

Lancaster County 4-H and 4-H Council invite
4-H'ers and their families to

Achievement Night

Thursday, Feb. 19
at 6 p.m.

University of
Nebraska East
Campus Union -
Great Plains
Room



Part of Nebraska
State 4-H Week,
Feb. 15-21

Please call 441-7180 to RSVP!
RSVP required — event limited to 150 people.

Evening festivities include:

- Light snacks
- Awards presentation
- Activities & campus tours

More information in the February NEBLINE
Family bowling afterwards at East Campus Union upon request

Beef Weigh-In Jan. 16

The Lancaster County 4-H and FFA beef weigh-in will be held Friday, Jan. 16, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center. All market steers and heifers must be brought in for tagging, weighing and noseprinting. For more information contact Deanna at 441-7180. (DK)

4-H Web Site Continually Updated

A reminder that the Lancaster County Web site is a resource available 24/7. Information about upcoming events, deadlines, forms, scholarships and photo galleries are online at lancaster.unl.edu/4h.

4-H Speech Updates

The speech workshop will be held Tuesday, Feb. 24, 6:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. We will focus this year on beginning speakers. The workshop will teach youth how to pick out a topic and talk them through writing a speech. Check future NEBLINES for more detailed information!

Depending upon building availability, the 4-H Speech Contest is temporarily set for Sunday, March 14 at the State Capitol. Keep checking the NEBLINE for updates!

For more information about the 4-H speech program, call Deanna at 441-7180. (DK)

Colgate Youth for America Campaign

Colgate wants to recognize the best community service projects performed by youth across America. To enter the 31 Annual Youth for America campaign, describe your club's community service work between March 1, 2003 and March 1, 2004. Specific details about a single project, program or event — rather than a list of activities — are preferred. Over 300 cash prizes will be awarded, ranging from \$100 to \$2000. For more information and an entry form, contact the extension office or visit the Web site at www.youthforamerica.com. (TK)



Photos by Vantage Imaging

Fa La La Llamas

For the 6th year in a row, the Star City Llamas 4-H Club participated in Lincoln's Star City Holiday Festival parade. Their entry theme was "Fa La La La Llamas." Approximately 30 club and family members dressed up as carolers and their llamas were costumed as sheet music. The manure wagon (a four wheeler pulling a garden trailer) was disguised as a house they were caroling at.

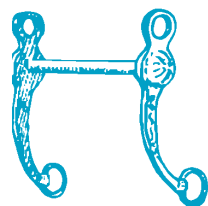
—Karen Armstrong, 4-H Leader and Parent

5th & 6th Grade Jan. 23-24



Lock-In

See back page for details.



HORSE BITS

4-H Horse Judging Team Headed to National Competition

The Lancaster County 4-H Horse Judging Team will compete at the National Western 4-H Round-up in Denver this January. The team consists of Dana Hahn of Lincoln, Melissa Raisch of Hickman, Esther Anderson of Raymond and Katy Cockerill of Walton. All are members of the Young Riders 4-H club. Kala Ball, leader of the Young Riders, coaches the judging team.

"This contest is very difficult and requires a huge amount of dedication to learn," says Ball. "This dedicated group of young women have been practicing together every other week since April of 2002."

The team started competing last year at the Seward county practice contest. This spring, they competed at Equifest in Kansas. After a few local contests during the summer, they felt prepared to compete at the State 4-H Horse Expo in

Grand Island. There they qualified to represent Nebraska at the national contest.

Horse judging teaches youth how to determine placings of a class of four horses using knowledge of rules, conformation and horsemanship. The contestants place up to ten classes in a competition. Half of the classes judged are halter and half are performance. Oral reasons explaining their placings are then given to the judge by the contestants.

"Youth have to know the rules to a multitude of classes and have a good eye for conformation," Ball says. "Oral reasons really challenge the competitors' public speaking ability as well as their horse knowledge and ability to focus under pressure."

Ball adds, "This group of girls is not only very active in the 4-H 'knowledge' events such as judging, horse bowl, speech and demonstrations, but excellent riders in the show arena."



(L-R) Dana Hahn, Melissa Raisch, coach Kala Ball, Esther Anderson and Katy Cockerill.

Anyone interested in forming another horse judging team (must be 15 or older) may contact Kala Ball at 430-4889 or via e-mail at kalaball@pfizer.com.