



## 4-H'ERS IN THE NEWS

**Spencer Farley Receives Governor's Award For Community Service Project**

Governor Dave Heineman recently presented the 2006 Governor's Points of Light Award to Lancaster County 4-H member Spencer Farley as the Youth Category recipient for his volunteer leadership and work installing a garden at Northeast Family Center in Lincoln. The Points of Light Award is given in "recognition to volunteers who give their time, talent and energy to help Nebraskans build stronger communities."



As part of a community service project, Spencer coordinated and led efforts in Fall 2005 to install a flower garden with approximately 800 perennials. Nearly 200 volunteers helped with installation and planting. More than 25 4-H Teen Council members put granite stepping stones in the garden and some helped with planting. Extension Master Gardener Jean Pedersen was very involved in the planning, designing and installation of the flower garden. Spencer also recruited volunteers to help maintain the garden.

The Lincoln Garden Club and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life included the garden on their garden tours.

Spencer said, "Receiving this award is a great honor. I would like to thank all the people who helped me on the garden for the donations and support to get things started. I would also like to thank my family for their guidance and support. The amazing part of community service is you learn and grow as you serve. Thank you."

Full details about this community service project were published in the April 2006 NEBLINE and online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Clubs/ClubSpotlights/NEFamilyGarden.shtml>

## January

**Justy Hagan**

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Justy Hagan as winner of January's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Justy has been leader of the Riding Wranglers 4-H Club for twelve years, involved with the Horse VIPS Committee for several years (two as president) and Overall Superintendent of the Lancaster County Fair 4-H Horse Show for two years.

Ben Cruickshank says, "Mrs. Hagan has always been there for me. If your horse gets sick at 2 a.m. in the morning and you can't get a vet to come help you, she will be there. Then, the next day when you have a horse show to go to and you have no horse, she will let you borrow one of hers. She is selfless and caring. If you are willing to listen to her, she can teach you a lot not only about horses, but about life and being a good person."

Justy says, "I like being a 4-H volunteer because I enjoy helping young people develop into productive young citizens. I also enjoy watching them learn and giving them the opportunity to compete and make lifelong friends. My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer was having a 4-H club of my own and developing the many lifelong relationships that I have."

A 6th grade science teacher at Norris, Justy also works with Norris FFA youth on horse speed events and horse judging. She also assists with High School Rodeo. Justy lives near Firth with her husband Lynn. Their two sons showed horses in 4-H.

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

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

**Clubs of Excellence Forms Due Jan. 1**

The 4-H Club of Excellence application forms are due Jan. 1. Forms are available at the office or online at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/club/index.htm>

**Archery Shooting Sports Club Meeting, Jan. 3**

The Lancaster County Archery Shooting Sports 4-H club will have their first meeting Wednesday, Jan. 3, 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. All youth interested in joining this club are invited to attend. Total registration fee to join a Shooting Sports 4-H club is \$8, insurance included. Youth must be 8 years old by Jan. 1, 2007.

**Mandatory 4-H Trap Shooting Meeting, Jan. 23**

There will be a mandatory meeting for all interested trap shooters on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Rd., Lincoln. Interested youth must be at least 12 years old and not older than 18 by January 1, 2007 and have a hunter safety certificate. Bring your shotgun and cleaning supplies. Contact Gene Veburg at 421-1274 if you have questions.

**Beef Weigh-In, Feb. 3**

The 2007 4-H/FFA beef weigh-in will be Saturday, Feb. 3, 8-11 a.m. at the Lancaster Event Center in Pavilion 2. We will set up the weigh scale and panels at 8 a.m. and start weighing as soon as we finish the set-up. All market heifers and steers will need to be tagged, weighed and nose printed. If you plan on showing at Ak-Sar-Ben you will also need to have your animals DNA tested. There will be \$2 fee per tag this year due to the EID pilot program. If you have any questions, please give Deanna a call at 441-7180.

**New State Fair Beef Rule**

Steers in the British division must be owned by the exhibitor, registered by the official breed association and exhibit breed characteristics typical of a purebred animal of the breed in which they are entered. Appendixed Shorthorn steers will not be accepted in the purebred Shorthorn steer class. First and second place purples from each class will compete for Champion and Reserve Champion of the British Division. If more than one class per breed, classes will be determined by weight.

**Volunteer Training, Feb. 12**

Mark your calendars for the 4-H Winter Warm Up volunteer training on Monday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m. Next month's Neblin will have more information.

**Speech & PSA Contest Dates**

The 4-H Speech and Public Service Announcement (PSA) workshop has been scheduled for Thursday, March 8. The PSA Contest will be Thursday, April 12, 6:30 p.m. and the Speech Contest will be Sunday, April 15, 1 p.m. All three events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center.

**Animal Science Program Ideas Needed**

As we start the new 4-H year, I am asking you to request any animal science workshops or seminars you would like me to set up for this summer. In the past we have done workshops on artificial insemination, nutrition and health, showmanship, etc. Please forward your ideas to Deanna Karmazin by calling 441-7180.

**Clothing Superintendent Needed**

A clothing superintendent is needed for the upcoming 2007 Lancaster County Fair. Join three other clothing superintendents and help take clothing entries on entry day, prepare the clothing for the judges on judging day, display the clothing items and prepare the clothing items on the day fair entries are released. Please contact Tracy at 441-7180 if you are interested.

**HORSE BITS****Stampede Entries Due Jan. 24**

The annual 4-H Horse Stampede will be held Saturday, March 10 at the Animal Science Building on UNL East Campus. The Stampede consists of the 4-H state horse-related competitions: Horse Bowl, Public Speaking, Demonstration and Art Contest.

Stampede contestants must be enrolled in a 4-H horse project with the exception of the art contest. Contestants may participate in all contests. Senior division is ages 14-18, junior division is ages 12-13. Teams are to consist of three to five youth.

New this year — Stampede T-shirts will be available to participating youth. You must pre-order your T-shirt. Cost is \$5.

Stampede entry forms along with the T-shirt order are due to the UNL Extension in Lancaster County office by Jan. 24. Forms are online at [lancaster.unl.edu/4h/news.htm](http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/news.htm) or can be picked up at the office.

For more information about each individual contest, call Marty at 441-7180 or go to <http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse/stampede.htm>

**Ak-Sar-Ben Results**

The 2006 Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Exposition was held last September at the Qwest Center in Omaha. Congratulations to all Lancaster County 4-H members who competed in the Horse Show. McKenzie True received Champion Jr. English Pleasure and English Equitation honors and Alex Scheideler received Champion honors in Advanced English Pleasure. In addition, Alex was third place in Hunter Hack and Dusty Ehrlich was eighth place in Poles.

**Horse Course Test, Jan. 27**

Testing for the first eight Horse Course Lessons will take place on Saturday, Jan. 27, 10 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. A demonstration on how bits work will be presented. Details will be e-mailed to all horse course participants early in January.



McKenzie True was Grand Champion of Jr. English Pleasure.