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**LANCASTER COUNTY FAIR**  
**AUGUST 1-5**  
 LANCASTER EVENT CENTER



4-H results and photos will be posted online at [lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair](http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Fair)



# Salute to COUNTY FAIR Volunteers



The Lancaster County Fair is a fun, educational experience for the many 4-H youth members who exhibit their projects and participate in 4-H contests. Behind the scenes are thousands of adult and youth volunteers who make the activities at the county fair not only possible, but meaningful.

“The fair depends on volunteers to share their time and expertise,” says 4-H staff member Tracy Kulm. “Without wonderful volunteers, we would not have a county fair.”

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development Program has activities going on throughout the five days of the Lancaster County Fair—some events start before the fair. Many volunteers take vacation time from their jobs in order to help at the county fair.

4-H staff member Marty Cruickshank says, “The 4-H programs are only as good as the volunteers. I am truly in awe of the time, dedication and talents shared by our volunteers. Lancaster County 4-H’s horse program is the largest in the state and it’s because of the volunteers.”

see VOLUNTEERS on back page



**Becky McHenry, Shimmering Shamrocks Club Leader**

*“It’s fun to see the kids and their projects. And it’s a great experience to work with the judges, superintendents and other clubs. I’m always amazed at how creative and talented the 4-H’ers are and how they manage to do multiple projects.”*

**Cheryl Landon, Rock Creek Ranchers Club Project Leader**  
*“County fair is fun, happy memories and I want to help keep it going for my grandchildren, etc. I gain the satisfaction of seeing others have a good time and seeing the kids’ excitement of successful shows. The best part is meeting new people and seeing old friends!”*

**We asked a few 4-H volunteers why they volunteer at the Lancaster County Fair and what they gain from the experience. Following are their responses.**

**Jim Agena, Horse Program Volunteer**

*“I think being a volunteer with the Lancaster County Fair helps us all retain some small portion of staying young. To see the smiles, the pride and the accomplishment of these young people working with their animals gives us just a small piece of time where we can relive our own youth. Maybe its a completely selfish reason, but hopefully we have some knowledge and understanding that can be passed on that later in life they too will be able to share with the next generation of 4-H’ers.”*



**Maci Lienemann, Fair Fun Day youth guide**

*“I enjoy volunteering because it gives me the opportunity to share my experiences on a ranch with other kids.”*

**Taylon Lienemann, Fair Fun Day youth guide**

*“I like volunteering because it’s fun. I get to demonstrate my talents with a rope and my knowledge of cattle.”*

**Volunteers Needed**

Adults and youth are needed to help during County Fair. Help is especially needed in the following areas:

- **Static exhibit set-up days** on Thursday, July 26 at 6:30 p.m. (pizza will be served) and Saturday, July 28 at 8 a.m. (doughnuts will be served) in the Lincoln Room
- **Livestock set-up day** on Sunday, July 29 (*corrected date*) at 1 p.m. in Pavilion 1 (refreshments and Dairy Queen ice cream will be served)
- **Horse set-up days**, Sunday, July 29–Tuesday, July 31 in Pavilion 2
- **During judging of static exhibits** on Tuesday, July 31 in Lincoln Room
- **Teen tour guides are needed for Fair Fun Day** for child care groups on Friday, Aug. 3 at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

If you can help, please contact the extension office at 441-7180.



**Kirk Gunnerson, Shooting Sports Superintendent**

*“I volunteer at the Lancaster County Fair because it allows me to share my personal skills and knowledge with my daughters and other youth. I also hope my involvement breaks the stigma that 4-H and the county fair is just for ‘farm-kids.’”*



**Ron Dowding, 4-H Volunteer and Fair Board President**

*“I do what I do with 4-H because I grew up with it. The reward is seeing the kids learn and grow into mature adults. I don’t know too many 4-H’ers that didn’t turn out to be good people. I also volunteer because I like to do it. If I didn’t like to do it, I wouldn’t be doing it.”*

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