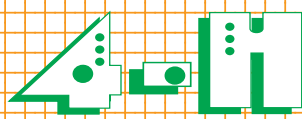




## 4-H & Youth



### BULLETIN BOARD

- ⇒ Honors Banquet - Tuesday, December 3, 7:00 p.m. (LJ)
- ⇒ Ag Society Annual Meeting - Saturday, December 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (LJ)

## Attention volunteer leaders

**Help is coming!**

**Empowering, fun, new ideas**

November 18

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Lancaster Extension Education Center

**Save the date**

## Martha and Don Romeo Scholarship

The Nebraska Association of Fair Managers offers two \$500 scholarships to a 4-H boy and girl in Nebraska. The scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors planning to continue their post-high school education. Applicants must have exhibited 4-H projects in a county fair or at the state fair within the last four years, have a 2.5 grade point average, agree to apply the scholarship funds for tuition or fees at a two or four year college, and have demonstrated support of school and community. Financial need is not considered in the selection process. Winners will be notified through county offices.

Lancaster County may submit one boy and one girl to the state competition. Applications are available at the Extension office and must be submitted to LaDeane by December 2, 1996. (LJ)

## Welcome

Mike Feit started October 1 as a 4-H assistant. He recently moved to Lincoln from Brookings, South Dakota with his wife, Teri. A graduate of South Dakota State University with a B.S. in Human Development Child and Family Studies, he has also taken graduate classes in child development, education and group development and plans to finish his Masters degree in the near future.

Mike has worked with children in a variety of settings and enjoys working with children of all ages. He was an instructor for an after school program in Brookings and a camp director at a youth and family camp in the Black Hills of South Dakota. He is anxious to get to work and to start meeting people. If you are in the office, stop in and introduce yourself. He would love to get to know you. (LJ)



Mike Feit

## Ak-Sar-Ben Catch-A-Calf contest

What do 678 former 4-H members from five mid-western states have in common? They've successfully caught calves at the Ak-Sar-Ben Catch-A-Calf contest.

A reunion of the successful calf catchers was held at the 69th Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Exposition this year, the 20th anniversary of the contest. More than 85 people attended the reunion, watched the Catch-A-Calf live show on September 29, then attended a noon luncheon and afternoon rodeo.

Lancaster County 4-H members who join the ranks of Catch-A-Calf winners in past years include Linda Lotz, Mike Hanson—Denton; Greg Coffey, John Coffey—Lincoln; Andrew Roeder, Corey Roeder—Bennet;

Greg Hollman, Scott Sieck, Scott Hollman—Martell; Brenda Halling—Waverly; and Eric Mitchell—Roca. Successful calf-catchers during this year's Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Expo from Lancaster County include Anthony Nisley—Hickman; and Jeremy Holthus—Roca.

Each year since 1976, Ak-Sar-Ben has presented a calf to each of the winners in the Catch-A-Calf contest. The winners must physically catch a calf, halter it, and lead it to the finish line. The number of calves given out each year has varied from 22 to 47, with twice as many members competing as there are calves to be caught. Many more members apply each year than are selected for the contest. The calves in any one year all come

from one producer's herd so the genetic potential of the calves is similar. Nine different producers have furnished the calves in the 20 years of the contest.

4-H members who successfully catch their calves are required to follow a strict schedule of activities. They receive their calves in November. They are expected to write letters to the sponsor throughout the year to report on their progress, and they must agree to bring their calf back to the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition the following September, when Catch-A-Calf steers are shown in a separate class from the other market steers. The live winner is, however, eligible to compete for the overall grand champion steer award. (AF)

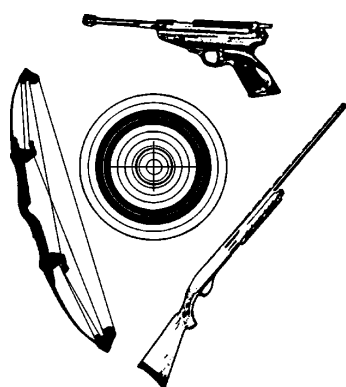
## Llama Therapy

In August, the Lovable Llamas 4-H Club visited Madonna's St. Anthony's Alzheimers Program. The residents were quite cautious of the llamas at first, not knowing what to expect from the large, unfamiliar creatures. To show them that their llamas were harmless, the kids performed a llama obstacle demonstration—with the kids being the obstacles! Soon, the residents were petting, and even leading the animals around themselves. Even normally combative and non-associative patients paid great attention to the llamas, treating them with wonder instead of striking out. One resident didn't even want to go home when her daughter came to pick her up because she was having too much fun with the llamas. The nursing home staff commented that there were "many smiles we usually don't see" and that "some patients are still talking about it." Congratulations Lovable Llamas, on a service well done and greatly appreciated! (TB)



## 4-H Shooting Sports is for everyone

Youth, parents and families are invited to the Lancaster Shooting Sports Club organizational meeting on Monday, November 25, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.



Shooting sports disciplines offered through 4-H include air rifle (BB and pellet), archery, shotgun (trapshooting), small bore rifle and pellet pistol. All 4-H instructors are specially certified through the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension to focus on teaching safe and responsible use of firearm and archery equipment.

4-H Shooting Sports offers youth and families an opportunity to learn together and to test

their skills against others on local, state and national levels. The Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Program has established an outstanding safety record while developing responsible young adults.

If you're looking for a challenge or a great family activity, join us on November 25 to learn more about the Lancaster 4-H Shooting Sports Program. For additional information, call Dave at 441-7180. (DV)

## Poster contest

The Mickle-Bush Neuter and Spay Foundation has partnered with 4-H for the first time this year in hopes of increasing participation in Neuter/Spay Month. The poster project is an integral part of Neuter/Spay Month, February, 1997, which coincides with the Humane Society of the United States' national campaign designating the month of February as "Prevent-A-Litter-Month".

The Foundation encourages youth to illustrate the national problem of pet overpopulation and animal abuse, their harmful effects and possible solutions. Art work will be judged by individuals in the fields of art and animal welfare and will be selected on the basis of artistry as well as relevance of message. Savings bonds valued at \$100, \$75 and \$50 will be awarded in each of two classes: Kindergarten through 5th grade and 6th through 12th grade.

For more complete information on guidelines for Neuter/Spay Poster Competition, contact the Extension office. Deadline for submitting posters is January 13, 1997. (LJ)