55 Hands-On Workshops in 4 Days at 4-H Clover College

Held each June, 4-H Clover College is a four-day series of hands-on workshops for youth presented by Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County. Emphasis is on science, agricultural literacy, healthy lifestyles, career development and citizenship/leadership.

This year, Clover College was held June 16–19 and featured 55 workshops. 180 youth participated (varying from 1 to 15 classes each), with a total 888 class registrations! A special thank you to the nearly 70 instructors and assistants!

4-H member Heather Lange said, “Clover College is a great way to have fun, learn new things and make new friends. I took lots of classes and had an awesome time! Some of the things I did gave me skills for life. Clover College is a great experience.”

4-H member Thomas Neal said, “I really enjoyed Cover College. I learned new things, for example, how to make a wind turbine. I made a lot of new friends! I am definitely signing up for Clover College next year and I hope I can work at the 4-H office when I grow up.”

More photos are online at www.flickr.com/photos/unlextlanco/

Several videos, including “Rocket Launches” and “Making an E-Monster during ‘Electronic Textiles’ workshop,” are at www.youtube.com/user/4HLancasterNE.

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Dog Fund, a local non-profit which helps families pay for life saving surgeries for their dogs. The club cleaned tables at the event, donated a basket for raffle and was auctioned off to serve a meal for eight — raising $1,770 for the Sadie Dog Fund.

Club members presented a workshop, “Dog Days of Summer” at this year’s 4-H Clover College.

One year ago, Paws & Pals started a new program called the Pit Crew. The Pit Crew consists of teenagers in the club who wish to train rescue dogs in obedience, showmanship and agility. One member, Bethany Wachter, started this program by training and showing a Pit Bull mix which received a Pit Bull ribbon at the Lancaster County Super Fair and was then adopted two weeks later. After the first dog, the Pit Crew has worked with dogs who are harder to handle and have started teaching younger members in their club.

Members of the Paws & Pals 4-H Dog club at the Dog House Rock fundraiser.

Youth in the four-day “Electronic Textiles” workshop used special thread and miniature computer chips to create electronic fabrics such as bracelets, bookmarks and e-monsters (pictured).

In the “Science in Your Kitchen” workshop, youth did food science experiments such as making dough balls from different flours, washing out the starch and comparing the remaining gluten.

Youth built a hanging plant holder in the “Hammer! Nail! Build!” workshop.

Youth learned about and get a close look at animals in several Clover College classes. In the “Great Goats” workshop, members of the Go-Go Getters club brought their goats to show other youth.