



July

**Jay Wilkinson**

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Jay Wilkinson as winner of July's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Jay has helped his kids with their 4-H projects for 14 years, and volunteered with 4-H for nearly 12 years. He has helped in a variety of ways:

- Sheep project leader for Happy Go Lucky 4-H club
- Lancaster County Fair 4-H sheep superintendent and/or assistant superintendent
- Furnishing livestock for 4-H/FFA judging classes
- Helping extensively with set-up of livestock pens at county fair

"I like being a volunteer because I play a critical role in helping teach kids important values such as responsibility and team work — and that hard work and dedication truly pays off," says Jay. "My favorite experience as a volunteer has been watching my two daughters grow up and mature through 4-H over the years."

Jay is a former member of Lancaster County Extension Board and is currently on the Lancaster County Agricultural Society Board of Directors (Fair Board). He lives in Walton with his wife Brenda and works for Francke Farms.

Congratulations to Jay. Volunteers like him are indeed the heart of 4-H!

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

**Free Sewing Help on Wednesdays**

Lancaster County 4-H and Bernina Sewing Center are partnering to provide 4-H members free expert sewing help. Every Wednesday from 6–8 p.m. youth are welcome to bring their sewing machines and 4-H projects. 4-H members can sew and have their questions answered by experts. If your sewing machine does not make good buttonholes or will not sew through six layers of denim, then there are classroom machines available for rental. The Bernina Sewing Center is located inside Hancock Fabrics, 6800 P St., Lincoln.

**4-H Robotics County Fair Entry**

4-H'ers involved in the Robotics curriculum may enter a project in the Lancaster County Fair in the following Engineering class (added after Fair Book went to press):

- **You Be The Teacher** (class # H860012)—share with others what you learned in this project. Examples may include a poster, an essay, etc. (note: not state fair eligible).

**4-H Volunteer T-Shirts Available**

4-H volunteer T-shirts are available for sale at the extension office. Shirts are burgundy, 50/50 blend and available in sizes: S, M, L, XL & XXL. Cost is \$6.50.

**District Speech & PSA Contest Results**

11 Lancaster County 4-H'ers participated in the Southeast District Speech and Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest held on May 31 at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln East Campus. The following youth earned purples in their division — the top five in each division received medals:

- Senior Speech** — Grace Farley
- Intermediate Speech** — Jessica Stephenson (medal)
- Junior Speech** — Anne Greff
- Intermediate PSA** — Rachel Pickrel, Jessica Stephenson
- Junior PSA** — Jaime Stephenson (medal), Jacob Pickrel

District contest winners in the senior division in Speech and PSA advance to the State Contest which will be held during the Nebraska State Fair.

Congratulations to all the participants!

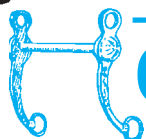
**4-H'ERS IN THE NEWS**

Last February, Lancaster County 4-H'er **Spencer Farley** was named Nebraska's top middle level youth volunteer for 2007 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. He was recognized for his community service project of organizing installation of a flower garden at historic Whitehall Mansion in Lincoln. In May, Spencer was one of 100 State Honorees honored at a ceremony in Washington D.C. (of these, 13 were 4-H members). He received a \$1,000 award and a medallion.



Spencer Farley (right) received congratulations from Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning (left).

At this year's American Iris Society National Convention in Oklahoma City, **Grace Farley** received the Clarke Cosgrove Award which is given to the top Iris Society youth in the nation.

**HORSE BITS****County Fair 4-H Horse Entry Forms Due July 6**

All County Fair Horse Entry Forms are due in the extension office by Friday, July 6. **NO LATE ENTRIES** will be accepted. Reminder—You must have passed all Walk-Trot or Level I Horsemanship requirements before July 6 to show at the County Fair. You must have passed Level II to participate in off-the-horse roping classes. Bareback Equitation requires a level III.

**Special Needs Horse Show at County Fair**

New to the county fair this year are two classes for special needs youth. There will be a mounted obstacle class, assisted and a mounted obstacle class, non-assisted. Classes are open to 4-H riders ages 8 to 18. 4-H attire required (as much as possible). Attire should be consistent with tack (English or Western). However, competitors must wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet. Participants must provide their own horse and any special equipment needed such as mounting ramps, etc. Participants may show out of a stall or off a trailer. Riders may sign-up for one class only. Class size will be limited to eight riders...first come, first served so sign up early! Due date for entries is July 6.

**County Fair Dress Code****Western Attire:**

Shirts and blouses must be all white, including button, thread, etc., with convertible collars (one that is meant to be folded at the seam) and long sleeved. Tuxedo, turtleneck or other stand-up collars are not permitted. No national, county or club emblems, medals, etc., permitted. Shear, see-through or form-fitting blouses are inappropriate and not permitted. The bottom line—the traditional "pearl snap" western shirt or a white cotton oxford-type shirt are permitted. Plain, dark-blue denim jeans must be worn. No fringe is allowed nor are jeans that button down the side. A Western hat or a safety helmet must be worn. Hats and helmets are optional in the speed events. A belt, tie, 4-H armband (left arm above the elbow) and riding boots must be worn. Boots with waffle-type tread greater than or equal to 1/8" will not be allowed in riding classes. The judging event requires a long-sleeved white shirt with 4-H armband or the short-sleeved white 4-H T-shirt, blue jeans, belt and boots. A tie must be worn with the long-sleeved shirt.

**English Attire:**

1. Helmet—ASTM approved helmet required in all jumping classes.
2. White or light colored shirt with stand up collar—can be long or short sleeves or sleeveless. If the weather is extremely hot, the judge may waive the jacket. In which case, the white or light colored shirt or a short sleeved polo shirt in any color is acceptable.
3. Armband—left arm above the elbow—must be worn with long or short sleeves or sleeveless.
4. Broach or pin for collar
5. Jacket
6. Breeches
7. Belt if breeches have loops
8. Long boots, half chaps over a paddock boot are acceptable.

**All 4-H Riding Skills Level Tests Must be Done in Group Testings**

The dates and locations for the 2007 Advancement Level Testing are as follows:

- June 26, 6:30 p.m. at Lancaster Event Center Warm-Up Arena
- July 2, 6:30 p.m. at Lancaster Event Center Warm-Up Arena
- Sept. 29, 9 a.m. at Lincoln Equestrian Center

**Please RSVP at least one week in advance of the test date** to Marty at [mcruickshank2@unl.edu](mailto:mcruickshank2@unl.edu) or 441-7180.

**State Expo Policy on Horse Drugs**

The State 4-H Horse Show will be held July 16–19 at Fonner Park in Grand Island. Information is online at [www.animalscience.unl.edu/extension/equine/4H/districtstateshows.html](http://www.animalscience.unl.edu/extension/equine/4H/districtstateshows.html)

No 4-H horse exhibitors and/or owners shall exhibit a horse at the Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Exposition that has been given any manner whatsoever, internally or externally, a narcotic, stimulant, depressant, analgesic, local anesthetic or drug of any kind or description within 24 hours before the first scheduled event of each show day (8 a.m.). Horses on prescribed treatment of phenylbutazone and/or aspirin-like products must file a statement in the 4-H Horse Show office before the horse can be shown. This statement must describe the treatment reason and be signed by an accredited DVM. One or more class winners and one or more horses in the same class may be tested on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday by the Test Committee.