

Llama 4-H Club Welcomes New Members to April 11 Meeting

Have you ever wanted to learn about llamas or show one at the county fair? If so, you should attend the Star City Llama Club's first meeting of the year. The meeting will be Monday, April 11, 7 p.m. Please call Deanna at 441-7180, for the location. This club is devoted to community service. They love to show off their llamas at parades, community festivals and schools. If this is something you are interested in being a part of—call now to join!

4-H State Fair Logo Contest Submissions Due April 15

The Nebraska State 4-H office is pleased to announce the first ever "2005 Discover 4-H, Discover You: Nebraska State Fair" logo contest! Contest rules and information is online at <http://4h.unl.edu> or you may contact Tracy Pracheil at 472-9016. Deadline is April 15.

Kiwanis Karnival, April 16

The annual Kiwanis Karnival is a FREE, family event sponsored by Lincoln Center Kiwanis. This year, it will be Saturday, April 16, 7-9 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center in Pavilion 3, Exhibit Hall. The Karnival features games, BINGO, prizes and food!

If your 4-H club or family would like to have a booth, please call Lorene at 441-7180 by April 4. (LB)

4-H Livestock Quality Assurance Training, May 4

Quality Assurance (QA) certification is required for all 4-H or FFA youth wanting to exhibit market animals. Livestock exhibitors who have not yet been certified need to call Deanna at 441-7180 to set up a time to get certified. There will be a Quality Assurance Training on Wednesday, May 4 at Waverly High School. Time will be announced in the next NEBLINE. (DK)

Sheep Tagging Days

4-H members who will be exhibiting sheep at this year's county fair need to have their animals tagged by June 15. Deanna Karmazin will be visiting farms the week of May 16. Contact her at 441-7180 to set up a tagging time that works for your family or 4-H club. All lambs which might go on to the Ak-Sar-Ben Youth Livestock Expo need be DNA tested. At this time, the cost for this testing is unknown. (DK)

Upcoming Progress Shows

The 4-H office is keeping an up-to-date list of all upcoming livestock progress shows online. Please check out our Web site at lancaster.unl.edu/4h/news.htm for the current listing. If you have a show not listed online, please forward info to Deanna Karmazin at dkarmazin2@unl.edu. (DK)

Teen Council Won't Meet for 3 Months

4-H Teen Council will **not** meet in April, May or June. The next meeting will be July 10.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CORNER

4-H Teen Council Ties Quilts for Sarpy County Social Services



4-H Teen Council members tied five quilts at their March meeting as part of a community service project. The Quilted Moose store in Gretna provides kits for quilts to individuals and groups — upon completion, the quilts are donated to Sarpy County Social Services. Other 4-H groups can participate by calling (402) 332-4178.

Respond Now to Be Included in April/May "Hero Pack" Order

Nebraska 4-H is organizing two community service projects for youth to help Nebraska families with a parent serving the United States as a soldier.

"Hero Packs" are backpacks compiled by 4-H members, and contain a variety of 4-H items and a handwritten letter to the family. 4-H clubs or groups who are interested in purchasing materials to compile a "Hero Pack" (cost is approximately \$30) must respond as soon as possible to be included on the April/May order.

"Operation: Military Kids in Nebraska" is compiling a list of 4-H members, families and clubs who would be willing to volunteer for these families by doing tasks such as raking leaves, shoveling snow, baby-sitting, etc.

For more information about either project, call Tracy Kulm at 441-7180. (TK)

Submit your 4-H news to Vicki at the extension office or vjedlicka2@unl.edu

Nicole Pedersen State Awards Book Winner



Lancaster County 4-H member Nicole Pedersen is the state Awards Book winner in the area of plant science. Awards Books are a cumulative record of an individual's 4-H and other leadership activities.

This honor gives Nicole the opportunity to attend the 2005 National 4-H Congress held Nov. 24-29 in Atlanta, Georgia. This year's theme "Growing Into the Future" will focus on environmental awareness. During the five day event, 4-H members will participate in educational programs, cultural events and a service-learning experience.

On a related note, Nicole placed 4th in the state 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest and represented Nebraska at the National 4-H Horticulture Contest in Wisconsin last year. Congratulations Nicole, on your outstanding 4-H achievements in plant sciences!



4-H Partners with Lincoln City Libraries



The Lancaster County 4-H program will be working with the Lincoln City Libraries, this summer, to spread the word about 4-H and to promote reading.

Volunteer for Summer Reading Program

Middle-school-age 4-H'ers are invited to spend time at a library as a Summer Reading Program volunteer, helping other children participate in summer reading by signing them up, explaining the program and handing out stickers. 4-H'ers are encouraged to wear their 4-H T-shirts and answer questions about the 4-H program. Scheduling is flexible and interested individuals should contact his or her branch library directly starting April 1. Each branch will have a limited number of volunteer slots for 4-H'ers, so call early.

4-H Workshops: Medieval Makings

Another way 4-H'ers and/or 4-H clubs can volunteer at the Lincoln City Libraries is by helping with one of the "Medieval Makings" workshops. These workshops will be held at Eiseley Branch Library on Wednesday, June 29, 2:30 p.m., at Bethany Branch Library, Thursday, July 7, 2 p.m., and at South Branch Library, Friday, July 8, 10:30 a.m. Call Tracy, 441-7180 if you are interested in this opportunity.

Reserve Room Space

Did you know your club can reserve community room space for club meetings and activities? Bennett Martin Public Library, Anderson Branch Library, Gere Branch Library, Eiseley Branch Library and Walt Branch Library have community rooms available. To reserve a community room, call Arlene at 441-8503 or go to www.lcl.lib.ne.us and click on Library Information.

"4-H Discovery Bags" at Bennett Martin Public Library

Anyone with a Lincoln City Library card may check out one of the following "4-H Discovery Bags" from 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.

April



Cathy Hurdle

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Cathy Hurdle as winner of April's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Cathy has been a 4-H volunteer for 10 years, serving in many capacities: organizational leader (Carpe Diem 4-H club), project leader (Teddy Grahams and Star City Kids clubs), Clover College instructor (Fun Sun Pinata, Pizza for You), judge (record books), co-superintendent (County Fair 4-H Table Setting Contest) and fundraising co-chair (Citizenship Washington Focus '08 group). She has also assisted with Teen Council, County Fair setup, County Fair 4-H Food Booth, Kiwanis Karnival and other activities.

Her favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer was working with the Star City Kids in preparing for the Music Contest. "It was fun watching the kids grow closer together and become confident in their abilities to succeed in the contest," she says.

Cathy also volunteers for, and is current president, of the Heartland Home Schoolers. She lives in Lincoln with her husband Jim — four of their six children are current 4-H members.

Congratulations to Cathy! 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.

