

Community Focus



Need Help with a Business Plan—Call SCORE

SCORE, the Service Corps of Retired Executives, sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration offers free counseling to small business owners.

Whether you are considering starting your own business, have a business that is experiencing problems, are ready to expand, or need some other type of advance, SCORE can help. The counseling sessions are confidential and personal. You don't need to apply for or have an SBA loan to participate in the program. A SCORE specialty is helping folks with business plans.

Consultation and counseling with someone who has had experience in the business or service you are considering is an

important part of SCORE's service.

The Lincoln SCORE Chapter is located at Southeast Community College in section J-2 and conducts Small Business Workshops in conjunction with the college. Requests for help from SCORE can be made by calling 437-2409 which is a 24-hour answering service or by visiting the SCORE office on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons from 1 to 3 p.m. An informative web page is available at <http://www.score39.org>.

For information on SCORE workshops call Bob Dempsey, Southeast Community College-Lincoln at 402-437-2709 or write P.O. Box 5267, Lincoln, NE 68505-0267. (GB)

Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom (what is it and what does it do?)

- Educational programs to help students to learn about agriculture.
- Ready-to-use educational resources for teachers.
- Summer workshops for teachers to learn more about farms, ranches, agribusiness, and related interests.

Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom Program examples: **Ag Pen Pals**

The Ag Pen Pals Program is an excellent tool in educating urban children about agriculture.

The program matches Nebraska farm and ranch

families with elementary classrooms in urban areas.

A minimum of three letters are exchanged throughout the school year. Students discover agriculture while their ag families learn about the diversity of urban living.

The students and farm/ranch families communicate through letters, classroom/farm visits, videos, and the Internet.

Learning Barn

The Nebraska Learning Barn is a new and exciting

See **AGRICULTURE** on page 11

Mardel Meinke Joins Lancaster NEP Staff



Adult and Continuing Education.

Her professional background is extensive and includes work as an Extension Home Economist in Nebraska, and as a Home Economist for the State Energy Office and Minnegasco. Mardel also worked for Family Service as Nutrition Educator and Field Consultant for ten years.

Mardel enjoys working as judge for 4-H exhibits at surrounding county fairs and at the state fair. She and her husband Jerry have two children. Mardel likes to take long walks, read, and bake breads. She also stays busy with her church and community volunteer work.

Mardel looks forward to meeting a wide variety of people and hopes to make a positive impact helping families serve nutritious meals. (MM)

Mardel Meinke has recently joined the Nutrition Education Program staff as an Extension Assistant. A native of Butler County, Mardel attended Midland College and UNL where she earned a Master of Science degree in Home Economics and



Lancaster Event Center Progress Report

✓ Construction of the Lancaster Event Center is ahead of schedule. While dry winter weather has not been the best for

were rocked so all areas of the construction site can be accessed during wet weather.

✓ In early March, steel construction material was delivered to the building site on 42 semi-trucks. Construction of Pavilion one began immediately after the delivery and about 90 percent of the steel framework was completed in three weeks time. Steel building materials



have been moved into place for Pavilion two and the Multi-Purpose building and three work crews are erecting steel at the same time.

✓ Pouring of concrete footings and stem walls for Pavilion I and II were recently completed. Footings and stem wall pouring for the multi-purpose building is also underway and expected to be completed soon. Some of the stem wall work has been complicated

agriculture, it has been exceptional for site preparation and construction work.

✓ Building materials for the construction of the **Amy Countryman Arena** (the Event Center's outdoor

Board of Directors have seeded grass around the construction site and road ways to protect the exposed soil and enhance the attractiveness of the grounds.

✓ Contractors are confident that the new Lancaster Event Center facilities will be ready for use by January 1, 2001. Already, 100 days of use has been reserved for 2001. One event will bring approximately 10,000 to 12,000 people to the City of Lincoln.

✓ Individuals who would like to visit the site are asked to contact Managing Director Leon Meyer at 441-6545. For safety



arena) has been ordered. The initial grading for the site has been completed and a committee is working on the proper soil and sand mixture for the arena floor. Their goal will be to achieve a mixture that will allow use of the arena one hour following a



rain. Later in the spring, a work crew will be organized for the arena's construction.

✓ Concrete bridges and steel culverts have been constructed and entryway roads

and difficult to pour.

✓ The Agricultural Society's

reasons, public access is restricted to only those having permission, signed in, wear a hard hat, and observe certain safety rules. Construction will be going on six to seven days a week so visitations during shut down will be extremely limited.

✓ Fund raising for the Event Center continues. Inquiries on how individuals and groups can help with this community project can also be directed to Leon Meyer. (GB)

The 2000 Household Hazardous Waste Collections



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department
3140 "N" Street
Lincoln, NE 68510-1514
<http://www.cl.lincoln.ne.us/city/health/environ/pollu/>



Reminder: These collections are for households only; not for businesses. Only residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County can bring items to collections.

Date	Location	Time
Saturday, May 20	State Fair Park, parking lot, northwest of Ag Hall Includes latex paint exchange*	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Friday, June 23	Hickman, Second and Main	3 to 6 p.m.
Saturday, June 24	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) 3140 "N" Street, south parking lot	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, July 29	Nebraska Wesleyan University, parking lot, 56 and Huntington	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, September 16	Pfizer Animal Health, 601 West Cornhusker Highway	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, October 28	State Fair Park, 4-H Youth Complex	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Household Hazardous Waste Collections will take:

Heavy Metals—Wastes containing liquid mercury such as thermometers.
Solvents—Mineral spirits, turpentine, paint strippers and thinners, oil-based paints, varnishes, stains, polishes and waxes.

Pesticides—Weed killers, garden sprays, wood preservatives, roach powder, pet flea and tick products, rat poisons, etc. (includes EPA-banned chemicals listed below which should *not* be used).

Items Containing PCB's—Ballasts from old fluorescent lamps and small capacitors from old appliances including radios, motors, and televisions.

Please keep products in the original container and keep the label intact. If the label is already destroyed or unreadable, label the products to the best of your knowledge. Open, leaking, or rusted

See **HAZARDOUS WASTE** on page 12