL Equestrian Team will be holding a one day clinic devoted to Hunt Seat Equitation and Western Horsemanship. You will learn about IHSA, equestrian team competitions, and college degree choices at UNL. Team members will facilitate classroom and hands on sessions. Participants will be matched with and ride UNL horses (you do not need to bring your own horse) for the mock show. Registration is $35 and is due by **March 23.** For more information and registration form go to: http://animalscience.unl.edu/anscequestrianteam.

Natural Resources at UNL

Natural Resources academic programs include a solid base of biology, math, chemistry, and physics. In courses, students learn to employ tools such as satellite remote sensing, geographic information systems and spatial modeling to analyze wildlife habitats, soil erosion, wetland restoration, drought, impacts of majors can participate in a broad array of other experiences including internships, independent research, field and laboratory studies, study abroad, involvement in organizations, and leadership development. UNL also provides many extracurricular opportunities for networking and interacting with faculty, staff and student colleagues. Contact the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at http://casnr.unl.edu or (800) 742-8800, Ext 2541.

Opportunities for College Visits

The UNL Extension in Dodge County faculty staff would love to help set-up a visit and/or accompany students and their parents to visit UNL. For more information about the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR), contact the UNL Extension in Dodge County at 402-727-2775 or go to: http://casnr.unl.edu/home. For a partial listing of career or recent graduated academic majors, go to http://casnr.unl.edu/ProspectiveStudents/AcademicPrograms

UNL as a Choice for College

If you are a high school student, or know a high school student, with plans on continuing their formal education at a college or university, then put the University of Nebraska-Lincoln at the top of those choices. Just go to the website www.admissions.unl.edu. It will lead you to explore options that meet your demands, and get to know costs, scholarships, careers and student life on both East and City Campus. Remember that 4-H is your first class at the University of Nebraska. Really, 4-H, Extension and UNL all fit together. For more information, call toll-free 800-742-8800 and ask for “admissions”. Get an appointment to tour the campus of your choice. That’s the best way to know UNL.

UNIVERSITY OF Nebraska Lincoln

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

March 2012..... Dodge County 4-H Awareness Month

March 12..... 4-H Council Camp Scholarship DEADLINE, UNL Extension Office, Fremont

March 21..... Dodge County 4-H Update Meeting, 6:30 p.m., UNL Extension Office, Fremont

March 25..... Dodge County 4-H Kick Off Party, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Fremont YMCA – Sidner Ice Arena

April 15..... EARLY BIRD discount for 4-H Summer Camps

April 24..... Dodge County 4-H Public Speaking Contest, 6:00 p.m., Masonic Home, Fremont

May 1..... Dodge County 4-H Enrollments & Fees DUE, UNL Extension Office, Fremont

May 11..... 4-H Horse District/State Enrollment & ID Sheets DEADLINE

May 28 ……...Dodge County Extension Office Closed – Memorial Day

June 1 ……4-H Horse Non-District/State Enrollment & ID Sheets DEADLINE

June 7..... 4-H Adventure Day Camp, Dead Timber State Park

June 8 & 11 ……QA Training & Testing, 4-H Livestock Tagging & DNA, UNL Extension Office, Fremont

June 12 ……...Clover Kid Camp, UNL Extension Office, Fremont

June 15..... 4-H Enrollment DEADLINE including livestock projects, UNL Extension Office, Fremont

June 20 ……...Dodge County 4-H Family Livestock Judging Contest, Masonic Home, Fremont

July 4 ……..Dodge County Extension Office Closed – Independence Day

July 11 - 14 ..... Fremont 4-H Fair, Christensen Field, Fremont, NE

July 15 – 19 ……Nebraska State 4-H Horse Exposition, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE

July 20 ……Pre-Entry for Dodge County Fair

July 30 ……Judging for Fashion Revue

August 1 – 5..... Dodge County Fair, Scribner, NE

August 24 - September 3 ..... Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE

September 15 – 16……..Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Horse Stock Show

September 27 – 30……..Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Stock Show

DODGE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

Tracy J. Behnken…...Extension Educator - 4-H
Natalia Bjorklund…..Extension Educator - Horticulture
Kathy Kneifl.... …….Extension Assistant - NEP/SNAP Programs
Heidi Lacy..... …….4-H Support Staff
Lisa Poppe..... …….Extension Educator - Learning Child/ Unit Leader
Mary Spath..... …….Office Manager

2012 Dodge County 4-H Council

Kris Dvorak
Annette Ebel
Kyle Ebel
Troy Ebel
Faith Hemme
Hope Hemme
Jenae Mallette
Liesa Miller
KateLynn Ness
Sara Ness
Nancy Peters
Ruth Ready
Joan Ruskamp
Jay Schroeder
Linda Taylor

April 24, 2012

Masonic Home, Fremont

Dodge County 4-H Public Speaking Contest

DIVISION	AGE (Jan 1, 2011)	TIME GUIDELINES	SPECIAL GUIDELINES
Clover Kid Speech	5-7 years old	Recommended Under 3 minutes	Original Speech on any subject or one written by someone else. Must state source if not an original speech. No visuals. Participation Ribbons only
Novice Speech	8-10 years old	Recommended Under 3 minutes	Never competed in a contest before. May recite a poem, read or tell a story.
Junior Speech	8–11 years old	Recommended Under 3 minutes	Original Speech relating to some aspect of 4-H. No visuals.
Intermediate Speech	12-13 years old	Recommended 3 to 5 minutes	Original Speech relating to some aspect of 4-H. No visuals.
Senior Speech	14-18 years old	5-8 minutes	Original Speech relating to some aspect of 4-H. No visuals.
Clover Kid PSA	5-7 years old	30 seconds	PSA must promote 4-H. May use sound effects, No copyrighted songs can be used. Participation Ribbons only
Junior PSA	8-11 years old	60 seconds	PSA must promote 4-H—State theme is "Join the Revolution". May use sound effects. No copyrighted songs can be used. All 4-H PSA's must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: "Learn more about the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu and Know How. Know Now."
Intermediate PSA	12-13 years old	60 seconds	PSA must promote 4-H—State theme is "Join the Revolution". May use sound effects. No copyrighted songs can be used. All 4-H PSA's must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: "Learn more about the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu and Know How. Know Now."
Senior PSA	14-18 years old	60 seconds	PSA must promote 4-H—State theme is "Join the Revolution". May use sound effects. No copyrighted songs can be used. All 4-H PSA's must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: "Learn more about the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu and Know How. Know Now."

Name: _____Age as of Jan 1:_____

Address:_____

Please Circle: PSA Speech

Division:_____

You may compete in both the PSA and Speech Contest!

The contest will begin promptly at 6:00 pm.

Registrations are due April 17, 2012

Send to:
Dodge County Extension office
1206 W 23rd Street
Fremont, NE 68025