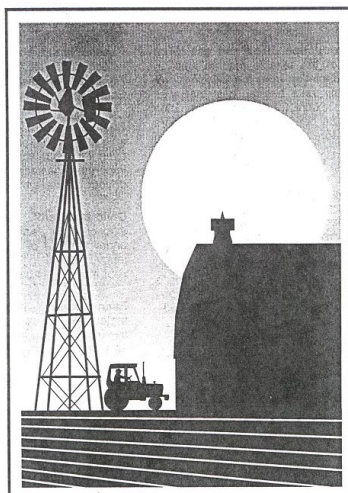




## Community Focus

### Tax Assistance

Free tax assistance will be available in Lincoln and other cities across Nebraska through the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program. Most libraries, senior centers, and community centers will be providing this free community service. In Lincoln, the YWCA, Salvation Army, Cristo Rey Center, and East Park Plaza Shopping Center will be participating in the VITA program. VITA will also be offering free electronic filing at some of the locations. This federally funded program is an excellent opportunity for free assistance with your federal and state tax questions and filing of returns. Details regarding times and locations for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program will be listed in the February NEBLINE. (GB)



### Farmer's Tax Guide

Copies of the Internal Revenue Service, Farmer's Tax Guide for use in preparing 2000 Returns (publication 225) are available at the extension office. (GB)

Get forms and other information faster and easier by:

Computer • www.irs.gov or FTP • ftp.irs.gov

FAX • 703-368-9694 (from your fax machine)

## Lancaster Extension to Host Workshop on Grant Writing...Five-Day Workshop to Study Application Process

The Lancaster County Extension office will host The Grantsmanship Center's renowned Grantsmanship Training Program June 25-29, 2001. Plan to incorporate this professional development opportunity into your annual work calendar!

This intense, five-day workshop, conducted by The Grantsmanship Center (TGCI), provides both novice and experienced grant seekers with an opportunity to develop and polish the skill they need to

complete for limited resources in a changing environment. The training will combine personalized instruction with practical exercises and will take the participants step-by-step through all stages of writing a grant proposal. Workshop graduates will have access to free follow-up support including proposal review/critiques and on-line services.

The Grantsmanship Center is the world's oldest and largest training organization for the

non-profit sector. It has trained more than 70,000 staff members of public and private agencies since 1972.

Cost for this workshop is \$675. To insure personal instruction, registration is limited to 25 participants. For more information, contact Extension Educator Gary C. Bergman, or call the Grantsmanship Center at (213) 482-9860, or visit the The Grantsmanship Center website at www.tgci.com



"Training involves practical hands-on learning and discussion."

## Husker Feed Grains & Soybean Conference Set for Jan. 17-18, 2001 Governor Johanns to Join Farm Bill 2002 Session

Husker Feed Grains and Soybean Conference has announced the 15<sup>th</sup> annual convention will be held in Lincoln at the new Embassy Suites. Dates for Nebraska's premier agricultural conference are Wednesday, January 17 and Thursday, January 18.

"We're excited about returning the 2001 Conference to Lincoln," noted Doug Nagel of Davey, chairman of the conference's planning committee. "The theme for the convention is 2001: An Ag Odyssey. In keeping with the theme, every effort has been made to develop a diverse program—with information that producers can apply to their personal farming operations."

In one of his first public appearances as the new vice chancellor at the University's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dr. John Owens will open the conference at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, January 17.

At 10 a.m., well-known marketing expert, Richard Brock, will take the stage. Brock

authors "The Brock Report"—a weekly newsletter that details commodity pricing analysis and recommendations. He also appears twice weekly on the early morning television show "AgDay" and is currently writing a marketing column for "Soybean Digest."

Rounding out the morning of marketing advice will be Dr. Steve Johnson of Iowa State University. Steve's luncheon address will focus on the need for farmers to have perseverance and a positive attitude in order to survive and thrive.

Nagel noted, "Wednesday afternoon will be dedicated to Tech Training Sessions. Six agribusiness companies will share information on utilizing your computer and the Internet to connect to profitability." The sessions will repeat at 45-minute intervals, providing attendees the opportunity to attend four different breakouts. Companies represented during the sessions include: E-Markets, mPower3, SSTDEV, Rooster.com, VantagePoint, Data Transmission Network (DTN), and

xsAg.com.

"Thursday morning, conference attendees will welcome Governor Mike Johanns as a participant in a question and answer session on the 2002 Farm Bill," Nagel continued. "We appreciate the Governor taking time to interact with our farmers about farm policy." Joining Governor Johanns on the panel will be representatives of the National Corn Growers, National Grain Sorghum Producers, and American Soybean Associations. The panel will be moderated by Dr. Roy Frederick of the University of Nebraska.

Producer association meetings and policy development sessions will round out Thursday morning. The awards luncheon speaker will be Bob Farmer of the "Old Farmer's Almanac." Bob has been compared to Garrison Keilor and comedian Jerry Clower.

The 2001 conference will conclude with the presentation of service-to-industry awards by the corn, grain sorghum, and

See CONFERENCE on page 12

## It's a "GRAND" Celebration!

### Join in on the "GRAND OPENING" of the Lancaster Event Center

84 & Havelock  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
Saturday, January 27, 2001  
7 p.m.

Entertainment provided by:  
Rascal Flats  
Clark Family Experience  
High Caliber  
Tickets: \$10

Purchase your tickets at one of the these locations: Branched Oak Inn (Malcolm), Tractor Supply Store (Beatrice), Jones National Bank (Seward), and Gateway Western Store and The Fort in Lincoln.

Tickets are also available at the fair office—call 441-6545. No reserved seating.

## Extension Board Members Appointed

The Lancaster County Board recently appointed Alice Doane, Wayne Heyen, Jay H. Wilkinson to the Cooperative Extension Board through January 2004. This represents a second-term appointment for Alice Doane and Wayne Heyen. Deb Arends was appointed to complete the term of Dale Kabes who resigned due to a move to Central City, Nebraska. Arends term will expire in January 2002. Outgoing board member Jessie Doak was recently recognized for her contribution to extension.

The Extension Board provides program direction for UNL Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County. (GB)