

## 4-H'er Wins Pair O' Keets

There was a very special treat at the Lancaster County Fair's Household Pets Show this year. Barbara and Clyde Ogg donated a pair of Bourke's parakeets with all of the trimmings — including a bird cage — to an exhibitor in the pets show. Josh Bivins was the lucky winner!

Josh is a member of the Pet Pals 4-H Club and showed a cavy or guinea pig this year. "I intend to take very good care of these birds. I knew I was going to win because I am very lucky," said Josh. And indeed he is! There were around 30 exhibitors who wanted the parakeets.

Bourke's parakeets (*Neophema bourkii*) are native to Australia and are the only Australian parakeets that do



Josh Bivins won a pair of Bourke's parakeets at the Household Pets Show.

fully colored with pink background, and with brown-black scalloping and blue accents on their wings and under the tail. It is easy to distinguish mature males from females as males have a blue brow — the area just above the eyes.

Bourke's parakeets are good pets for beginners and experienced persons alike, because they are hardy, gentle and have a soft, pleasant chirp. They are good-natured and peaceful. Bourke's are quiet during the daytime, but are active at dawn and at dusk.

If you are caring for Bourke's parakeets, treat them as you would budgies.

Thanks Barb and Clyde! You made our day. (ALH, BO)

not have green as their back-ground color. They are beauti-

## Fair's Over, Now What? — Parent and Leader Training

Leaders, parents and interested volunteers are invited to attend this 4-H training. Discover how to finish the

current 4-H year and how to prepare for the next 4-H year. Awards, project completion/selection and club reorganization

will be covered. See you Tuesday, Sept. 30, 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. MUST call 441-7180 to RSVP by Friday, Sept. 26. (TK)

## Community Service Corner

### Farley Wins "Kohl's Kids Who Care" Award

Grace Farley was chosen as a Store Winner for the Kohl's Kids Who Care® Recognition Program. She will be mentioned in a Kohl's in-store poster at the Lincoln Kohl's store during the months of August and September.

The Kohl's Kids Who Care® volunteer recognition program recognizes the efforts of young people who contribute in special ways to their local communities. Kohl's created the program in 2001 to reward youth for their outstanding volunteer efforts and to encourage others to follow their lead.

## 4-H Scholarships Available

The Lancaster County 4-H program offers a variety of scholarships to active senior 4-H members in Lancaster County. The following lists the scholarships available for the 2003–2004 school year. To obtain an application for any of these scholarships, please contact the Lancaster County Extension office or call Deanna Karmazin at 441-7180. (DK)

**4-H Council** — awards six \$500 scholarships to any active Lancaster County 4-H'er.

**Amy Countryman Memorial** — \$1,000 to a senior at Waverly High School currently enrolled in 4-H. Amy Countryman was active in the 4-H horse program and this scholarship is given in her memory.

**Lincoln Center Kiwanis** — awards two \$1,000 scholarships to a current high school senior who is active in 4-H.

**Teen Council** — two scholarships to a current 4-H'er who is active in Teen Council and helps with at least one major fundraiser during their senior year.

**Lane Scholarship** — one \$200 scholarship is awarded to a current 4-H'er who attends Raymond Central High School.

## Dine Out for CWF at Don & Millie's on Second Sundays

On the second Sunday of each month, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Don & Millie's hosts Dine Out for 4-H Citizen Washington Focus (CWF). When people indicate they are eating for 4-H, Don & Millie's donates 20 percent of the profits of those meals. Don & Millie's is located at 5200 S. 56th Street. You and your family can support CWF by dining out at Don & Millie's during these times and telling them you are eating for 4-H. Mark your calendars with these dates: Sep. 14, Oct. 12 and Nov. 9. Thanks to Don & Millie's and to those who "Dine Out for CWF"!

## The 2003 Nebraska State Fair

Tradition with a twist



Aug. 23-Sept. 1  
[www.statefair.org](http://www.statefair.org)

### Partial 4-H Schedule

For complete 4-H schedule visit online at [4h.unl.edu/fair/2003/schedule.pdf](http://4h.unl.edu/fair/2003/schedule.pdf)

Aug. 23	9 a.m.	4-H Exhibit Hall Open (Hours: 10 a.m.–9 p.m. on week days and 9 a.m.–9 p.m. Aug. 23, 24, 30, 31 & Sept. 1)
	10 a.m.	Presentations, Youth Complex Demo Rooms
	7 p.m.	Dairy Goat Showmanship
Aug. 24	8 a.m.	Dairy Goat Show
Aug. 30	8 a.m.	Presentations continued
	10 a.m.	Shopping in Style Show, Devaney Sports Center
	2 p.m.	Fashion Show, Devaney Sports Center
	4 p.m.	Sheep Lead Show
	5 p.m.	Breeding Sheep Show
	7 p.m.	Sheep Showmanship
Aug. 31	8 a.m.	Presentations continued
	8 a.m.	Market Steer and Heifer Show
	8 a.m.	Market Lambs Show
	11 a.m.	4-H All Stars Celebrity Autograph Session
	6 p.m.	Swine Showmanship
	8 p.m.	4-H Friendship Party
Sept. 1	8 a.m.	Presentations continued thru morning
	8 a.m.	Dairy Cattle Show
	8 a.m.	Breeding Heifer Show as time permits before selection of Grand Champion Market Animal
	8 a.m.	Market Gilts, followed by Market Barrows
	2 p.m.	Continue Breeding Heifer Show, followed by Beef Showmanship

### Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed in EVERY area of 4-H-related activities and events at the fair. Help is especially needed in the Exhibit Hall. Shifts are two to three hours. One-day State Fair passes are provided. To help, contact Robyn Yule, 4-H Volunteer Coordinator at 472-2805 or e-mail [ryule3@unl.edu](mailto:ryule3@unl.edu).

The 4-H Discovery Center, which provides engaging and fun activities for youth to experience at the Fair, also needs volunteers, especially for the weekends. One-day State Fair passes are provided. To help, contact Brooke Levey at 472-1478 or Bernie Lorkovic at 472-6717.

### 4-H Friendship Dance

UNL Collegiate 4-H is sponsoring a 4-H Friendship Dance on Sunday, Aug. 31, 8–11 p.m. at the Colored Seat Arena at the Nebraska State Fairgrounds.

## AUGUST



## Merlin Dana

Lancaster County 4-H and 4-H Council are proud to announce Merlin Dana as winner of August's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

A 4-H volunteer for more than 20 years, Merlin has judged several rabbit shows and conducts rabbit clinics for 4-H clubs in Lancaster and Gage Counties. He also sells

rabbits from his rabbitry to many 4-H'ers.

Ken Majors nominated Merlin and said, "Merlin is great with the 4-H'ers. He not only provides bunnies, but provides 4-H'ers with a lot of information on how to take care of them, grooming, breeding and actually any question they may have for him. He shows up at most of the rabbit shows to cheer on those that have bought rabbits from him and to provide information to any others that may have questions. He is a remarkable person, at 85 years of age, and still going strong."

Merlin said he likes being a 4-H volunteer because, "The future progress and success of 4-H depends on the dedicated work of 4-H youngsters of today's world."

His favorite experience volunteering at the County Fair was a number of years ago. "I was called upon to judge the Pet Rabbit Class," he said. "One of the youngsters showing her pet rabbit was a little handicapped girl. As she struggled to walk up to the judging table, everyone could see the great love that existed between the rabbit and the little girl. The rabbit lay content in her arms as she carefully placed it on the table. When I later announced she was the winner, the wide grin on her face was a sight to see!"

Merlin and his wife of 51 years, Jean, have three children: Jeanette, Greg and Rick. He is a retired minister of the Have-lock Christian Church and also volunteers for nursery schools, public schools and retirement centers. His favorite way to relax is to cradle one of his Holland Lops and feed it raisins or dandelion greens.

Congratulations to Merlin. Volunteers like him are indeed, the heart of 4-H!

