



November

Danetta Jensen

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Danetta Jensen as winner of November's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Danetta has been a parent volunteer for seven years. She is now leader of the newly reorganized Star City Llama & Alpaca 4-H club, which she helped rebuild. While the 4-H Llama show at the Lancaster County Fair was on hiatus for two years, Danetta helped present llama demonstrations. Last year, she was a superintendent of the returned and expanded 4-H Llama/Alpaca show at the county fair. (Alpacas are a recent addition to the club and county fair show.) Danetta and members of the club helped at the recent 4-H Kick Off.

"I enjoy working with the youth and watching their confidence in themselves grow as they achieve their goals," she says. "I enjoy watching the excitement of the 4-H'ers when their animal accepts an obstacle and maneuvers it willingly."

Danetta is a board member for the Nebraska Llama Association and she has been an assistant Girl Scout leader for six years.

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



Livestock & Dog County Fair Review, Nov. 10

All Livestock exhibitors in the areas of beef, sheep, swine, goat, dairy, llama and dog are invited to attend the County Fair Livestock Review Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road. As the 2010 Super Fair approaches, we need to be prepared. At this meeting we'll make decisions on many topics including, the new schedule, stalling maps and Fair Book changes. We will have a committee introduce the new plans to organize a livestock premium auction. We need several people working together to get the Super Fair off on the right foot. This is your time to be heard, so please attend! Please RSVP to Deanna by Nov. 6 (call 441-7180 or e-mail dkarmazin2@unl.edu).

Project Completion Certificates Available

If a 4-H member completed a project this past 4-H year, please give your member a project completion certificate. Certificates are available from the extension office at no cost.

4-H CWF Poinsettia Sales

Lancaster County 4-H Citizen Washington Focus (CWF) youth will be selling poinsettias to aid in travel expenses for their leadership tour to Washington D.C. this coming summer.

The poinsettias come in 4 colors: Red, White, Pink and Marble which is a cream and pink combination. They also come in two sizes: 6- and 8-inch foiled containers. The 6-inch containers include one plant with 5-9 blooms and the 8-inch container will have three plants with over 15 blooms.

The cost of the poinsettias are \$12 for the 6-inch and \$20 for the 8-inch. These are locally grown plants and are big, beautiful and extremely healthy. All orders need to be to Deanna Karmazin by Nov. 9 and will be delivered Thursday, Dec. 3.

Checks can be made out to Lancaster County 4-H - CWF.

Sew Cool in School Web Site

Butterick and McCall's patterns launched Sew Cool in School, a program offering specially priced patterns, free materials and other supplies. Go to www.sewcoolinschool.com, enter code (211505), the zip code (68528) and make your selections.

All 4-H Volunteers Must Submit Screening Form in 2009

ALL 4-H volunteers in the Southeast District counties who work with youth MUST submit a "Youth Protection 4-H Volunteer Screening" form in 2009 if they have not already done so. Even if you have completed this form prior to 2009, please resubmit it. The form is online at <http://4h.unl.edu/pdf/4Hf104.pdf> and at the extension office. Mail completed form to the State 4-H Office address listed on the form. Deadline is Dec. 30.

4-H Clubs of Excellence Forms Due Jan. 2

Leaders: Don't forget to complete your Nebraska 4-H Club of Excellence form! All leaders received a form in their October reorganizational packet, and forms are also online. All clubs meeting the requirements and sending in the form will be recognized at Achievement Night and will receive a Nebraska 4-H Club of Excellence certificate. Seals will be awarded in subsequent years. Forms are due to the office by Jan. 2. Contact Tracy at 441-7180 if you have questions.

December

Mindy Leach

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Mindy Leach as winner of December's "Heart of 4-H Award" in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

When Mindy finished her last year as a 4-H member about four years ago, she became co-leader of the Ropes & Riggins 4-H Club. Her mother Natalie Leach is also co-leader. Mindy has been a main clinician at horse showmanship clinics and she has helped at group level testings.

Renee Heusinger, on behalf of Ropes & Riggins, nominated Mindy for the award, writing, "She continually gives of herself and her time. She is selfless, positive, always encouraging, kind and very knowledgeable."

Mindy says, "4-H is a great opportunity to get involved with local youth and help them learn about riding and showing horses. The 4-H program is excellent and is something I am proud to be involved with. My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer is watching the members of my club learn lessons that will not only help them in their horse shows, but also in all aspects of life. I really enjoy being there to help them and have fun with them."

Mindy is a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and president of the UNL Equestrian Team. In 2007, she was an intern for Extension Horse Specialist Kathy Anderson and Mindy helped organize the statewide 4-H Horse Stampede.

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



4-H Award & Scholarship Forms Due Jan. 2

Lancaster County 4-H award forms and college scholarship applications are due by Jan. 2. Recipients will be announced at Lancaster County Achievement Night on Thursday, Jan. 28, 2010 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Forms are available at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h> and the extension office. The online forms are provided as fill-in pdfs, which anyone with Adobe Reader 7 or 8 can fill in, save and print.

Awards

Community Service Awards — all Lancaster County 4-H members are eligible to apply for this award which is based on the number of hours of community service through 4-H. There will be two categories: 14 years of age & over and 13 & under.

I Dare You Leadership Award — The award recognizes juniors and seniors who strive to be their personal best and make a positive difference in their schools, youth groups, 4-H clubs and communities. Anyone can make nominations.

Outstanding 4-H Member Award — presented to an individual 14 years of age or older who has excelled in their involvement with the 4-H program. The basis for selection appraises the variety and depth of 4-H activities. Anyone can make nominations.

Meritorious Service Award — presented to individuals or organizations who have exhibited consistent and strong support of the Lancaster County 4-H program. 4-H members are not eligible. Anyone can make nominations.

Nebraska 4-H Diamond Clover Program — recognizes the accomplishments of 4-H'ers ages 8-18. Youth can progress from Level 1 up to Level 6. At the beginning of the 4-H year, youth choose goals from a provided list and at the end of the 4-H year, fill out a report which documents their accomplishments.*

Nebraska 4-H Career Portfolios — are a record of a 4-H'ers career. Portfolios include a listing of personal growth and leadership experiences related to the knowledge learned, skills gained and community service/volunteer activities experienced through 4-H.*

*Lancaster County deadline for these statewide awards is Jan. 2

College Scholarships

For graduating high school seniors enrolled in the Lancaster County 4-H program

4-H Council — six \$500 scholarships to active Lancaster County 4-H members who have excelled in their involvement with the 4-H program.

4-H Teen Council — two \$250 scholarships to 4-H'ers who are active in 4-H Teen Council.

Lincoln Center Kiwanis — two \$1,000 scholarships to active Lancaster County 4-H'ers.

Nebraska Association of Fair Managers — \$500 statewide scholarships: **Martha & Don Romeo Scholarship** to two 4-H'ers and **Staats Custom Awards** to one 4-H and/or FFA senior. Each applicant must have exhibited his/her projects in a County Fair or at the State Fair within the last four years. Lancaster County 4-H selects county finalists. *Note: Deadline is Dec. 1.*

Nebraska 4-H Scholarships — there are several statewide Nebraska 4-H scholarships. Go to <http://4h.unl.edu> for more information. *Deadline is March 1.*

Note: Deadline for Lancaster County 4-H camp scholarships is May 1 — preference given to applications submitted by March 1.

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