

4-H Youth Accomplishments on Display at Super Fair

The 2026 Lancaster County Super Fair was held July 30–Aug. 8 at the Sandhills Global Event Center. 4-H & FFA is a big part of the first weekend of the fair, giving youth an opportunity to showcase projects they've worked on throughout the year. At this year's Super Fair, 577 4-H & FFA exhibitors entered 4,804 exhibits (including static exhibits, Clover Kids, animals and contest entries). Lancaster County 4-H thanks all the volunteers and sponsors who make 4-H youth learning experiences possible!



Lancaster County has the largest 4-H county fair horse show in the state, with 41 events spanning 5 days. Pictured is the walk-trot/novice division in Western Pleasure Horses.



Static exhibits include a wide range of projects from clothing (sewing) to visual arts. The Super Fair features the largest county 4-H static exhibit display in Nebraska.

See
Super Fair
4-H top results
on pages
8–9.



4-H & FFA livestock shows help grow the next generation of livestock producers. Pictured is Swine Intermediate Showmanship.



Clover Kids are 4-H'ers ages 5–7. This age group participates non-competitively in static exhibits, Show & Tell (pictured), animal showmanship and Fashion Show modeling.



The 4-H Poultry Show continues to increase in numbers. Pictured is judging of Plymouth Rocks.

America 250 Theme

Many 4-H'ers celebrated America's 250th Anniversary with theme static exhibits and animal stall/pen decorations!



Video of youth talking about their theme static exhibits at <https://go.unl.edu/250-video>

Photos of theme exhibits and decorations at <https://go.unl.edu/250-photos>



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Lancaster County 4-H
Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County
444 Cherry Creek Road, Suite A
Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1591

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 36
Omaha, Nebraska

Fiber: small Nutrient, Big Benefits

By Alyssa Havlovic, MS, RDN, ACSM EP-C, Extension Educator in Lancaster County

Fiber is an important part of a healthy diet, yet more than 90% of women and 97% of men fall short of recommended fiber intakes. A general recommendation is to get about 14 grams of fiber for every 1,000 calories consumed, which translates to roughly 25–35 grams per day for most adults.

What is Fiber & Why Do We Need It?

Fiber plays an important role in overall health by increasing feelings of fullness, promoting regular bowel movements and helping maintain healthy blood sugar and cholesterol levels. Adequate fiber intake may also reduce the risk of certain types of cancer.

There are two main types

of fiber: soluble and insoluble. Soluble fiber dissolves in water and can help support healthy cholesterol and blood sugar levels. Sources include oats, barley, beans, peas, lentils, fruits and some vegetables. Insoluble fiber does not dissolve in water and helps add bulk to your stools and supports the movement of material through the digestive system. Whole grains, vegetables, fruits, nuts and seeds are all good sources.

Where Can You Find Fiber?

Dietary fiber is found in plant foods. Vegetables, fruits, whole grains, nuts, seeds, beans and lentils are all excellent sources of fiber. To meet your daily recommended fiber intake, choose whole fruits and vegetables, whole grains over refined grains and incorporate plant-based proteins like beans, lentils, nuts and seeds into meals and snacks.

Simple Ways to Add More Fiber

- Enjoy whole fruits and vegetables more often than 100% juice. When appropriate, leave the edible skin on for additional fiber.
- Choose whole grain or whole wheat bread, cereals and pasta in place of refined grains.
- Swap white rice for brown rice or other whole grains.
- Add dark leafy greens, like spinach or kale, to salads, sandwiches, soups and other dishes.
- In recipes, substitute whole grain flour for half or all of the white flour.
- Snack on fresh vegetables, berries, nuts, whole grain crackers or popcorn.
- Add beans and lentils to soups, salads, casseroles, tacos and other main dishes.

Increase Gradually

If you currently fall short of the recommended fiber intake, start by making small changes and increase fiber gradually. A sudden increase in fiber may cause bloating or other gastrointestinal discomfort. When increasing your fiber intake it is important to also increase your water intake. Drinking plenty of fluids throughout the day can help your digestive system adjust to increased fiber intake.

HOW MUCH FIBER IS IN YOUR FOOD?

- 1 cup lentils = 15.5g
- 1 cup black beans = 15g
- 1 oz Chia seeds = 10g
- 1 cup raspberries = 8g
- 1 cup whole wheat spaghetti = 6g
- 1 medium pear = 5.5g
- 1 cup broccoli = 5g
- 1 cup brussels sprouts = 4.5g
- 1 medium apple, with skin = 4.5g
- 1/2 cup oats = 4g
- 3 cups air-popped popcorn = 3.5g
- 1 oz almonds = 3.5g



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

By Alyssa Havlovic, MS, RDN, ACSM-EP-C, Extension Educator in Lancaster Co.

Adding fiber to your diet doesn't have to be complicated. This colorful Chicken Pasta Salad brings together whole grains, beans and vegetables for a flavorful meal that provides 7 grams of fiber per serving.

CHICKEN PASTA SALAD

(Yield: 7 servings)

- 1 cup bell pepper, scrubbed with clean vegetable brush under running water, diced
- 1/2 cup green onion, gently rubbed under cold running water, sliced
- 1 cup yellow squash, scrubbed with clean vegetable brush under running water, sliced
- 1 cup whole wheat pasta, uncooked
- 1 1/2 cups canned chicken, drained
- 1/2 cup canned peas, drained
- 1/2 cup canned corn kernels, drained
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1/2 cup fat-free Italian dressing

1. Wash hands with soap and water.
2. Cook pasta according to package directions.
3. Wash and prepare vegetables.
4. Combine all ingredients in a large bowl.
5. For best results, chill for several hours to blend flavors.
6. Store leftovers in a sealed container in the refrigerator for up to four days.

Notes: Use frozen peas instead of canned. Substitute any other vegetables you have available.

Nutrition Information: Serving Size (1 cup): Calories: 180; Total Fat: 3g; Saturated Fat: 0.5g; Cholesterol: 25mg; Sodium: 390mg; Total Carbohydrates: 26g Fiber: 7g, includes 0g Added Sugars; Protein: 15g; Calcium: 4% ;Iron: 10%; Potassium: 8%

Nutrition Software Used: ESHA Food Processor

Source: North Carolina Department of Public Health & North Carolina Cooperative Extension



Photo by Marusa Jones

Nutrition Facts	
8 servings per container	
Serving size	2/3 cup (55g)
Amount per serving	
Calories	230
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 8g	10%
Saturated Fat 1g	5%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 160mg	7%
Total Carbohydrate 37g	13%
Dietary Fiber 4g	14%
Total Sugars 12g	
Includes 10g Added Sugars	20%
Protein 3g	
Vitamin D 2mcg	10%
Calcium 260mg	20%
Iron 8mg	45%
Potassium 240mg	6%

The Nutrition Facts label shows how much fiber a food provides. Look for "Dietary Fiber" under Total Carbohydrate and check the % Daily Value.

Still Growing! Master Gardener Summer Symposium & 50th Anniversary Celebration

By Mary Jane Frogge,
Extension Associate in
Lancaster County

On July 14, Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County hosted Master Gardeners and Extension professionals from 12 counties for the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer (EMGV) Summer Symposium & 50th Anniversary Celebration. This commemorated the yearlong recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Extension Master Gardener Program in Nebraska.

The event included education, which is a core objective of this volunteer program and the lifelong learning mentality of Master Gardeners. Educational topics included

DYI Landscape, Pollinator Support in Your Landscape, Moth Week, Top 5 Diseases for 2026 and Growing & Arranging Cut Flowers.

State Master Gardener Coordinator, Terri James, shared the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Week proclamation that was presented by Governor Pillen earlier in the year.

Thank you to our Extension Master Gardener Volunteers across the state and their commitment to education and volunteering. You are a valued resource to your neighborhood and community.

To learn more about the EMGV Program, go to <https://mastergardener.unl.edu>.



EXTENSION Master Gardener Volunteer Spotlight

ELAINE BOOTH has been an Extension Master Gardener Volunteer (EMGV) for 15 years and has volunteered over 600 hours. Elaine mentors new volunteers, answers phone questions and helps at the Lancaster County Super Fair.

Why did you become an EMGV?

I worked as an accountant for 30 years, which put me in an indoor office. As I planned for retirement, my primary goal was to participate in as many outdoor activities as possible. Since I have a true love of plants, I signed up for the classes. To be honest, I thought I knew everything about plants. Very quickly I found that I knew almost nothing and I have been learning every day.

What is your favorite volunteer opportunity?

I volunteer at the Lincoln Children's Zoo working in the wonderful gardens that cover the areas around the animals. We plant, sometimes we prune, and there is always weeds to pull.

What have you learned about yourself through volunteering?

Before retiring, my life was predominately filled with my job and my family. After retiring, I wasn't sure how I would fill my days and wanted to stay busy. I found that volunteering was a wonderful substitute for my former career.



GARDEN GUIDE THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

By Mary Jane Frogge, Extension
Associate in Lancaster County

October is a good time to control broadleaf weeds in the lawn, such as white clover, dandelion and ground ivy.

Plant spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, snowdrops and crocus in October.

Fall watering is important for trees and shrubs. Continue to water until the soil freezes.

Fall is an excellent time for taking soil samples in your lawn and garden. Soil tests will measure the pH of the soil, organic matter content and the levels of some of the major elements required for plant growth, such as phosphorus and potassium.

When deciding on new trees or shrubs to plant around your home, remember to select varieties that will fit the location when they are at their mature height. This will greatly reduce pruning and other maintenance in the future.

Remove leaves from lawn to reduce lawn problems. Compost or shred and use them for mulch.

Cut down stems and foliage of herbaceous perennials after two or three hard frosts and when leaves begin to brown.

After several hard frosts, add mulch to your perennial flower garden. A one-inch layer of straw or chopped leaves will help conserve soil moisture and protect the root system.

Make a note of any particularly productive or unsatisfactory varieties of vegetables you planted this year. Such information can be very useful when planning next year's garden.

Remove any diseased or insect-infested plant material from your garden, it may harbor over wintering stages of disease or insect pests. If you leave this plant material in your garden, you are leaving diseases and insects which will begin to reproduce again next spring and add to next year's pest problem.

Christmas cactus needs special care now to get its beautiful flowers this December. Buds will form at 50 -60°F or if the plant is exposed to at least 13 hours of complete darkness each night.

WATER QUALITY TESTING & TREATMENT GUIDANCE FOR THE PRIVATE WELL OWNER

By Becky Schuerman, Domestic Water/Wastewater Extension Associate

Most drinking water contaminants are tasteless, odorless and colorless. Crystal clear water that tastes good, doesn't mean it is safe to drink or cook with. Private well owners should routinely test their water by ordering a water sample kit from an accredited laboratory. Annual testing for nitrate and coliform bacteria is strongly recommended, along with other contaminants of local concern. Consulting your local Natural Resource District (NRD), health department or nearby community water system can help identify additional relevant contaminants.

In Nebraska, naturally occurring contaminants such as arsenic, uranium, selenium, iron and manganese may be present. While iron and manganese often cause aesthetic issues like discoloration or taste, other contaminants can pose significant health risks, especially when a concentrations exceed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). An MCL is the highest concentration level for a specific contaminant allowed in drinking water supplied by a public water system. Even secondary MCL exceedances (as with iron, manganese, and selenium) can affect water usability and safety.

Interpreting Test Results

Private well water quality is not regulated by federal or state laws. However, Safe Drinking Water Act standards provide a valuable benchmark for evaluating all drinking water quality. Private test results should be evaluated against these standards. To best protect your family's health, if there is an MCL exceedance — or if a homeowner prefers additional protection — treatment should be considered.

It is important to understand that



Collecting a water sample for testing. Order sample kits through a certified testing lab which can be picked up or mailed.

boiling water is only effective for biological contaminants such as bacteria, viruses and parasites. For chemical or heavy metal contaminants, boiling is not a solution; it can actually worsen the problem by concentrating contaminants as water evaporates.

Treatment Considerations

Before selecting treatment, determine how much water needs to be treated for drinking and cooking, commonly estimated at one gallon per person per day. Next, evaluate treatment methods that effectively reduce the specific contaminants of concern to acceptable levels. Reliable resources include Nebraska Extension NebGuides and reputable water quality professionals.

Treatment system performance varies, even within the same category. For example, reverse osmosis (RO) units differ in their effectiveness depending on the contaminant type and concentration. Always review manufacturer

specifications to confirm that a system can address the specific contaminant levels detected. Additionally, contaminant levels and household water usage will influence how frequently filters or media must be replaced. Proper system installation, operation and maintenance are critical — water treatment systems are only as good as they are maintained.

Evaluating Treatment Systems

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not test or approve drinking water treatment devices. Consumers should instead rely on third-party certification to ensure the performance and reliability of treatment systems. An American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard is a set of guidelines developed by an ANSI-accredited committee to ensure safety, quality and effectiveness. Independent entities test products against these standards.

NSF International (formerly known as the National Sanitation Foundation) is an independent nonprofit that strongly focuses on water and food safety health code requirements in the U.S. and abroad. Drinking water treatment manufacturers pay for testing. Products that meet the NSF/ANSI standards for the reduction of specific contaminants may display the NSF certification on their packaging. NSF also conducts ongoing monitoring and retesting to ensure continued compliance, particularly if products change or issues arise. Certification standard explanations can be found at: <https://www.nsf.org/consumer-resources/articles/standards-water-treatment-systems>.

The Water Quality Association (WQA) provides certification through the inspection of water industry manufacturing facilities, product testing and product literature review using the NSF/ANSI standards. The WQA Gold Seal

signifies that a product meets or exceeds the standards. WQA also promotes ethical practices among its voluntary membership.

Takeaway

Ensuring safe drinking water from a private well requires regular testing, informed interpretation of results, careful selection of properly certified treatment systems and consistent maintenance. Clear, good-tasting water does not guarantee safe water — only testing and appropriate treatment can.

NEBRASKA EXTENSION RELATED RESOURCES

Numerous water-related NebGuides organized by testing and treatment, private drinking water systems, private wellhead protection, etc.
<https://go.unl.edu/water-nebguides>



NebGuide
"Drinking Water:
Testing for Quality"
<https://go.unl.edu/testing-for-quality>

NebGuide "Drinking Water: Certified Water Testing Laboratories in Nebraska"
<https://go.unl.edu/certified-labs>



NebGuide
"Drinking Water
Treatment: What
You Need to Know
When Selecting
Water Treatment
Equipment"

<https://go.unl.edu/selecting-water-treatment>



HEART OF 4-H VOLUNTEER AWARD

Recognizing Outstanding Volunteer Service

Kim Kempkes

is receiving the Lancaster County 4-H October "Heart of 4-H Award." She is the Greater Lincoln Obedience Club (GLOC) Training Director and has donated her time and talents to the 4-H dog program for about 5 years. Kim and the GLOC have provided agility equipment for the 4-H Dog Show at the Lancaster County Super Fair, hauling the equipment to the fairgrounds, provided volunteers to help with scoring and assisting with set up. Kim has presented 4-H dog workshops for 3 years teaching youth and their dogs obedience, showmanship, agility course-work and rally. In addition, she has judged at 4-H dog shows at other county fairs in Nebraska.

"I was in 4-H as a youth and really enjoyed it," says Kim. "I love giving back to the program and hope to encourage youth to stay in the dog world after 4-H."



Homeschool Youth Science Day

Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County will present a Homeschool Youth Science Day on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. OR 1–4 p.m. at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln. Open to all homeschooled youth, grades K–6th (most lessons are geared towards 3rd–5th graders). Youth will focus on lessons involving science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activities.

Fee is \$10 per youth. Payment is required prior to the event (no refunds). Call the Extension office at 402-441-7180 to pay by credit card (there is a small transaction fee), or mail/deliver a check



2025 lessons included learning about wildlife (pictured are various fur pelts).

or cash to Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528.

Register online at <https://go.unl.edu/homeschool-science-26> by Monday, Oct. 26. Please choose either the morning session, 9 a.m.–12 p.m., or afternoon session, 1–4 p.m., on the registration form.



Join 4-H to Become Beyond Ready

Ready to lead. Ready to serve. Ready to build. Ready for life.



WHY 4-H?

- Lancaster County 4-H is open to all youth ages 5–18
- Choose from over 50 projects to "learn by doing"
- Explore interests and career "sparks"
- Participate in leadership and community service activities
- Have fun while making new friends!
- Many 4-H'ers showcase their projects at the Lancaster County Super Fair!



GET INVOLVED!

- Help start a new 4-H club
- Join an existing 4-H club
- Be an independent member

**NO FEES TO JOIN
Lancaster County 4-H**



Call 402-441-7180 or go to
lancaster.unl.edu/join4h

FUN FAMILY EVENT

LAUNCH YOUR 4-H JOURNEY

Sunday, Oct. 4 • 5pm

Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County,
444 Cherrycreek Rd., Suite A, Lincoln



This is a great chance for all family members to explore 4-H! 4-H staff will present an overview of 4-H and its many opportunities. Several 4-H members will share their projects (including STEM, art, rabbits and more). Adults can learn ways they can help youth grow.

Free hot dogs and refreshments! Fun door prizes!

N
EXTENSION
Lancaster County

4-H Announcements

FOR ENROLLED 4-H'ERS OR 4-H VOLUNTEERS

The 4-H e-newsletter at <https://go.unl.edu/lan4hnews> has up-to-date information about upcoming 4-H opportunities.



AFTER SUPER FAIR MEETINGS & ONLINE FEEDBACK —

All Lancaster County 4-H & FFA members, families and volunteers are invited to the following 4-H After Super Fair Planning Meetings and Feedback opportunities. This is an opportunity to discuss changes and generate ideas for the 2027 Lancaster County Super Fair and 4-H program areas.

In-Person Feedback Opportunity (horse meeting was Sept. 10):

- Livestock: Tuesday, Sept. 29, 6 p.m. at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Rd, Suite A, Lincoln. Registration is encouraged by emailing lan4h@unl.edu or calling 402-441-7180.

Online Feedback Opportunities Due by Oct. 1:

- Static exhibits & contests: <https://go.unl.edu/4h-static-feedback-2026>
- Rabbit: <https://go.unl.edu/4h-rabbit-feedback-2026>
- Cat: <https://go.unl.edu/4h-cat-feedback-2026>
- Dog: <https://go.unl.edu/4h-dog-feedback-2026>
- Household Pets: <https://go.unl.edu/4h-pets-feedback-2026>

HORSE AWARDS NIGHT, OCT. 15 — The annual Lancaster County 4-H Horse Awards Night will be Thursday, Oct. 15, 6:30 p.m. at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln. Awards presentation includes Incentive Awards, Horsemanship Levels, All-Around Awards, Herdsmanship, Top Judging buckles and ribbons, as well as a few surprise awards! Come help celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of the 2026 Lancaster County 4-H Equestrians!

4-H LEADER COLLABORATION, OCT. 22 — All 4-H leaders and volunteers helping with clubs and independent members are encouraged to get the latest updates at the Fall 4-H Leader Collaboration on Thursday, Oct. 22, 9 a.m. via Zoom or in-person at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln. The theme will be "You are Apple-solutely Awesome" and will focus on exchanging ideas among the leaders, 4-H club organization, new information for the upcoming 4-H year, opportunities for your 4-H members and more. This is a great time to connect, ask questions and get ideas from other parents and leaders. You MUST register by Thursday, Oct. 8 by calling Kristin Geisert at 402-441-7180 or emailing kristin.geisert@unl.edu. Please indicate if you will be attending in-person or via Zoom.

LET'S GET ARTSY! NOV. 14 — 4-H youth ages 8 and up are invited to the "Let's Get Artsy!" workshop on Saturday, Nov. 14, 9-11 a.m. at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln. Youth will draw patterns on watercolor paper using a sharpie marker and then paint with watercolor paints. Guest instructor will be Caitlyn Heiden, Art Educator at Blessed Sacrament School. No cost to attend. Register by Monday, Nov. 2 by contacting Kristin Geisert at 402-441-7180 or kristin.geisert@unl.edu.

Aleyna Cuttlers and Roger Bell Receive Statewide 4-H Awards!

Two Lancaster County 4-H volunteers were recognized with Nebraska 4-H state-level awards at a formal ceremony at the Nebraska State Fair. Lancaster County 4-H appreciates their service!

EMERGING ADULT VOLUNTEER

(1 of 8 individuals)

Aleyna Cuttlers, a longtime member of Lancaster County 4-H, aged out in 2024. The next year, she started the Lancaster Meat Goat 4-H Club to give urban youth the opportunity to lease and show a goat. Aleyna and her family house the goats at their family farm. During the summer, club members go to the farm and learn about herdsmanhip, daily care, grooming and showmanship, while creating a bond with their goat and other club members. She is also the superintendent of the 4-H & FFA Elite Showmanship contest at the Lancaster County Super Fair. Aleyna says, "I enjoyed watching the 4-H'ers progress throughout the summer, and seeing the smiles



(L-R) Aleyna Cuttlers and Roger Bell

on their face when that hard work paid off at the county and state fair!"

OUTSTANDING ADULT VOLUNTEER

(1 of 8 individuals)

Roger Bell has been coaching the Lancaster County 4-H livestock and horse judging teams for 13 years. For 11

years, Roger has coached the county horse team to the National Western Roundup competition in Denver and traveled with the team for 5 years. He coached and traveled with a county livestock team to the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky. In addition, Roger has also served as superintendent of the Lancaster County 4-H horse and livestock judging contests. He says, "I tell youth all the time, you are going to have to make decisions in life and defend it, which is a very important skill! Many past judges have come back and shared with me how it has benefited them; a lot of times that has been when being interviewed."

4-H Livestock Scholarship Recipients

This year, The Lancaster County 4-H Livestock Boosters awarded five \$500 college scholarships, which were presented at the 4-H & FFA Purple Ribbon Market Livestock Premium Auction during the Lancaster County Super Fair. A portion of the proceeds from the auction funds up to three scholarships.

Auction Committee Chair Julia Plugge said, "As far back as the selection committee could remember — this was by far the deepest set of applicants. The decision was hard. Because we were not able to pick just two or three, we will be giving five away this year. Farmers Cooperative is donating an



(L-R) Hadley Reimers, TJ Mueller, Emberlin Johnson, Khloe Cuttlers and Lexi McCaffree

additional \$1,000 to use for scholarships."

The recipients are:

- Khloe Cuttlers
- TJ Mueller

- Hadley Reimers
- Emberlin Johnson (Farmers Cooperative)
- Lexi McCaffree (Farmers Cooperative)

State 4-H Horse Expo Top Results



Xavier Bourek, Advanced Hunter Under Saddle Champion



Thaxton Bourek, Western Dressage Reserve Champion



Paige Schepers, 1-2 Year Old Mares Champion



Ava Schepers, Miniature/Shetland Pony Halter Mares Reserve Champion



Corrine Byrne, Western Pleasure Ponies Champion



MacKenzie McCoy, 3-5 Year Old Halter Geldings Champion



Addison Gropp, Senior Ranch Riding Reserve Champion



Claira Heinzle, English Dressage Reserve Champion



Taeva Taylor, Hunter Hack Champion

The 2026 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo was held July 11-15 in Grand Island. There were 168 exhibitors, 995 entries representing 40 Nebraska Counties. Here are the Lancaster County 4-H purple ribbon and top 10 winners. Complete results are at <http://4h.unl.edu/horse/state-expo>.

Ch=Champion; Res=Reserve

1-2 YEAR OLD HALTER MARES: Paige Schepers (Ch), Ava Schepers (4th - blue)

1-2 YEAR OLD HALTER GELDINGS: Paige Schepers (Res Ch - blue)

11+ YEAR OLD HALTER MARES: Clairia Heinzle (Res Ch), Amelia Proffitt (6th - blue), Mary LaPlante (10th - blue)

11+ YEAR OLD HALTER GELDINGS: Gracen Byrne (7th - blue)

3-5 YEAR OLD HALTER MARES: Clairia Heinzle (3rd)

3-5 YEAR OLD HALTER GELDINGS: MacKenzie McCoy (Ch)

MINIATURE/SHETLAND PONY HALTER MARES: Paige Schepers (Ch), Ava Schepers (Res Ch)

MINIATURE/SHETLAND PONY HALTER GELDINGS: Ava Schepers (Ch), Thaxton Bourek (Res Ch)

SENIOR SHOWMANSHIP: Clairia Heinzle (5th), Xavier Bourek (6th), Lily Wood (9th), Kiara Eppembach, Taeva Taylor

INTERMEDIATE SHOWMANSHIP: MacKenzie McCoy (5th)

SENIOR TRAIL: Lyra Krutak (6th - blue)

ENGLISH DRESSAGE: Xavier Bourek (Ch), Clairia Heinzle (Res Ch), Corrine Byrne (3rd - blue), Gracen Byrne (4th - blue)

WESTERN DRESSAGE: Thaxton Bourek (Res Ch), Lyra Krutak (3rd), Addison Gropp (4th - blue), Amelia Proffitt (5th - blue), Mary LaPlante (6th - blue)

WESTERN PLEASURE PONIES:

Corrine Byrne (Ch), Addison Gropp (3rd)

HUNTER HACK: Taeva Taylor (Ch), Clairia Heinzle (4th - blue), Gracen Byrne (5th - blue)

SENIOR HUNT SEAT EQUITATION: Clairia Heinzle (Res Ch), Kayla Isaacs (3rd), Xavier Bourek (4th)

JUNIOR HUNT SEAT EQUITATION: Corrine Byrne (8th)

ADVANCED HUNTER UNDER SADDLE: Xavier Bourek (Ch)

SENIOR HUNTER UNDER SADDLE: Xavier Bourek (3rd), Lyra Krutak (7th), Clairia Heinzle (8th)

ADVANCED WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP: Kayla Isaacs (Ch), Lyra Krutak (4th)

SENIOR WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP: Kiara Eppembach (4th)

ADVANCED WESTERN PLEASURE:

Xavier Bourek (3rd), Kayla Isaacs (5th - blue)

SENIOR WESTERN PLEASURE:

Lyra Krutak (5th), Clairia Heinzle, Kiara Eppembach

INTERMEDIATE WESTERN PLEASURE: McKenzie McCoy (Ch)

WESTERN RIDING: Xavier Bourek (Ch)

SENIOR RANCH PLEASURE:

Lyra Krutak (4th), Kayla Isaacs (5th), Lily Wood, Clairia Heinzle

SENIOR RANCH RIDING:

Addison Gropp (Res Ch), Kayla Isaacs (9th), Lyra Krutak

SENIOR REINING: Kayla Isaacs (Ch), Addison Gropp (4th)

INTERMEDIATE BARREL RACING: Isla Strasburger (Res Ch)

SENIOR POLE BENDING: Reagan Dinger (4th)



Super Fair 4-H & FFA Top Results

4-H & FFA complete results, photos and videos are online at <http://lanaster.unl.edu/4h/fair>



Sophia Hunt's U.S. flag made out of toy army men (a Home Design & Restoration 3D Accessory exhibit) earned America's 250th Anniversary Theme Grand Champion exhibit. See her Pure Nebraska interview at <https://go.unl.edu/4h-top-250>



Elizabeth Hilkemann earned Top Creative Photography. At the State Fair, this photo was selected for display at UNL East Campus — see <https://go.unl.edu/lan-4h-special-photos-26>



Fashion Show Top 7 constructed garments: (L-R) Piper Pillard (Grand Ch), Dayton Jons (Res Grand Ch & Alice Doane Memorial Wool Award), John Bauman, Emily Bauman, Tenley Bauman, Alexa Smith and Emma Thomson. At the State Fair 4-H Fashion Show, all earned purple ribbons — read more at <https://go.unl.edu/fash-show-26>



Ch=Champion; Res=Reserve

Top Static Exhibits

AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY THEME

Grand Ch: Sofia Hunt
General Areas: Lundy Dell
Photography: Addison Rocole
Food & Nutrition: Atlas Hamblin
Home Design & Restoration: Sofia Hunt
Clothing: Sofia Hunt
Visual Arts: Agatha Sullivan
STEM: Ifejobi Sodeke

GENERAL AREAS

Quilt Ch: Reese Dell
Quilt Res Ch: Ariana Hamblin
Dog Ch: Tenley Bauman
Rabbit Ch: Marylynn Rauert

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

Premiere Science: Jaxon Harvey
Aerospace/Rockets/Drones: Brigham Moore
Engineering: Jaxon Harvey
Woodworking: Avery Vlasnik

SAFETY

Safety: Jocelyn Schmoll

FOOD & NUTRITION

Cookie Exhibit: Eva Heath
Quick Bread: Lauren Johnson
Yeast Exhibit: Addison Rocole
Cake or Pie: Alizah Jones
Food Preservation: Morgan Gabel

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Human Development: Parker Hansen

HOME DESIGN & RESTORATION

Top 3: Easton Byrne
Top 3: Adam Gabel
Top 3: Mary Kerstin Friesen
Leta Guenther Bremer Memorial Needle Arts Award: Lundy Dell

VISUAL ARTS

Top 4: Shea Frink
Top 4: Otis Keierleber
Top 4: Meredith Noack
Top 4: Avery Stohs

HERITAGE

Heritage: Meredith Marsh

PHOTOGRAPHY

Level 1: Saylor Bontrager
Level 2: Elizabeth Hilkemann
Level 3: Jocelyn Schmoll
Favorite Photo: Addison Rocole
Creative Photography: Elizabeth Hilkemann
Black & White Photograph: Addison Rocole
Portrait: Elizabeth Hilkemann

CLOTHING

STEAM 1 Clothing: Amelia Rocole
STEAM 2 Clothing: Ariana Hamblin
STEAM 3 Clothing: Emma Thomson
Beyond the Needle: Dayton Jons
Accessory: Tenley Bauman
Fiber Arts - Crocheting: Meredith Noack
Fiber Arts - Knitting: Catherine Friesen
Shopping in Style: Emily Bauman
Alice Doane Memorial Wool Award: Dayton Jons

HORTICULTURE

Vegetable: Harper Cordes
Herb: Alexa Smith
Annual Flower: Amorita Payne
Perennial Flower: Jaxon Vlasnik
Rose: Evan Mittan-DeBuhr
Specimen Plant: Murray Bettenhausen

CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE AND FORESTRY

Conservation and Wildlife: Ifejobi Sodeke
Forestry: Elizabeth Hilkemann

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Outdoor Adventures: Alexa Smith

Top Contest Awards

ILLUSTRATED PRESENTATIONS

Sr Ch: Amorita Payne
Sr Res Ch: Alexa Smith
Int Ch: Cora Pracheil
Jr Ch: Murray Bettenhausen
Jr Res Ch: Susanna Johnsen
Team Sr Ch: Andrea Bettenhausen and Evelyn May
Video Communication Sr: Alexa Smith

SPEECH & PSA

Speech Sr Ch: Amorita Payne
Speech Sr Res Ch: Alexa Smith
Speech Int Ch: Braxton Thompson
Speech Int Res Ch: Charis Carlson
Speech Jr Ch: Andrew Johnsen
Speech Jr Res Ch: Eva Thompson
PSA Sr Ch: Callia Thompson
PSA Sr Res Ch: Alexa Smith
PSA Int Ch: Braxton Thompson
PSA Int Res Ch: Andrea Bettenhausen
PSA Jr Ch: Eva Thompson

LIFE CHALLENGE

Sr Ch: Emily Bauman
Sr Res Ch: Lena Gropp
Jr Ch: Della Gropp
Jr Res Ch: Amelia Rocole

FASHION SHOW

Grand Ch: Piper Pillard
Res Grand Ch: Dayton Jons
Top 7: David Bauman
Top 7: Emily Bauman
Top 7: Tenley Bauman
Top 7: Alexa Smith
Top 7: Emma Thomson
Shopping in Style Top 3: Emily Bauman
Shopping in Style Top 3: Monica Bauman
Shopping in Style Top 3: Dayton Jons
STEAM Clothing 1: Amelia Rocole
STEAM Clothing 2: Sofia Hunt
STEAM Clothing 3: Emily Bauman

STEAM Beyond the Needle: Dayton Jons
Make One/Buy One Level 1: Olivia Clark
Make One/Buy One Levels 2 or 3: Alexa Smith
Apron: Harper Cordes
Garment(s) Made for Others: Clare Friesen
Upcycled Garment: Dayton Jons

PLANT SCIENCE

Horticulture: Catherine Polk
Tree Identification: Elizabeth Hilkemann
Grass & Weed Identification: Elizabeth Hilkemann

TABLE SETTING

Superintendent's Choice: Cora May
Picnic Sr: Kathryn Weaver
Picnic Int: Ian Bettenhausen
Picnic Jr: Murray Bettenhausen
Casual Sr: Amorita Payne
Casual Int: Andrea Bettenhausen
Casual Jr: Jesse May
Formal Sr: Evelyn May
Formal Int: Lucy Pflanz
Holiday Sr: Alexa Smith
Holiday Int: Adella Fendrick
Holiday Jr: Leah Bauer

DOG VIRTUAL TRIVIA

Sr Ch: Reese Dell
Int Ch: Adelaide Metcalf
Jr Ch: Harriet Moore

LIVESTOCK ELITE SHOWMANSHIP

1st Place: Lexi McCaffree
2nd Place: Kyler Plugge
3rd Place: Hannah Chevalier
4th Place: Ezra Kubicek
5th Place: Olivia Jelinek

LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Sr Ch: Pyper Morehead
Sr Res Ch: Emberlin Johnson
Int Ch: Norah Bruss
Int Res Ch: Amilya Johnson
Jr Ch: Dylan Plugge
Jr Res Ch: Maddox Bruss



Dalton Shotkoski earned Best of Show Poultry Overall with his Old English Game Bantam.



Rabbit All-Around Exhibitor Award: (L-R) Carl Traynor (Ch) and Tenley Bauman (Res Ch). At State Fair, Carl and Tenley earned several top rabbit awards.



Livestock Elite Showmanship: (front L-R) Lexi McCaffree (1st & Sheep Sr Ch), Tyler Plugge (2nd & Beef Sr Ch); (back L-R) Hannah Chevalier (3rd & Swine Sr Ch), Ezra Kubicek (4th & Dairy Goat Sr Ch), Olivia Jelinek (5th & Meat Goat Ch).



Xavier Bourek earned several horse champion and reserve champion awards, including Extreme Versatility Champion.

Top Animal Awards

BEEF

Showmanship Supreme Ch: Tyler Plugge
Showmanship Sr Ch: Tyler Plugge
Showmanship Int Ch: Amilya Johnson
Showmanship Jr Ch: Micah Mueller
Breeding Heifer Supreme Ch: Hudson Reimers
Breeding Heifer Supreme Res Ch: Tyler Plugge
Feeder Calf Supreme Ch: Emberlin Johnson
Feeder Calf Supreme Res Ch: Blake Mueller
Market Animal Supreme Ch: TJ Mueller
Market Heifer Grand Ch: Tyler Plugge
Market Heifer Res Grand Ch: Aislyn Applegarth
Market Steer Grand Ch: TJ Mueller
Market Steer Res Grand Ch: John Barger
Lancaster Born and Raised - Breeding Ch: Hudson Reimers
Lancaster Born and Raised - Market Ch: TJ Mueller
Rate of Gain Market Steer Ch: Connor Paitz
Rate of Gain Market Heifer Ch: Tyler Plugge
Overall Cow/Calf Pair Ch: Christian Kaiser

BUCKET CALF

Current-year Jr Ch: Avery Plugge

SHEEP

Showmanship Sr Ch: Lexi McCaffree
Showmanship Int Ch: Addisyn Lorenson
Market Lamb Grand Ch: Lexi McCaffree
Market Lamb Res Grand Ch: Addisyn Lorenson
Lancaster Born and Raised Market Lamb Ch: Lexi McCaffree
Lancaster Born and Raised Market Lamb Res Ch: Christian Kaiser
Breeding Ewe Supreme Ch: Addisyn Lorenson

MEAT GOAT

Showmanship Sr Ch: Olivia Jelinek
Showmanship Int Ch: MacKenzie McCoy
Showmanship Jr Ch: Sophie Anderjaska
Market Goat Overall Grand Ch: Olivia Jelinek
Market Goat Overall Res Grand Ch: MacKenzie McCoy
Breeding Goat Overall Ch: Khloe Cuttlers
Breeding Goat Overall Res Ch: Khloe Cuttlers
Lancaster Born & Raised Ch: Olivia Jelinek
Lancaster Born & Raised Res Ch: MacKenzie McCoy

SWINE

Showmanship Sr Ch: Hannah Chevalier
Showmanship Int Ch: Derek Bruss
Showmanship Jr Ch: Maddox Bruss
Market Swine Grand Ch: Alyssa Bruss
Market Swine Res Grand Ch: Derek Bruss
Breeding Gilt Ch: Hannah Chevalier
Breeding Gilt Res Ch: Harper Cordes
Pen of Three Ch: Derek Bruss
Pen of Three Res Ch: Harper Cordes
Pick-a-Pig Market Swine Grand Ch: Jett Jurgens
Pick-a-Pig Market Swine Res Grand Ch: Maximilian Graves
Carcass Swine Ch: Kloee Schwartz
Carcass Swine Res Ch: Augustine Werner

DAIRY/PYGMY GOAT

Showmanship Sr Ch: Ezra Kubicek
Showmanship Int Ch: Evelyn Smith
Showmanship Jr Ch: Zoey Petta
Best in Show Dairy/Pygmy Goat - Dry: Taryn Bell
Res Best in Show Dairy/Pygmy Goat - Dry: Zoey Petta
Best in Show Dairy/Pygmy Goat - In Milk: Ezra Kubicek
Res Best in Show Dairy/Pygmy Goat - In Milk: Hannah Chevalier

RABBIT

All-Around Exhibitor Award Ch: Carl Traynor
All-Around Exhibitor Award Res Ch: Tenley Bauman
Showmanship Sr Ch: Marylynn Rauert
Showmanship Int Ch: Elizabeth Hilkemann
Showmanship Jr Ch: Eliana Schmoll
Best of Show Ch: Oliver Cudaback
Best of Show Res Ch: Tenley Bauman
Commercial Breed - Best 6 Class Ch: Rozlyn Masters
Commercial Breed - Best 6 Class Res Ch: Dalton Shotkoski
Fancy Breed - Best 4 Class Ch: Oliver Cudaback
Fancy Breed - Best 4 Class Res Ch: Tenley Bauman
Judging Contest Sr Ch: Emma Thomson
Judging Contest Int Ch: Piper Young
Judging Contest Jr Ch: George Rauert
Breed Identification Contest Sr Ch: Jocelyn Schmoll
Breed Identification Contest Int Ch: Adelaide Metcalf

Breed Identification Contest Jr Ch: Eliana Schmoll
Breeder's Choice Sr Ch: Tenley Bauman
Breeder's Choice Int Ch: Carl Traynor
Breeder's Choice Jr Ch: Adeline Dittbrenner
Quiz Sr Ch: Cally Sullivan
Quiz Int Ch: Elizabeth Hilkemann
Quiz Int Ch: Adelaide Metcalf
Quiz Jr Ch: Harriet Moore
Quiz Jr Ch: Eliana Schmoll

POULTRY

Showmanship Sr Ch: Lawrence Rauert
Showmanship Int Ch: Liam Powers
Showmanship Jr Ch: Leo Rauert
Judging Contest Sr Ch: Catherine Polk
Judging Contest Int Ch: Emma Wright
Judging Contest Jr Ch: George Rauert
Quiz Bowl Sr Ch: Kamryn Wanser
Quiz Bowl Int Ch: Benedict Rauert
Quiz Bowl Jr Ch: Daxton Hamblin
Large Fowl Grand Ch: Lawrence Rauert
Bantam Grand Ch: Dalton Shotkoski
Waterfowl Grand Ch: Piper Pillard
Best of Show Poultry Overall: Dalton Shotkoski

HOUSEHOLD PETS

Mammal Ch: Rachel Koch
Mammal Res Ch: Andrea Bettenhausen
Non-Mammal Ch: Zayne Russell

CAT

Best in Show: Elizabeth Hilkemann
Long Hair Best in Show: Elizabeth Hilkemann
Short Hair Best in Show: Sarah Fisher
Working Cat Best in Show: Charity Carlson

DOG

Showmanship Trophy Ch: Ruby Dean
Showmanship Sr Ch: Reese Dell
Showmanship Int Ch: Nina Flamminio
Showmanship Beginning Ch: Harriet Moore
Beginning Agility A - Level 2 Ch: Remington Tate
Intermediate Agility - Level 4 Ch: Ruby Dean
Pre-beginning Agility B - Level 1 Ch: Charis Carlson
Pre-beginning Agility A - Level 1 Ch: Reese Dell
Obedience - Graduate Novice Ch: Dayton Jons
Obedience - Beginning A Ch: Harriet Moore
Obedience - Beginning B Ch: Sarah Fisher

HORSE

English Showmanship Sr Ch: Clairia Heinzle
English Showmanship Int Ch: Gracen Byrne
English Showmanship Jr Ch: Madelyn Becker
Hunter Hack Sr Ch: Taeva Taylor
Hunter Hack Int Ch: Violet Green
English Hunter/Saddleseat Ages 4 and Up Grand Ch: Clairia Heinzle
English Hunter/Saddleseat Ages 4 and Up Res Grand Ch: Elizabeth Funk
English Hunter/Saddleseat Aged Horse Grand Ch: Corrine Byrne
English Hunter/Saddleseat Aged Horse Res Grand Ch: Arianna Behrend
Miniature Showmanship Int/Sr Ch: Lyra Krutak
Miniature Showmanship Jr Ch: Madelyn Becker
Western Showmanship Sr Ch: Lily Wood
Western Showmanship Int Ch: MacKenzie McCoy
Western Showmanship Jr Ch: Madelyn Becker
Groom and Care Ch: Tristan Ewell
Western Stock Horses Ages 4 and Up Grand Ch: Grace Chevalier
Western Stock Horses Ages 4 and Up Res Grand Ch: MacKenzie McCoy
Western Stock Horses Aged Horse Grand Ch: MacKenzie McCoy
Western Stock Horses Aged Horse Res Grand Ch: Mary LaPlante
Extreme Versatility Ch: Xavier Bourek
Ranch Horse Versatility (Ranch Riding) Sr Ch: Lily Wood
Ranch Horse Versatility (Ranch Riding) Int Ch: Evelyn Smith
Ranch Horse Versatility (Ranch Riding) Jr Ch: Ava Rathje

Additional horse awards will be announced at 4-H Horse Awards Night, on Thursday, Oct. 15.

See more top award photos at go.unl.edu/top-4h-super-fair-26





State Fair 4-H Top Results

Congratulations to the Lancaster County 4-H'ers who showcased their projects at the Nebraska State Fair! Here are the top results. Complete results are at <http://nebraska4hresults.com>.

Top Awards

Tenley Bauman — Rabbit: Best Opposite • Rabbit: Best of Breed
Khloe Cuttlers — Meat Goat: Commercial Doe - Yearling (born between 9/1/2024 and 8/31/2025) - 3rd Place
Sarah Fisher — Dog: Skillathon - Intermediate - 5th Place • Dog: Showmanship - Intermediate - Ch • Dog: Obedience - Novice Division B - Res Ch • Dog: Rally - Beginning Rally - Res Ch • Dog: Agility - Level 1 - Ch
Jaxon Harvey — Science & Technology: Premier Science Award
Elizabeth Hilkemann — Judging Contests: Insect ID - Intermediate - 1st Place • Judging Contests: Tree ID - Intermediate - 1st Place • Judging Contests: Weed & Grass ID - Intermediate - 3rd Place
Shelby Huenink — Dog: Skillathon - Junior - 4th Place
Sophia Huenink — Dog: Skillathon - Intermediate - 8th Place
Alandra Huntley — Rabbit: Best of Breed
Lathan Huntley — Poultry: Showmanship - Senior - Res Ch
Lauren Johnson — Meat Goat: Market Meat Goat - Grand Ch and Division I - Market Wether - Ch • Meat Goat: Division II - Market Wether - 3rd Place • Sheep: Crossbred Market Division II - 3rd Place
Aliyah Jones — Poultry: Showmanship - Junior - 3rd Place
Dayton Jons — Fashion Show: Constructed Garment - Top 2
Addisyn Lorenson — Sheep: Showmanship - Intermediate - 4th Place • Sheep: Division VII: All Other Registered Meat Breed Ewes (Born 9/1/2025 and After) - Ch • Sheep: Division VII: All Other Registered Meat Breed Ewes (Born 9/1/2025 and After) - Res Ch
Brigham Moore — Judging Contests - Tree ID - Intermediate - 3rd Place
Harriet Moore — Judging Contests - Tree ID - Junior - 1st Place • Dog: Skillathon - Junior - 7th Place • Dog: Showmanship - Junior - Ch • Dog: Obedience - Beginning Novice A - Res Ch
Piper Pillard — Fashion Show: Constructed Garment - Top 5 • Poultry: 4th Overall Best of Show and Waterfowl Division Ch
Kanyon Plugge — Beef: Red Angus Breeding - Yearling Heifers Calved March/April 2025 - Ch
Benedict Rauert — Judging Contests - Insect ID - Intermediate - 2nd Place
Dalton Shotkoski — Rabbit: Best of Breed
Carl Traynor — Rabbit: Showmanship - Intermediate - Ch • Rabbit: Best Opposite • Rabbit: Best of Breed

Special Recognition

RAINBOW RIBBON RECOGNITION

Rainbow Recognition awards recognize unique and outstanding items.

Emily Bauman — Leadership and Citizenship: Service Items • Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design
Andrea Bettenhausen — Entomology: Macrophotography
Lundy Dell — Heritage Level I: Other Historical Exhibit
Reese Dell — Photography Unit III: Portrait
Catherine Friesen — Knitting Level 3: Knitted Clothing
Mary Kerstin Friesen — Design Decisions: Accessory - Original Made From Wood
Paige Frink — Photography Unit II: Creative Techniques & Lighting
Shea Frink — Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Pencil Drawing
Adam Gabel — Woodworking Unit 3: Woodworking Article
Nicole Gee — Floriculture: Zinnia
Arianna Hamblin — Clothing 2: Lined or Unlined Jacket • Clothing 2: Skirt
Jaxon Harvey — Rocket: Self-Designed
Elizabeth Hilkemann — Entomology: Macrophotography • Forestry: Forest Product Display • Forestry: Seed Display • Forestry: Twig Display • Shopping in Style: Clothing First Aid Kit
Sofia Hunt — Design Decisions: Accessory - 3D • Clothing 2: Upcycled Accessory
Dayton Jons — Clothing 3: Upcycled Garment • Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design
Amorita Payne — Photography Unit III: Creative & Experimental Photography
Aiden Powers — Rocket: Any Skill, Painted Using Commercial Application
Cora Pracheil — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Item Constructed From Original Designed Fabric
Eliana Schmoll — Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit
Jocelyn Schmoll — Photography Unit III: Black & White Photography • Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit
Josiah Schmoll — Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit
Noah Schmoll — Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit
Howard Senft — Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 1 Jar Jelled
Alexa Smith — Clothing 3: Upcycled Garment • Outdoor Adventures Level 3: Other Expedition Items
Avery Stohs — Visual Arts: Themes - Original Art Inspired by Plants or Animals
Avery Vlasnik — Horticulture: Sage

PHOTOGRAPHY SPECIAL SELECTIONS

Selected for UNL East Campus Exhibition in the Animal Science Complex for the 2026/2027 school year.

Ari Hamblin (Candid Photograph — bunny and chick)
Elizabeth Hilkemann (Creative & Experimental Photograph — cat playing piano with a disco scene added to the background)
Cora Pracheil (Black and White Photograph — hen named Fuzzy)

LIVESTOCK ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM MEMBERS OF EXCELLENCE

At the beginning of the 4-H year, youth plan what to accomplish. At the end of the 4-H year, they report on their completed accomplishments.

Tenley Bauman Rabbit and Meat Goat Areas, Senior
Hannah Chevalier Beef, Dairy Goat and Swine Areas, Senior
Adella Fendrick Rabbit Project Area, Intermediate
Leo Fendrick Poultry Project Area, Senior
William Fendrick Rabbit Project Area, Junior
Ari Hamblin Rabbit Project Area, Intermediate
Atlas Hamblin Poultry Project Area, Junior
Dax Hamblin Poultry Project Area, Junior
Alandra Huntley Rabbit Project Area, Intermediate
Lathan Huntley Poultry Project Area, Senior
Adelaide Metcalf Rabbit Project Area, Intermediate
Harriet Moore Rabbit Project Area, Junior
Emma Thomson Rabbit and Meat Goat Areas, Intermediate

FINAL DRIVE

Top livestock exhibitors were invited to participate in the "Final Drive"

- **Lauren Johnson** — Market Goat: Grand Ch
- **Addisyn Lorenson** — Sheep: Intermediate Showmanship 4th Overall
- **Livestock Achievement Program Members of Excellence** (see list above)

Purple Ribbons

David Bauman — Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 2 Garment
Emily Bauman — Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 2 Garment • Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 3 Garment • Fashion Show: Shopping in Style Purchased Outfit and Written Report • Clothing 3 - A Stitch Further - Dress or Formal • Clothing 3: Upcycled Garment • Heritage Level II: 4-H Member Scrapbook • Heritage Level II: 4-H Special Events Scrapbook • Leadership and Citizenship: Service Items • Human Development: Math
Monica Bauman — Fashion Show: Shopping in Style Purchased Outfit and Written Report • Shopping In Style: Revive Your Wardrobe
Piper Bauman — Heritage Level I: Beginning - Special Events Scrapbook • Entrepreneurship Investigation (ESI): Sample of an Original Product
Tenley Bauman — Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 3 Garment • Rabbit: Breeding - Mini Lop Jr. Buck • Rabbit: Breeding - Mini Lop Sr. Doe • Heritage Level II: 4-H Member Scrapbook • Heritage Level II: Other Historical Exhibit • Heritage Level II - Special Events Scrapbook • Photography Unit III: Level 3 Portfolio • Entrepreneurship Investigation (ESI): Sample of an Original Product • Veterinary Science: Large Animal Poster, Notebook or Display • Veterinary Science: Small Animal/Pet Poster, Notebook or Display
Andrea Bettenhausen — Entomology: Macrophotography • Heritage Level II: Family Genealogy/History Notebook • Photography Unit II: Level 2 Portfolio • Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design • Shopping in Style: Best Buy for Your Buck Ages 8-13 • Forestry: Leaf Display
Murray Bettenhausen — Conservation & Wildlife: Mammal Display
Claire Breuer — Cooking 301: Whole Wheat or Mixed Grain Bread
Emmett Bristol — Robotics Showcase: Build a Robot • Robotics Showcase: Robotics Video
Olivia Clark — Cooking 301: White Bread
Harper Cordes — Clothing 2: Lined or Unlined Jacket
Asher Crilly — Heritage Level I: Family Traditions Exhibit
Khloe Cuttlers — Meat Goat: Breeding - Commercial Yearling Does (born between 9/1/2024 and 8/31/2025) • Cooking 401: Family Food Tradition
Lundy Dell — Heritage Level I: Other Historical Exhibit • Heritage Level I: Special Events Scrapbook • Design Decisions: Accessory - Original Needlework/Stitchery • Human Development: Creative Arts • Human Development: Social Emotional Development • Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design
Maddox Dell — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design
Reese Dell — Heritage Level II: 4-H Member Scrapbook • Heritage Level II: Special Events Scrapbook • Design Decisions: Accessory - 2D • Human Development: Activity With a Younger Child • Photography Unit III: Portrait • Quilt Quest Level II: Quilted Exhibit - Large
Abigail Dobesh — Crochet Level 2: Crocheted Clothing
Adella Fendrick — Cooking 301: Specialty Rolls
Frankie Fendrick — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design • Cooking 401: Ethnic Food Exhibit
Henry Fendrick — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design
Rosalena Fendrick — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design



Jaxon Harvey's self-designed rocket (at right) with a custom 3D printed nose cone and electronics bay to hold a camera, GPS tracker and altimeter, earned 1 of 8 Premier Science Awards. Read more at <http://go.unl.edu/sci-award-26>



Lauren Johnson received Grand Champion Market Goat with her market wether. See her Rural Radio Network interview at <https://go.unl.edu/gr-ch-market-goat>



Piper Pillard (at right) received Champion Waterfowl and 4th Overall Best of Show with her runner duck.



Lathan Huntley earned Poultry Showmanship Senior Reserve Champion.



Kanyon Plugge received Champion Red Angus Breeding Heifer with his yearling heifer calved March/April 2025.



Harriet Moore earned Dog Showmanship Junior Champion and Dog Obedience Beginning Novice A Reserve Champion.

Sarah Fisher — Dog: Level 1 • Dog: Showmanship - Inter • Dog: Beginning Rally • Dog: Beginning Novice • Dog: Skillathon - Inter • Conservation & Wildlife: Reptile or Amphibian Display

Catherine Friesen — Knitting Level 3: Knitted Clothing • Quilt Quest Level II: Quilted Exhibit - Small

Gwendolyn Friesen — Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Pencil Drawing

Mary Kerstin Friesen — Design Decisions: Accessory - Original Made From Wood • Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Mixed Media • Visual Arts: Themes - Original Art Inspired by Plants or Animals

Paige Frink — Photography Unit II: Creative Techniques & Lighting

Shea Frink — Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Pencil Drawing

Adam Gabel — Woodworking Unit 3: Woodworking Article • Design Decisions: Accessory - 3D • Design Decisions: Accessory-Original Made From Wood • Human Development: Activity With a Younger Child • Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 3 Jar Tomato Exhibit

Molly Gabel — Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 3 Jar Tomato Exhibit

Morgan Gabel — Heritage Level II: Video/DVD or Slide/Tape Documentary of a Family or Community Event • Crochet Level 2: Crocheted Clothing • Design Decisions: Accessory-Original Floral Design • Human Development: Activity With a Younger Child • Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 3 Jar Tomato Exhibit • General Foods: Physical Activity and Health Poster, Scrapbook or Photo Display • Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Ceramic Pottery • Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Watercolor Painting • Visual Arts: Themes - Original Art Inspired by People

Morgan Gee — Floriculture: Zinnia

Nicole Gee — Floriculture: Zinnia

Reagan Gee — Clothing 2: Top

Harlan Goens — Geospatial: GPS Notebook

Aleigha Gyhra — Cooking 201: Coffee Cake

Arianna Hamblin — Clothing 2: Lined or Unlined Jacket • Clothing 2: Skirt • Rabbit: Breeding - American Fuzzy Lop Sr. Doe • Rabbit: Breeding - Holland Lop Sr. Buck • Photography Unit II: Black & White Photography • Photography Unit II: Candid Photography • Design Decisions: Accessory - 3D • Quilt Quest Level II: Quilted Exhibit - Medium • Clothing 2: Top • Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 1 Jar Jelled Exhibit

Atlas Hamblin — Poultry: Feather Legged Bantams - Langshan, Black Cock • Clothing: Beyond The Needle - Embellished Garment With Original Design

Daxton Hamblin — Poultry: English - Australop Hen • Design Decisions - Accessory - Textile - 2D

Parker Hansen — Heritage Level I: Heritage Poster or Flat Exhibit

Jaxon Harvey — Rocket: Self-Designed With Wooden Fins • Computers: 3-D Printing - Unique Object

Elizabeth Hilkemann — Judging Contests: Insect ID - Inter • Judging Contests: Tree ID - Inter • Judging Contests: Weed and Grass ID - Inter • Entomology: Macrophotography • Forestry: Forest Product Display • Forestry: Seed Display • Forestry: Twig Display • Citizenship: i2i - Biography • Heritage Level I: Family Traditions Book • Heritage Level II: 4-H Member Scrapbook • Heritage Level II: Book Review about Local, Nebraska or Regional History • Heritage Level II: Other Exhibits - Depicting the Heritage of the Member's Family or Community • Heritage Level II: Story or Illustration about a Historical Event • Leadership and Citizenship: Citizenship Game • Leadership and Citizenship: Service Items • Photography Unit II: Creative & Experimental Photography • Photography Unit II: Creative Composition • Photography Unit II: Creative Techniques & Lighting • Photography Unit II: Level 2 Portfolio • Shopping in Style: Clothing First Aid Kit • Forestry: Forest Health Display • Forestry: Leaf Display • General Foods: Food Science Explorations • Geospatial: GPS Notebook

Anderson Hoesche — Heritage Level I: Family Traditions Exhibit • Leadership and Citizenship: Service Items • Human Development: Social Emotional Development

Shelby Huenink — Dog: Skillathon - Jr

Sophie Huenink — Dog: Skillathon - Inter • Poultry: Ducks - Med Cayuga Young Male • Poultry: Showmanship - Inter • Conservation & Wildlife: Bird Display • Electricity: Lighting Comparison

Sofia Hunt — Design Decisions: Accessory - 3D • Human Development: Health and Physical Development • Clothing 2: Bottom • Clothing 2: Skirt • Clothing 2: Two-Piece Outfit • Outdoor Adventure - Level 2: Other Camping Items

Alandra Huntley — Rabbit: Breeding - Mini Rex Sr. Buck • Rabbit: Breeding - Netherland Dwarf Sr. Buck • Poultry: Game Bantams - Modern Division - Mod Game Silver Duckwing Pul

Lathan Huntley — Poultry: Game Bantams - Modern Division - Mod Game Birchen Hen • Poultry: Game Bantams - Modern Division - Mod Game Silver Blue Pul • Poultry: SCCL-Non Game Bantams - Plymouth Rock Silver Penciled Pul • Poultry: Showmanship - Senior

Mary Kate Ingracia — Heritage Level I: Other Exhibits - Depicting Heritage of Member's Family or Community

Jude Jay — Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Acrylic Painting

Lauren Johnson — Meat Goat: Market Wethers • Meat Goat: Market Wethers • Sheep: Crossbred Market Lambs • Sheep: Hampshire Market Lambs • Cooking 201: Loaf Quick Bread • Cooking 401: Double Crust Fruit Pie

Aliyah Jones — Poultry: Showmanship - Jr

Dayton Jons — Clothing 3: Upcycled Garment • Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design • Dog: Showmanship - Senior • Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 3 Garment • Fashion Show: Shopping In Style Purchased Outfit and Written Report

Clara Jordan — Design Decisions: Accessory - Textile - 3D • Clothing 2: Dress • Cooking 301: Whole Wheat or Mixed Grain Bread

Anna Kennedy — Clothing 2: Skirt

Ava Koch — Cooking 201: Loaf Quick Bread

Rachel Koch — Photography Unit II: Candid Photography

Addisyn Lorensen — Sheep: Breeding - All Other Registered Meat Breed Ewe Lambs (Born 9/1/2025 and After) • Sheep: Breeding - All Other Registered Meat Breed Ewe Lambs (Born 9/1/2025 and After) • Sheep: Showmanship - Inter

Ian Lorensen — Sheep: Crossbred Market Lambs

Meredith Marsh — Heritage Level II: Other Exhibits - Depicting the Heritage of the Member's Family or Community • Horticulture: Salad Tomatoes

Jesse May — General Foods: Cooking Basics Recipe File

MacKenzie McCoy — Poultry: Game Bantams - OE and American - Old English Crele Cock

Harper McKelvey — Quilt Quest: Barn Quilt Created Less than 4x4 • Clothing 2: Dress • Geospatial: Geocache

Evan Mittan-DeBuhr — Design Decisions: Furniture - Wood Clear Finish

Gracie Mittan-DeBuhr — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design

Brigham Moore — Photography Unit II: Level 2 Portfolio • Rocket - Any Skill With Wooden Fins, Painted by Hand/Brush

Harriet Moore — Judging Contests: Tree ID - Jr • Dog: Showmanship - Jr • Quilt Quest: Inter-Generational Quilt • Forestry: Leaf Display • Rocket: Any Skill With Wooden Fins, Painted By Hand/Brush

Blake Mueller — Beef: Charolais Breeding - Heifer Calves Calved Nov./Dec. 2025

Micah Mueller — Beef: Charolais Breeding - Yearling Heifers Calved Aug./Dec. 2024 • Beef: Feeder Calf - Feeder Heifer

TJ Mueller — Beef: Feeder Calf - Feeder Heifer

Hannah Mumm — Computers: Create a Website/Blog or App

Meredith Noack — Crochet - Level 3 Crochet Home Design & Restoration Item

Abigail Page — Cooking 201: Biscuits or Scones • Cooking 201: Coffee Cake • Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 1 Jar Jelled Exhibit

Carley Parrott — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Fashion Accessory

Amorita Payne — Photography Unit III: Creative & Experimental Photography • Photography Unit III: Portrait • Crochet - Level 3 Crocheted Clothing • Human Development: Creative Arts • Clothing Beyond The Needle: Textile Arts Garment or Accessory • General Foods: Foods and Nutrition Poster, Scrapbook or Photo Display • Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Acrylic Painting • Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Ink Drawing

Anthony Pflanz — Safety: General Purpose First Aid Kit • Heritage Level I: Framed Family Groupings (or Individuals) of Pictures Showing Family History

Lucy Pflanz — Forestry: Leaf Display

Piper Pillard — Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 3 Garment • Poultry: Ducks - Lt Runner Fawn/White Old Male • Clothing Beyond The Needle: Embellished Garment With Original Design

Reese Pillard — Poultry: American - New Hampshire Hen • Poultry: Geese - Med Sebastool Young Fem • Design Decisions: Bedcover

Dylan Plugge — Harvesting Equipment - Inventing Wildlife/Fish Harvesting Equipment, Aid or Accessory

Kanyon Plugge — Beef: Red Angus Breeding - Yearling Heifers Calved March/April 2025 • Shooting Sports - Storage Case

Kyler Plugge — Beef: Red Angus Breeding - Heifer Calved January-April 2026

Catherine Polk — Heritage Level II: Framed Family Groupings (or Individuals) of Pictures Showing Family History • Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Single Media Not Listed

Maria Polk — Heritage Level I: Framed Family Groupings (or individuals) of Pictures Showing Family History • Heritage Level II: Special Events Scrapbook

Liam Powers — Heritage Level I: Heritage Poster or Flat Exhibit

Cora Pracheil — Clothing Beyond The Needle: Item (Garment or Non clothing Item) Constructed From Original Designed Fabric • Heritage Level I: Other Historical Exhibit

Benedict Rauert — Judging Contests: Insect ID - Inter • Entomology: Entomology Display - Third Year or More Project

Hadley Reimers — Beef: Feeder Calf - Feeder Heifer

Hudson Reimers — Beef: Angus Breeding - Yearling Heifers Calved March/April 2025 • Beef: Showmanship - Senior

Addison Rocole — Heritage Level II: 4-H Member Scrapbook • Photography Unit II: Abstract Photography • Photography Unit II: Black & White Photography • Photography Unit II: Expression Through Color • Cooking 301: Specialty Bread • Cooking 301: White Bread

Amelia Rocole — Heritage Level I: 4-H Member Scrapbook

Charlotte Sanio — Photography Unit III: Level 3 Portfolio

Eliana Schmoll — Forestry: Leaf Display • Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit

Jocelyn Schmoll — Photography Unit III: Black & White Photography • Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit • Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 1 Jar Fruit Exhibit • Horticulture: Vegetable Seed Display

Josiah Schmoll — Forestry: Leaf Display • Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit

Noah Schmoll — Forestry - Leaf Display • Safety: Specific Purpose First Aid Kit

Sandrafaye Schulz — Clothing 2: Dress • Cooking 201: Creative Mixes

Howard Senft — Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 1 Jar Jelled Exhibit • Food Preservation Unit 2: Drying - Dried Fruits

Dalton Shotkoski — Poultry: Game Bantams - OE and American - Old English Black Breasted Red Cock • Rabbit: Breeding - American Chinchilla Sr. Doe

Alexa Smith — Outdoor Adventures: Level 3 - Other Expedition Items • Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 3 Garment • Outdoor Adventures Level 3: Digital Media • Horticulture: Any Other Herb

Avery Stohs — Visual Arts: Themes - Original Art Inspired by Plants or Animals

Bryson Stutzman — Robotics Showcase: Build a Robot • Robotics Showcase: Robotics Video

Agatha Sullivan — Visual Arts: Mediums - Original Pencil Drawing

Remington Tate — Dog: Showmanship - Senior

Emma Thomson — Fashion Show: Constructed Clothing 3 Garment

Carl Traynor — Rabbit: Showmanship - Inter • Rabbit: Breeding - Dutch Jr. Buck • Rabbit: Breeding - Dutch Jr. Doe • Rabbit: Breeding - Dutch Sr. Buck • Rabbit: Breeding - Dutch Sr. Doe • Cooking 201: Healthy Baked Product

Belle Troupe — Forestry: Leaf Display

Cora Vander Woude — Cooking 401: Ethnic Food Exhibit

Ryan Vander Woude — Cooking 201: Coffee Cake

Avery Vlasnik — Horticulture: Sage • Horticulture: Salad Tomatoes • Woodworking Unit 3: Woodworking Article

Jaxon Vlasnik — Design Decisions: Furniture-Wood Opaque Finish • Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 1 Jar Jelled Exhibit • Food Preservation Unit 3: Boiling Canning - 3 Jar Jelled Exhibit • Floriculture: Any other perennial • Horticulture: White Potatoes

Eleanor Wandzilak — Entrepreneurship Investigation (ES1): Social Entrepreneurship Presentation

Brooklynn Wolgamott — Cooking 201: Baking With Whole Grain

Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County
444 Cherrycreek Road, Ste. A, Lincoln, NE 68528
402-441-7180 • lancaster.unl.edu

The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its programs, activities or employment.
<https://nebraska.edu/nondiscrimination>

Accommodation requests for registration or attendance may be directed to Karen Wobig at least two weeks prior to the program at lancaster@unl.edu or 402-441-7180. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet access needs.

NEBLINE

Would You Prefer Digital?

E-newsletter version is at <https://go.unl.edu/nebline>

Subscribe to Digital or Print Versions

Subscribe/unsubscribe to the print and/or digital versions by going to lancaster.unl.edu/nebline or by calling 402-441-7180. Mailed subscription costs are covered by Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County.

Copyright ©2026



EXTENSION CALENDAR

All events held at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, unless otherwise noted.

September

- 26 Composting Demonstration, Pioneers Park Nature Center's backyard**
composting demonstration area **10–11 a.m.**
- 29 4-H After Super Fair Livestock Feedback Meeting 6 p.m.**
- 30 4-H Council's Alumni Scholarship Deadline**

October

- 4 Launch Your 4-H Journey: Information Session 5 p.m.**
- 4–10 National 4-H Week**
- 6 4-H Council Meeting 6 p.m.**
- 9 Extension Board Meeting 8 a.m.**
- 11 4-H Teen Council Meeting 3 p.m.**
- 14 GRO Big Red Virtual Learning Series: Spring Flowering Bulbs,**
<http://hles.unl.edu/grobigred> **12 p.m.**
- 15 Pesticide Applicator NDA "Walk-In" Testing Session 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**
- 15 4-H Horse Awards Night 6:30 p.m.**
- 22 4-H Leader & Volunteer Collaboration 9 a.m.–11:30 a.m.**

2026 GROBigRed

This webinar series, delivered via Zoom, is a great opportunity to join experts from Nebraska Extension to learn and ask questions!

Wednesday, Oct. 14
at 12 p.m. —

SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

presented by
Scott Evans &
Mary Jane Frogge

Learn basic care and selection of spring bulbs you can plant this fall.

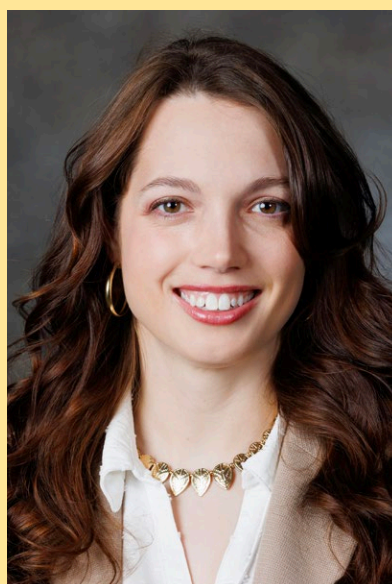
Register at
hles.unl.edu/grobigred

Sponsored
by Nebraska
Extension

EXTENSION NEWS

New Health & Wellbeing Extension Assistant

Emily Manning recently joined Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County as a part-time Extension Assistant who will help support the Health & Wellbeing team. Her primary duty will be delivering programming with the Nutrition School Enrichment Kit Program for K–5th graders in Lincoln Public Schools. Previously, she worked in Seward County as an Early Childhood Extension Educator. Emily graduated with a Masters in Human Development and Family Studies from the University of Missouri and a Bachelor of Science in Education and Human Sciences with a Family and Consumer Science endorsement from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.



Emily Manning

2026 UNL Service Awards

University of Nebraska–Lincoln staff reaching an anniversary year of employment are honored for their years of service to the university. The following Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County staff are being recognized in October:

- **Kayla Colgrove**, Extension Educator — 15 years
- **Becky Schuerman**, Extension Associate — 5 years

Deadline For Extension Board Applications, Nov. 1

The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners seeks community members to serve on the Lancaster County Extension Board. Vacancies will be filled with three-year appointments beginning in January 2027.

Extension Board members advocate for and assist Extension staff in program areas such as: 4-H youth development; early childhood; horticulture, landscape & environmental systems; health & wellbeing; and water & cropping systems. The board meets monthly (usually the second Friday of the month at 8 a.m.). Registered Lancaster County voters interested in serving should complete an Extension Board application by Nov. 1.

Additional information and an application can be obtained from Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528 or by calling 402-441-7180. Applications are also online at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/extension-board>.