Joe’s Clover Knights Donated Blankets and Books to Women’s Homes

Joe’s Clover Knights 4-H club was excited to receive a Governors Agricultural Excellence award in 2014. As part of this award, Nebraska 4-H Foundation and Nebraska Investment Finance Authority give $500 to 25 clubs each year to be used as described in the award application. Joe’s Clover Knights has received the award twice before for community service projects.

The club had a number of ideas for service projects in 2014, but during the February club meeting, they voted to provide tied fleece blankets to the less fortunate. The club’s leaders, Anne Johnson and Kelly Neal, called various agencies to see where the club’s gift would help the most. Club members voted to give the blankets to St. Gianna’s Women’s Homes which assists women and their families fleeing domestic violence.

The club, who currently has 86 members from ages 5–14, spent one meeting in October making 26 blankets. Older 4-H members teamed up with younger members in groups of four, and each group made one or two blankets. They had patterns to cut the corners and edges. Then they tied the layers together on each side. Blankets ranged from 7½ feet adult blankets to 4 feet toddler blankets.

Club member Ellie Bunz said, “I really enjoyed making the tied blankets knowing that what we do in 4-H could better someone’s life.”

Anne said, “It’s amazing to see how generous the club member’s hearts are for giving to others! The older 4-H’ers did a fantastic job at guiding and teaching the younger members.”

A group of 5th graders from the club made an additional 10 blankets outside of club meetings.

One of the 5th graders, Meredith Gaura, said, “I made those blankets out of love and respect for the children of St. Gianna’s. I believe in my heart that every child deserves a nice warm blanket that makes them feel safe.”

Club members then gathered over 100 gently used and new children’s books. They tied books to each of the blankets with ribbons as an extra gift to the children at St. Gianna’s.

On Nov. 20, the club delivered the blankets and books to Catholic Social Services to be given to St. Gianna’s Women’s Homes. Club members were given a tour of the facility.

Megan Neal, the club’s news reporter said, “Making and delivering those blankets and books made me feel like a hero when we were done. I knew what our 4-H club had done with our award money made a big difference to the people that received the blankets and books.”

Older 4-H members teamed up with younger members to teach them how to make tie blankets.

Club members tied books to each of the blankets with ribbons.

4-H Clubs Needed to Help Provide Booths at Kiwanis Karnival, April 10

The annual Kiwanis Karnival, a FREE family event, is sponsored by the Lincoln Center Kiwanis. This year, it will be held Friday, April 10, 5:30–7:30 p.m. at Elliott Elementary School, 225 S. 25th St., Lincoln (note change from a Saturday to Friday). The Karnival features carnival type games for the kids, bingo for adults, prizes, snacks, fun and fellowship. Lincoln Center Kiwanis has sponsored this event for over 50 years — providing prizes and snacks. 4-H clubs are needed to provide carnival-type booths. This is a great community service and leadership activity for clubs. If your 4-H club or family would like to have a booth or for more information, call Lorene at 402-441-7180. Come join the fun!

Spring Rabbit Show

Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.  
Lancaster Event Center – Exhibit Hall  
84th & Havelock, Lincoln

REGISTRATION FEES:
Rabbit Quiz & Breed ID $2.50
Commercial Rabbits, Pet Class, and Pee Wee Class $1 Showmanship.

FREE CONTESTS:
Rabbit Quiz & Breed ID Opportunity to learn and practice your showmanship!

All rabbits must be tattooed in the left ear (available at the show 7:30–8:30 a.m. — $1 per rabbit). All rabbits must be in carriers with leak-proof bottoms.

For more information, call Bob at 402-523-6263 or Marty at 402-441-7180

Opportunity to learn and practice your showmanship!

Raffle for many prizes! tickets for $1 or 20 for $5. Please bring an item for raffle such as crafts, rabbit items, plants, Easter/Spring items, books, etc. All items must be handed in the left ear (available at the show 7:30–8:30 a.m. — $1 per rabbit). All rabbits must be in carriers with leak-proof bottoms.

Sponsored by Lancaster County 4-H Rabbit WPS Committee and UNL Extension in Lancaster County

4-H Achievement Celebration

Tuesday, Feb. 10 • 6:30 p.m.
Lancaster Extension Education Center  
444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln

4-H members, clubs and volunteers receiving awards, scholarships or pins will be mailed detailed information.

Congratulations to all 4-H youth who commit themselves to excellence!

Light snack provided.

Joe’s Clover Knights tied books to each of the blankets with ribbons.

Governor’s Ag Excellence Award Forms Due March 1

The Governor’s Agricultural Excellence Awards are sponsored by the Nebraska 4-H Foundation and Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA). Each year, 25 4-H clubs are awarded $500 to be used as described in the award application form completed by the club.

Clubs may use the award dollars for many different programs. A few examples are: conferences or workshops for others in the community, trips or tours for club members and community improvement projects. The intent is to increase 4-H’ers awareness of agricultural careers. Consider “agricultural” in the broadest terms for this program.

Forms are due by March 1. Applications are online at www.ne4hfoundation.org. If you have questions, contact Lori Petersen at lpetersen5@unl.edu or 402-472-1178.

Lancaster County 4-H and 4-H Council invite ALL 4-H’ers, 4-H families and volunteers to