

February is Nebraska 4-H Month, and Perkins County 4-H will be celebrating the great things that the 4-H youth development program offers.

Perkins County 4-H Council and the Perkins County Extension Office will be hosting a 4-H kickoff to celebrate Nebraska 4-H Month. Come to the Fairgrounds Feb. 9, 1-2 p.m. to learn more about the 4-H program, enroll in 4-H for 2014, ask questions, and enjoy a cookie!

“4-H is simply fun. You get the opportunity to meet amazing people and try new activities while learning new things along the way,” said Perkins County 4-H Member Rebecca Cornelius. “You become part of a community at a young age, and those people are there with you and become some of your biggest supporters clear through high school graduation. It is something you just have to experience to believe.”

4-H enrollment in Perkins County is in full swing. Members are selecting and caring for livestock. The summer camp list is out. A variety of projects are available, from traditional foods, clothing and livestock, to robotics and digital video.

Recent findings from the Tufts University 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development indicate that, when compared to their peers, young people in 4-H are:

- Nearly four times more likely to contribute to their communities,
- Two times more likely to pursue healthy behaviors, and
- Two times more likely to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

programs in the out-of-school time.

In Perkins County, more than 80 4-H members and 25 volunteers are involved in 4-H.

To learn how to become a 4-H member or volunteer leader in Perkins County, contact Debbie Kuenning, Extension Educator, at University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension, Perkins County at 352-7580 or [dkuenning2@unl.edu](mailto:dkuenning2@unl.edu)