

LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR 4-H/FFA NEWS

Livestock Affidavits Due June 15

All 4-H/FFA livestock affidavits are due to the extension office by June 15. (DK)

Animal Entries Due July 9

All County and State Fair animal entries must be post-marked or in the extension office by Friday, July 9 at 4:30 p.m. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Presentations Contest

To keep pace with technology, there are several changes for this year's Presentations (formerly Demonstrations) contest. The classes will change from subject matter to method of presentation. Method of presentations include 1) demonstration using LCD, slide, video or overhead projector; 2) demonstration using posters; 3) multimedia demonstration.

You choose which presentation contest date works for you: July 16, beginning at 1 p.m. or Aug. 7, beginning at 8 a.m. (Note: the second Presentation Contest is Aug. 7 — it was previously advertised to be held Aug. 2)

New Premium Payout Policy

Premium payouts to 4-H & FFA exhibitors will be paid in cash on Sunday, Aug. 8, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center Office. Subject to identification, parents, guardians, 4-H club leaders, FFA chapter advisors will also be permitted to pick up and sign for exhibitor premiums. EXHIBITORS WHO HAVE EARNED PREMIUMS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO PICK UP CASH PREMIUM PAYOUTS DURING THE FAIR.

Premium checks will be issued by the Lancaster Agricultural Society to exhibitors who do not pick up cash premium payouts during the fair. Checks will be mailed to 4-H club leaders or FFA chapter advisors for distribution to their respective club or chapter members. Premium checks will be mailed directly to independent 4-H members. It is requested that all checks be cashed within 60 days following the fair. Adherence to this request will be highly appreciated.

No changes or corrections will be made on premium amounts after 60 days.

Note: In 2005, no checks will be issued — cash payouts only.

We hope you appreciate the opportunity for more timely and convenient cash premium payouts!

—Ron Snover, president of Lancaster County Agriculture Society and Fair Manager

4-H Night at Saltdogs June 18

This year, 4-H night at the Lincoln Saltdogs Baseball is Friday, June 18.

The Saltdogs play against the Winnipeg Goldeyes. Game starts at 7:05 p.m. in Haymarket Park (located near 6th & Charleston streets)

4-H'ERS SHOULD GATHER AT 6 P.M. on the promenade north of the main gate

There will be many 4-H fun activities, including:

- 4-H'ers will parade onto the field prior to the game
- Free "Discover 4-H, Discover You" temporary tattoos
- Lancaster County 4-H'er Grace Farley will sing the National Anthem
- 4-H Alum Ron Dowding will help throw the first pitch



Wear your 4-H garb!

Tickets for 4-H'ers on Sale May 3–June 15

Lancaster County 4-H will be selling June 18th Saltdogs tickets to 4-H'ers, families & friends May 3– June 15. **To buy your tickets, stop by the UNL Lancaster County Extension office, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln.**

Tickets are \$5 per person for general admission/grass berm seating.

Tickets will be available at the gate, but Saltdogs encourages 4-H'ers to buy their tickets ahead of time through Lancaster County 4-H in case the game gets sold out.

4-H Presentations Workshop June 15

There will be a Presentations (formerly Demonstrations) workshop on Tuesday, June 15, 1:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. (Note: this is the correct date — it was previously advertised to be held June 17.) Attend this workshop to learn more about this year's changes and how to prepare for the contest. If your presentation is prepared, present it and receive help, if needed. (TK)

Tractor Operator's Contest June 25

The 2004 Nebraska 4-H and FFA Tractor Operator's Contest will take place Friday, June 25 at the Nebraska Tractor Test Laboratory on UNL's East Campus. Participants take a written exam, identify tractor parts, conduct a farm tractor safety inspection and drive. For more information, contact Deanna at 441-7180 or go to 4h.unl.edu/kids.

Dog Club Wish List

The 4-H dog club is trying to build their own agility equipment for training. Your support would be greatly appreciated to help them achieve this goal. The club needs the following supplies: PVC pipes, PVC U-joints, flatbed trailer, tarp, 2 x 4 boards, nails and paint. Donations of any of these supplies or money is greatly appreciated! (DK)

Premier Animal Science Events (PASE) June 28–29

The 4-H Premier Animal Science Events (PASE) will take place June 28 and 29 at the Animal Science building on UNL East Campus. If you are interested in attending any PASE workshops or being on any Lancaster County livestock or meat judging teams, please contact Deanna at 441-7180 by June 1. For the PASE schedule and rules go to the UNL animal science Web site at citnews.unl.edu/pase. (DK)

Volunteers Needed for FCS Life Challenge

Nebraska 4-H needs volunteers to help make the FCS 4-H Life Challenge a success! The event will be held June 28 and 29 on UNL East Campus. Please contact Kristin Warner at 472-9008 or kwarn2@unl.edu if you are willing to volunteer or judge on either one or both days.

Junior Life Challenge Contest July 8

Mark your calendars to attend the Junior FCS Life Challenge contest for 4-H'ers 8–11 years old (need not be enrolled in a Family and Consumer Science project). The contest will be held July 8, 1:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Stop by the office to pick up a packet to help you prepare for the contest. (TK)

Check It Out — "4-H Discovery Bags" at Bennett Martin

Beginning June 1, two "4-H Discovery Bags" will be available at the Bennett Martin Public Library. The bags are a compilation of 4-H project books, library books and other resources.

The "4-H Discovery Bag for Arts & Crafts" is a one-stop solution for your "Celebrate Art" and "Art in Your Future" project needs. Includes ideas for easy projects that only look complicated.

The "4-H Discovery Bag for Wildlife" makes wildlife and conservation projects fun and easy. The bag includes information on birds, wildlife and fish.

Anyone with a Lincoln City Library card may check the "4-H Discovery" bags out for three weeks at a time. 4-H'ers and non-4-H'ers alike will find these resources helpful and fun!

Regional Volunteer Forum Nov. 11–14

Information is now available for this year's North Central Regional Volunteer Forum. This year's forum will be Nov. 11–14 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Share ideas with other volunteers, share experiences, challenges and successes. Early bird full time registration is \$200 and is due Sept. 15. Please contact the office to receive additional information. A limited number of scholarships are available from the 4-H Council. (TK)

June

Cheryl Landon

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Cheryl Landon as winner of June's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Cheryl has been a volunteer with the Rock Creek Ranchers for 20 years. She is currently project leader for beef, bucket calf and livestock judging. She was club leader for four years. Cheryl has been superintendent or assistant superintendent for 4-H Bucket Calf at the Lancaster County Fair since the project started 13 years ago.

4-H'er Amanda Peterson nominated Cheryl, "For the help in being the bucket calf superintendent and the continuous help with the Rock Creek Ranchers. She is always very positive to all of us kids."

Cheryl says, "I enjoy working with young people and see how they sparkle working with their projects. My favorite experience was working with Janice Halling and helping to get the Bucket Calf project off the ground. This project really connected livestock with those on acreages."

In addition to volunteering for 4-H, Cheryl volunteers at the State Fair in the FFA Beef department and keeps scorebook for Waverly High School basketball games.

She is a paraeducator at Waverly High School and lives in Greenwood with her husband Bill. Their children — Andrew, Daniel and Steven — are former members of the Rock Creek Ranchers.

Cheryl says most people might not know that when she was a 4-H member, she was the last person at the Nebraska State Fair to show a grand champion steer which was auctioned off.

Congratulations to Cheryl! Volunteers like her are indeed the heart of 4-H!

Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer by submitting the form available at the extension office or online at lancaster.unl.edu/4h. Nominations of co-volunteers welcome.

**Rabbits-R-Us Participate in Community Activity with Learning Group for the Deaf**

Erin Dresser
Reporter, Rabbits-R-Us 4-H Club

Rabbits-R-Us 4-H club participated in a community activity with the Lincoln Learning Group for the Deaf. The 4-H club and learning group met jointly for lunch. Each 4-H club member stood before the group and introduced him/herself. Each member presented his/her bunnies and discussed points about each bunny. Each Learning Group for the Deaf member introduced him/herself and

described his/her particular interests.

The 4-H club members experienced using an interpreter when communicating with a person who is hard of hearing or deaf. A demonstration in the proper use of an interpreter and communicating with a person who is hard of hearing or deaf was presented. The conversations and presentations were interpreted throughout the activity.

4-H members learned how to finger spell and practiced several phrases for communicating using American Sign Lan-

guage. American Sign Language phrases were practiced which described the projects for the 4-H members.

The community activity developed an understanding about the respective clubs, about each other, and communicating with persons who are hard of hearing or deaf. Sara Morton, Rabbits-R-Us 4-H club leader, facilitated discussion and presentation for the 4-H club members. Nancy Brt and Sandra Dresser coordinated the activity. Nancy Brt served as the interpreter for the activity.