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Students Prepare for Careers at UNL College of Ag and Natural Resources

Jessica Bauman
UNL Student and Extension Intern

Choosing a college to attend is not always an easy decision for students. In addition, choosing a major field of study and possible career paths can be overwhelming.

Many former Lancaster County 4-H members have chosen to attend the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) at University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) as part of their career paths.

Aaron Naber
Aaron Naber recently graduated from CASNR with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Sciences and a minor in Agricultural Leadership.

He grew up on a farm near Roca and was a longtime member of Lancaster County 4-H. In 2001, he was part of the 4-H Livestock Judging Team which attended nationals.

He chose to pursue a major in Animal Science because of his strong agricultural background and his love for animals. He said having a minor in Agricultural Leadership, “gave me some diversity and allowed me to improve on my communication skills.” Many employers are looking for these skills when searching for new employees.

Aaron is working on his masters in the area of Meat Science. In the future, Aaron would like a job working with personnel relations throughout the meat industry.

Sara Morrissey
Sara Morrissey is a CASNR junior majoring in Food Science and Technology.

Raised in Lincoln, she found ways to become involved with agriculture and its related fields through 4-H and the Lancaster County Fair. Horses have always been a strong interest of hers. From her experiences, she gained an appreciation for the outdoors and agriculture.

Sara is a CASNR junior majoring in Food Science and Technology. During high school, she took advantage of student work opportunities at UNL and got a summer job doing lab work at CASNR in the Food Microbiology Lab.

Choosing to attend CASNR was the “next natural step” for Sara. She is pleased with her decision and truly enjoys what CASNR has to offer.

She would like to further continue her education by attaining a PhD in Food Microbiology so she could perform research in the future.

Advice to Prospective Students

When asked what advice they would give prospective students on choosing a major, both Aaron and Sara agree “keeping an open mind” is most important. Explore all your options and pay attention to your strengths and hobbies. These steps will help make your college decisions easier and you will be more satisfied with the choices you have made.

Check Out UNL and CASNR

UNL ADMISSIONS
• 472-2023 • http://www.admissions.unl.edu

CASNR
• Recruitment contact: Laura Frey at 472-4445 or 1-800-742-8800 (ext. 2541)
• Career Services contact: Jill Brown at 472-8273
• http://casnr.unl.edu

CAMPUS VISITS (call ahead to schedule)
• Red Letter Days — All-day, open house program for high school seniors and their families. When registering, you can indicate an interest in CASNR. Upcoming dates are Oct. 5, Oct. 10, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, Dec. 5 and Feb. 29 (from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)
• CASNR Day — Half-day open house focusing on what CASNR offers — Nov. 5
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CASNR’s “Ensuring Your Future Guarantee”

The agricultural industry is very important to Nebraska as well as the rest of the world. Located on UNL East Campus, the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources offers 23 majors and two pre-professional programs to help students prepare for careers in agriculture or natural resources.

Laura Frey, college relations director, can help potential students discover what CASNR can offer them. “Our college has a variety of majors for just about everyone,” said Frey. “Not only does our college offer a breadth of learning opportunities both in the classroom and out, but we also offer a variety of scholarship opportunities for students to help them with the ability to grow personally and professionally.”

CASNR takes great pride in educating and preparing its students. CASNR’s outstanding faculty advisors provide one-on-one guidance and support to students. Career Services can help students explore career choices and prepare for a job.

CASNR has an “Ensuring Your Future Guarantee” — if students follow guidelines for academics, involvement and experiential learning, CASNR guarantees they will have a job offer within six months of graduation. Statistics from UNL show that nearly 96 percent of CASNR graduates receive job offers within six months after graduation.

Graduates of CASNR have gotten jobs in the private sector, with the government and at various universities — locally and internationally! Recent examples include: Grain Merchandiser, Research Soil Scientist, Sales Representative, Agronomist, Birdkeeper & Aquarist, Product Stabilization Analyst, Landscape Designer and Veterinary Technician.

Jill Brown of Career Services for CASNR says, “We feel that the career opportunities are literally endless with a degree from CASNR, and our graduates are living examples of this.”

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**Drying Gourds**

Harvest gourds when the vine and stem dries and begins to turn brown. Be sure to complete your harvest before the first hard frost. Immature gourds will not cure correctly, so only harvest mature fruit.

After harvest, wash the fruit in a mild bleach solution, rinse off with a soft cloth. Discard any bruised, diseased or decaying tissue. To place gourds on slatted trays or chicken wire fencing. Make sure they do not touch each other and are located in a warm, well-ventilated location. Curing can take one to six months, depending on the type of gourds. The outer skin hardens in one to two weeks, the gourd flesh is curing at least an additional month. Poke a small hole in the blossom end of the gourd and ready for a coat of paint or varnish, if desired.

- Mary Jane Frogge, Extension Associate

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**Deep Watering Trees in Fall can Prevent Winter Drying Injury**

Symptoms of winter injury appear the following spring and summer, making some think a tree is suddenly dead. Winter injury actually the damage was done several months before. Drought conditions during the fall may serious injury to trees if it continues into winter. Trees should be thoroughly watered in the fall to help prevent winter drying injuries. Fall watering be watered so well that soil moisture adequate, but when soil moisture is lacking, water may not be able to help a tree survive the rigors of winter.

All trees lose water during normal metabolic processes. During the growing season when trees are in full foliage, large amounts of water are lost through their leaves. Even during winter months when the leaves are gone and photosynthetic processes have stopped, trees lose water to a lesser extent from exposed bark, twigs and buds.

However, sometimes the loss of moisture exceeds the amount of water the roots can absorb from the frozen soil. Tissue drying is the result of the tree being unable to replace lost water. Winter drying injury occurs most frequently during warm, dry, windy conditions. This is especially true of young trees because they lose more water through their foliage.

Deep water trees may exhibit only a few dead twigs or entire branches may die depending on severity. In some cases, the entire tree may die. The side of the tree facing the prevailing winds is most susceptible. Light brown, dry-appearing needles are typical of winter injury on evergreen trees. This type of injury usually is temporary and most evergreens recover rapidly as the growing season progresses. Usually large, well-establish trees can tolerate temporary droughts without injury, but young trees are more susceptible to drought injury. They do not have the extensive root system to draw moisture from the soil and need supplemental water during dry conditions.

In some cases, relying on a lawn sprinkler is not enough. Trees should be deep watered to a depth of two to three feet before the ground freezes. A watering basin two to three inches deep around the trunk, constructed around the base of a young tree will hold water until it can be absorbed by the soil.

The loss of trees from winter drying is unnecessary and costly, not only in monetary terms, but in intangible values such as shade, protection and beauty. If drought conditions continue, deep watering trees this fall may mean the difference between live and dead trees next spring.

*Source: Dennis Adams, University of Nebraska Forester*

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**Gladiola Fall Care**

Gladiolus are an easy and very showy flower to add to the garden. They also make excellent cut flowers with a long vase-life. However, gladiolus corms are not winter hardy in Nebraska and must be dug each fall.

The corms are ready for digging about six weeks after they have bloomed. By this time the foliage should be yellowing and dying back. However, if the tops are still healthy leave the corms in the ground until the foliage begins to die back or until just before a hard freeze. This will give the plants the longest time possible for the corms to grow and increase in size, resulting in bigger flowers the following year. If the foliage begins to die back dig the corms as soon as possible to prevent disease problems while the corms are in the ground.

Dig the corms when the soil is dry. This will make digging and cleaning of the corms much easier. Carefully lift corms with a spade or spading fork avoiding injury to the corms, as much as possible. If the tiny cormels are desired for future propagation, dig carefully and sort them immediately by variety.

Shake off soil and cut the tops off just above the corms.

- Place the corms in a dry, warm, well-ventilated place for several weeks to cure. Corms are cured when they have an excess moisture in the corm and harden appropriately as possible. This helps prevent storage problems.

- After the corms are cured, separate each new corm from the old corm. These two parts should snap apart easily by hand and leave a clean scar on the underside of the new corm. Remove the loose husks, leaving the wrapper husks intact. Also remove the dead remnants and place them in a labeled paper bag for winter storage. Before putting the corms away, clean them with a dry cloth, dust them with an insecticide for control. Be sure to discard all damaged or diseased corms.

- Place the corms in trays, paper bags, mesh onion bags or even nylon stockings for win
ter storage, making sure all corms are clearly labeled. Keep the varieties separate since they multiply at different rates. Light colors such as white, pink and yellow are usually more vigorous and may multiply more quickly than darker colors. If the corms are mixed it may be necessary to separate the colors as they are taking over. Store gladiola corms in a dark, cool, dry, well-ventilated location during the winter. Ideal storage temperatures are 35–45°F.

*Source: Sarah Browning, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension*

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**Storing Vegetables**

Mary Jane Frogge, UNL Extension Associate

After a successful garden season, you may have vegetables you would like to store until you are ready to use them. Here are some suggestions to help you store your vegetables properly.

**Squash:**

- **Winter squash:** Cure fresh dug squash at 80–85°F for 10 days. Store cured squash in a cool, dry location at 55–60°F for 4–6 months.

- **Turnips:** Cure turnips at 40°F for 4–5 months. Store them in a dry, cool location at 55–60°F for 4–6 months.

- **Winter squash:** Cure ripe winter squash for 10 days at 80–85°F and high humidity. Store mature, cured winter squash in a dry location at 55°F for 2–6 months. Acorn squash will keep well in a dry place at 45°F for 35–40 days. Do not cure acorn squash.

Storing your vegetables properly will insure you have good quality produce to enjoy in the months ahead.

*Source: Sarah Browning, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension*

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

UNL Extension NebGuide 852-A “Growing Gladiolus” available at the extension office or online at http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/horticultu
rer/8522.htm

UNL Extension NebGuide G95-1264 “Storing Fresh Fruits and Vegetables” available at the extension office or online at http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/horticul
ture1264.htm

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Farmer Question: How Can I Reduce Energy Costs When Drying Grain?

Heated Air Drying

One can significantly reduce drying time by adding heat to the air used for drying grain. Heating air does not reduce the moisture content of the water vapor in the air, but it does increase the amount of water vapor the air can hold (it lowers the relative humidity). Therefore, heated air has the potential to pick up more moisture per unit volume passing through the bin than unheated (natural) air.

When adding supplemental heat, the relative humidity and relative humidity is not linear. A rough rule of thumb is the relative humidity drops by one-half for each 20°F rise in temperature. For example, natural air at 60°F and 50% relative humidity will have a relative humidity of 25% if heated to 80°F. Adding another 20°F to raise the temperature to 100°F cuts the relative humidity by about half again and results in a drop to 13.5%. The third 20°F rise to 120°F lowers the relative humidity by about half again to 7.5%. The fourth 20°F rise to 140°F reduces the relative humidity by another half again to 3.5%.

Management of stirring devices is different for heated air drying than natural air drying, especially for high temperature drying (over 40°F temperature rise). The relative humidity of the incoming air is so low with heated air drying, the grain on the bottom of the bin is over-dried by several percentages by the time the drying front is pushed through the length of the grain. Stirring devices, if installed, should be run continuously with high-temperature hot air to help equalize the moisture content of the grain mass and avoid over-drying at the bottom of the bin.

Layer Drying

If a producer has several bins equipped with drying fans and is able to switch over from filling one bin to another in a reasonably short time, filling and drying several bins in layers could reduce drying time and energy consumption by 20–35% as compared to completely filling each bin in turn before beginning to fill the others.

Air fans operate on a static pressure (measured in inches of water) versus air output (cfm) curve. Static pressure increases with greater depths of grain in the bin and with higher airflow (cfm) per bushel. The higher the static pressure the fan must overcome, the fewer cfm the fan can push through the grain.

Since drying time is a function of the airflow per bushel (cfm/bu), both factors work in our favor when drying in layers as opposed to starting with a full bin -- whether using natural or heated air for in-bin drying.

For example, consider the advantages of filling and drying a bin in four layers as opposed to the usual practice of filling the entire bin from the start. The first layer will have far greater total airflow moving through only one-fourth the volumes of very hot and dry air passing through a 10-degree dryer or recirculating a high percentage of the previously heated air back through the grain mass.

Stirring devices should not be used in layer drying systems until the final layer of grain is added. Long distances to the grain mass will result in high fan pressures. This can cause unpredictable behavior that could damage the stirring device or the bin. Prior to the final layer has been added, consider blending the wet and dry grain with the stirring device then use unheated air to help the movement of moisture from the moist kernels to those that are likely over-dry due to the heated air drying.

IN-BIN DRYING

Natural Air Drying

As stated, natural air drying uses unheated air to dry the grain. The time required to push a drying zone through a bin is directly related to the time required to fill the bin. This can be several days to several weeks, depending on the initial and final moisture content of the grain, depth per minute per bushel, cfm/bu) and the air properties (temperature and relative humidity).

Research has found stirring grain being dried with natural air actually prolongs the time required to dry grain because it disrupts the drying zone, resulting in exhaust air leaving the grain mass under-dried.

If a stirring device is installed in a bin being dried with natural (unheated) air, the device should not be operated during the filling period to reduce the pack factor from the filling operation, redistribute fines and to level the grain. Stirring should then be discontinued to allow a drying zone to develop in the grain. Since the bottom of the bin will be somewhat over-dried, a final pass through the drying zone is needed completely through the bin will help to equalize the moisture content of the grain.

High speed batch or continuous flow dryers have the highest bushel capacity per unit of any of the systems mentioned in this article. Temperature, grain bed depth and airflow rates are vastly different in high speed, high capacity dryers compared to deep-bed, in-bin drying systems. Air temperatures of 120 to 140°F are typical in high capacity dryers. Column widths of grain being dried are measured in inches (10 to 20 inches) in batch or continuous flow dryers as opposed to feet (4 to 20 feet) for in-bin drying systems. Airflow rates of 50 to 100 cfm/bu are common in high speed dryers as opposed to 1.25 to 2.5 cfm/bu for deep bed in-bin systems.

Avoid Pasture Damage During Fall Grazing

Many of us have had more moisture than we could manage for pastures and shallow soils for several years. Don’t take too much advantage of the extra growth, however. After years of drought and low production, this extra growth is more than welcome. But as we approach the end of the growing season, we are much greener and try to completely graze off every green blade.

Do you have pastures dominated by cool season grasses? Pasture grazed prior to cold temperatures, like bromegrass or bluegrass or wheatgrasses may need to be grazed less. Recent rain and cooler temperatures may cause these grasses some good growth in September. It’s tempting to keep cattle on these nice green pastures as long as possible to use all the growth. But if these same pastures suffered much drought stress this past growing season, they may be hindered if you fail to allow them ample opportunity to rejuvenate their root systems prior to winter. Spring growth begins early just before winter begins limits the plant’s ability to develop the roots and tiller buds needed to fulfill their growth and production needs to produce spring growth. These extra mouthfuls of grass harvested now could cost you many more mouthfuls next spring.

To help pastures recover from past stress and set the stage for abundant growth next spring, be sure to keep several inches of green leaves on your grasses the rest of this growing season. These green leaves will convert fall to a warm season, and help the plants survive through the winter and root nutrient reserves. Next spring, these plants will be ready to grow rapidly and yield pasture during this fall.

Don’t be greedy. Protecting some of your grass from grazing this fall could pay big dividends next spring.

Table 1. Comparison of total energy consumption and cost vs. drying time for three drying scenarios.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air temperature</th>
<th>Total cost for energy</th>
<th>% Time in cost (vs. natural air drying)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural air 60°F and 50% relative humidity</td>
<td>$246</td>
<td>100% - 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heated to 80°F</td>
<td>$239</td>
<td>42% - 139%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heated to 95°F</td>
<td>$351</td>
<td>25% - 100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assumptions: Fan = 25hp centrifugal. Grain = Corn, Initial = 20.5% - Final = 15.5% moisture. Bin diameter = 30 feet, Grain depth = 8 feet, Bushels per batch = 4,500 bushels. Electrical: 32.5 kWh per hour for fan operation at 30.08 kWh. 1.25 cfm/gallon. 90,000 BTU per gallon.
Food Safety 101: USDA Offers Tips for College Students

When students pack up for college, they make sure to take along the basics — TV, laptop, MP3 player and cell phone. Many students will also arrive at school with a microwave oven, toaster, grill, mini-fridge and toaster-oven in tow. Most students, however, don’t know there are food safety considerations that need to be taken into account when cooking with these appliances.

“Students face many rigorous challenges while studying for a college education and they don’t always know where and whenever and it is convenient,” said USDA Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Richard Raymond. “But when it comes to safely preparing meals, many college kids simply don’t know what it takes to make the grade in food safety and far too many could end up with a foodborne illness.”

USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service offers tips to students and consumers on how to prevent foodborne illness. The USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline regularly answers calls from students with questions about how to safely cook and prepare foods away at school.

Here is a sampling of those questions:

Q. Several slices of pizza have been left out overnight, is the pizza still safe to eat?
A. No. Perishable food should never be away from refrigeration more than two hours. This is true even if there are no meat products on the pizza. Foodborne bacteria that may be present on these foods grow fastest at temperatures between 40–140° F and can double every 20 minutes.

Q. I frequently send “care packages” to my son at college. What other foods besides cookies, crackers and candy can I mail?
A. Shelf-stable, microwavable entrees are one option. These foods are not frozen and will stay fresh with refrigeration for about 18 months. Canned meats and fish as well as dried meat and poultry, such as beef and turkey jerky, are safe to mail. Bacteria can’t grow in foods preserved by removing moisture.

Q. My daughter’s college is only a four-hour drive away, so she comes home often. Can I mail leftovers for her to take back to school?
A. For a four-hour drive, food must be handled properly to keep it safe from spoilage and pathogenic bacteria.

Leffeters should be doubled into shallow containers and cooled in the refrigerator prior to the trip. Pack the food in an insulated cooler packed with several inches of ice or frozen gel packs. The temperature inside these containers should be at or below 40° F. Return the food to the refrigerator as soon as possible.

Source: Adapted from an article by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. To read the entire article: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_Events/NR/062405_01/index.asp

USDA’s Meat and Poultry Hotline, in conjunction with the Partnership for Food Safety Education’s Fight BAC® campaign, advises all consumers to keep these four basic tips in mind when cooking and preparing foods:

- **Clean.** Wash hands and surfaces often.
- **Separate.** Separate raw meat, poultry and egg products from cooked foods to avoid cross-contamination.
- **Cook.** Raw meat, poultry and egg products need to be cooked thoroughly. Use a food thermometer to ensure foods have reached a high enough temperature to kill any harmful bacteria that might be present.
- **Chill.** Refrigerate promptly.

Healthy Desserts Presentation, Nov. 15

“Fast & Healthy Everyday Desserts” — part of BryanLGH Medical Center’s “Eating Well” series — will be presented Tuesday, Nov. 15 from 7:30 p.m. at the Plaza Conference Center, BryanLGH Medical Center-East, 1600 S. 48th Street in Lincoln.

Alice Henneman, registered dietitian and UNL Extension Educator, will show you how to quickly make “everyday desserts” for a sweet and healthy ending to your day!

Participants will receive an extensive handout which includes tips and recipes.

No cost to attend. Register by calling BryanLGH at 481-8886.

Food Safety: Alice Henneman, RD, UNL Extension Educator

### One-Dish Rosemary Chicken and White Beans

(Makes 4 servings)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 teaspoons olive oil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1½ teaspoons dried rosemary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ teaspoon salt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 teaspoon black pepper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 skinless and boneless chicken thighs (about 1 pound)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (14.5-ounce) can stewed tomatoes, undrained</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (15-ounce) can navy beans, rinsed and drained</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¹⁄₄ cup pitted kalamata olives, chopped</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Combine rosemary, salt and pepper; sprinkle over one side of chicken. Place chicken in pan with seasoned side down, cook 3 minutes. Reduce heat to medium and turn chicken. Add tomatoes and beans, cover and simmer 10 minutes or until chicken is done. Stir in olives.

**NUTRITION FACTS:** Serving Size: 2 thighs and ¾ cup bean mixture.

- Amount per serving: calories 316; calories from fat 23; total fat 8.1 g; cholesterol 94 mg; sodium 978 mg; total carbohydrates 30.2 g; dietary fiber 6.8 g; sugars, not applicable; protein, 31.2 g.

**SOURCE:** Courtesy of the Idaho Bean Commission, P.O. Box 2556, Boise, ID 83701. For more information about cooking with beans, visit http://www.idahean.com.

### Tips for College Students

- **When students pack up for college, they make sure to take along the basics — TV, laptop, MP3 player and cell phone.**
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- **Most students, however, don’t know there are food safety considerations that need to be taken into account when cooking with these appliances.**

### Breakfast Power

Beep, beep, beep... Rise and shine! It’s time to get out of bed and get going. As you begin your morning routine, packing lunches and getting yourself and everyone out the door, be sure to make breakfast a priority. Breakfast skippers miss a valuable part of family life. Food and some friendly words can make a great difference in how your day begins. Breakfast also plays a crucial role in you and your child’s health. Parents and kids often skip the meal altogether due to the lack of time or other commitments.

Unfortunately, the United States has seen a steady decrease in the number of children who eat breakfast. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate the percentage of young people who eat breakfast decreases with age — 92% of children ages 6–11 reported eating breakfast regularly while only 75–78 percent of adolescents age 12–19 reported eating breakfast on a regular basis. According to the American Dietetic Association, kids who regularly eat breakfast tend to perform better in school, score higher on tests, keep their weight under control, attend school more frequently and make fewer trips to the school nurse complaining of tummy aches. They often behave better, too.

So when you’re in a hurry, wake up your family’s appetite with quick breakfast options, like:

- **Instant oatmeal with milk and dried fruit.**
- **Breakfast tortilla.** Sprinkle cheese over a tortilla; fold in half and microwave for 20 seconds. Top with salsa.
- **A cup of yogurt mixed with whole grain cereal.**
- **Leftover veggie pizza with a greek yogurt dip.**

If your child still doesn’t have time for breakfast, check to see if their school serves breakfast. Many schools offer breakfast programs. Remember, kids who see their parents eat breakfast are more likely to eat breakfast, too. Model the importance of breakfast and help them have a great day of learning.
Be Aware of Indoor Air Pollutants

Lorene Bartos
UNL Extension Educator

Most Americans spend much of their time indoors. Research has found that in homes across America, the quality of indoor air can be worse than outdoor air; that’s because many homes are being built tightly. Consumers are using more products and furnishings containing compounds sensitive to occupants.

October is National Indoor Air Quality Awareness Month. Become aware of indoor air pollutants and take the time to remove these potential problems from your home. Some things that may affect the air quality of a home are mold, tobacco smoke, radon and carbon monoxide. Lead poisoning and asthma triggers are also important considerations.

Carbon Monoxide
Carbon monoxide (CO) is a lethal gas produced whenever fuels such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood or charcoal is burned. Hundreds of people die every year from carbon monoxide poisoning.

To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning — have your furnace and water heater inspected and serviced by a trained professional every year — either at the end of the heating season or at the beginning; make sure these appliances — furnace or boiler, gas or oil dryer, wood stove or fireplace — are vented to the outdoors and chimneys and vent pipes are not blocked by an animal nest or other obstruction.

Avoid using an unvented space heater, or if you must, open a window in the room where it is burning, and never sleep in a room where it is burning and without an unvented heater is burning; never use a gas stove to heat a room. Never idle a car in a garage, even if the door is open; and don’t use a gasoline-powered engine in an enclosed space.

Asthma Triggers
Asthma is a disease that makes it difficult to breathe during an attack. In severe cases, this can be life-threatening and calls for immediate medical treatment. Asthma attacks are set off by “triggers.” These are different for different people.

For some asthma sufferers, triggers must be cold air, exercise or emotional upsets. Others triggers can be things like pollen, dust, mold, dust particles from furry animals. Cockroaches and dust mites can cause a large number of attacks. Other important triggers are tobacco smoke and combination products.

A donation for one of my favorite charities is now at its peak. I wonder if I would have already harvested my wild plum season — and I would never have received your experiences very interesting. Hopefully, a new slate of officers will be presented at this meeting. Our county needs vice-president and treasurer offices to be filled for next year. The duties are easy to handle and there is always help if a problem arises; best of all are the new friendships you develop.

Weeds, Bees and 49’ers clubs will meet this 1 p.m. meeting. The program will be presented by Janet Broer, FCE Council Chair.

FCE Council Meeting, Sept. 26
The next FCE Council meeting will be Mon., Sept. 26, 1 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. The program will be presented by Susanne Blue, executive director of Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach. Their efforts concentrate on feeding those in need. The business meeting will follow the program. All FCE members are invited to attend.

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FCE Achievement Night, Oct. 17
The 2005 FCE Achievement Night will be Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. The program will be presented by Bob Ripley, Special Agent in Charge of the Lancaster Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Savvy consumers are becoming the rage. Even more people have become aware that there are programs to improve the lives of children.

Other Fall Dates
• FCE Dues to State Treasurer, Oct. 1
• National FCE Week, Oct. 16-20

by Lorene Bartos, UNL Extension Educator

President’s Notes
Janet’s Jargon

To re-organize for 2006. There are treasurer offices to be filled for Lancaster County needs vice-president and treasurer offices to be filled for 2006. There are treasurer offices to be filled for next year. The duties are easy to handle and there is always help if a problem arises; best of all are the new friendships you develop.

Savings in my community well in this new century and now also handles the Outreach Program. You have seen her experiences very interesting. Hopefully, a new slate of officers will be presented at this meeting. Our county needs vice-president and treasurer offices to be filled for next year. The duties are easy to handle and there is always help if a problem arises; best of all are the new friendships you develop.

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If you choose to use bleach to remove mold, Never mix bleach with ammonia. Mixing bleach and ammonia is dangerous, producing toxic fumes.

Open windows and doors to provide fresh air. Wear non-porous gloves and protective eye wear. Possess non-porous gloves with mold growth should be removed from the home. This includes walls, ceiling and carpet padding, upholstery, wallpaper, drywall, floor and ceiling tiles, insulation, wallboard, wood, leather, paper and wood.

If the area to be cleaned is more than 10 square feet, consult the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines for cleaning mold-contaminated buildings, this document also applies to other building types. You can get it free by calling the EPA Indoor Air Quality Information Clearinghouse at (888) 438-4318 or by going to http://www.epa.gov/molds/mold_remediation.html.


Liquid laundry detergents are especially effective on wool, cotton and blends. Most are liquids, they are good for pretreating spots and stains.

Powdered detergents are especially effective for lifting out clay, and ground-in dirt. They are ideal for children’s play clothes. They can also be used to pretreat, by making a paste of detergent and water.

FCE News & Events
Re-Organizational Packets
 Presidents of Family and Community Education (FCE) clubs can pick up their packets to reorganize for 2006. There are October deadlines within your area and questions, call 441-7180.

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Home & Family Living Page 5 October 2005

Home & Family Living

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by Lorene Bartos, UNL Extension Educator
Late Summer Biting Bugs

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

Itch Mites
Last month I wrote about the impending oakhall itch mite problem. We are hearing from people who have gotten itch mite bites. If you live in neighborhoods with abundant pin oak trees, you are at risk of bites. If you missed this article, you can find it online at http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/wildlife/g1526.html.

There are other biting bugs that show up during the late summer.

Minute Pirate Bugs
During the late summer, small insects known as minute pirate bugs cause painful bites that seem out of proportion with their size. The minute pirate bug is about 1/5-inch long, oval to triangular in shape, flattened and black with whitish markings on the back. Normally, they are predators and feed on insect eggs and small insects. They feed by impaling their prey with their short blunt beak and sucking the juices. Minute pirate bugs are found throughout the summer in fields, woodlands, gardens and landscaped areas. In the late summer, they begin the unpleasant behavior of biting humans. They do not feed on blood or inject a venom or saliva.

People differ in their response to pirate bug bites. Some people have no reaction to the bite, but others have bites that swell like a mosquito bite or turn red. Because the bite is noticeable and the pirate bug doesn’t fly quickly, the victim is usually able to successfully smash the offending insect.

Control of minute pirate bugs is not practical. Repellents are generally not effective, although some people have found applying baby oil or sun oil liberally to the skin may prevent some bites by coating the pirate bugs with oil.

Hackberry Lace Bugs
People who have hackberry trees in their neighborhood are familiar with hackberry lace bugs in the late summer. Hackberry lace bugs sometimes fall out of trees, land on people and bite, which, although painful, is a minor nuisance. No medical treatment is necessary.

The tops of the lace bug’s front wings, head and thorax are membranous, composed of many raised ridges which give a lace-like appearance, providing its common name. There are many species of lace bugs associated with specific trees.

The hackberry lace bug is about 1/18-inch long. Lace bugs feed by sucking juices from the leaves and cause bleeding of hackberry leaves. Lace bugs are more of an aesthetic problem on trees, rather than causing damage. Control is not practical.

Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collections

Residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County can bring household hazardous wastes to the following collection sites. These collections are for household only, not for businesses.

Friday, Sep. 23, 3-7 p.m. Shepherd of the Hills Church 6901 Panama Road, Hickman
Saturday, Sep. 24, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. 4021 North 56 Street
Saturday, Oct. 22, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. State Fair Park, 4-H Youth Complex

Items you can bring for disposal:
- HEAVY METALS: Items containing mercury such as thermometers and fluorescent bulbs.
- SOLVENTS: mineral spirits, turpentine, paint strippers, varnishes, stains, polishes, waxes.
- PESTICIDES: weed killers, garden sprays, wood preservatives, roach powder, pesticides. You may also bring banned products, like DDT, chlordane, 2,4,5-T, pentachlorophenol, silvex, PCP.
- ITEMS CONTAINING PCB’S: Ballasts from old fluorescent fixtures, small capacitors from old appliances including radios, motors and televisions.

Stay tuned for more information about Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collections. For more specific information, call the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at 441-8040.
Still Time to Control Musk Thistles

Musk thistles are relatively cold tolerant and continue to actively grow into November. Studies conducted at area universities in the Fall showed that 2,4-D applied after several nights of below 32° F temperature still gave good control of musk thistles. The trend-line for this test indicated musk thistle control began to decline rapidly in November after more than 11 days of below freezing temperatures.

Increasing the rate from one quart to 2 quarts of 2,4-D per acre did not significantly improve musk thistle control. In most situations it would be advantageous to combine lower rates of 2,4-D in combination with Tordon 22K, Ally or Banvel for more consistent results or a broader spectrum of weed control.

Since we have had a decent Fall so far, the thistles will still be very susceptible to the chemicals.

—Don Janssen, UNL Extension Educator

Illegal Water Wells Must be Decommissioned

At one time, the term “abandoned wells” was used to refer to wells that were not being used and were in a state of disrepair. Today, the term “illegal water wells” is used instead, which is actually the legal term for such wells.

Illegal water wells are in all 93 Nebraska counties. They penetrate all principal aquifers and vary considerably in construction and depth. Illegal wells represent a serious threat to human health and safety and to the overall quality of the state’s groundwater resources.

Threat to Groundwater

Groundwater normally is provided with some protection by a natural filter of soil, sand and gravel. Illegal and improperly constructed water wells are holes in that filter. Once the filter is gone, any surface runoff will flow directly down to the water-bearing zones, often carrying organic wastes, microbiological contaminants, fertilizers and other chemicals into and throughout the groundwater. Small mammals and reptiles can fall into the water wells, further adding to the bacteriological contamination problem.

After contaminants enter the groundwater supply they cannot be removed from the natural groundwater flow and may show up in public or private wells used to provide drinking water. Once groundwater is contaminated, it is difficult, if not impossible to clean up, and the process is always expensive. In addition, illegal wells are a safety hazard to humans and animals. A child can easily fall into a large diameter illegal well.

The Law

All illegal water wells must be decommissioned following requirements found in Title 178, Chapter 12, Regulations Governing Water Well Construction, Pump Installation and Water Well Decommissioning Standards of the Nebraska Health and Human Services System.

Decommissioning Process

Water well decommissioning must be carried out or supervised by an individual with a valid Nebraska Water Well Standards and Contractors license. The license may be that of water well contractor, water well drilling supervisor, pump installation contractor or pump installation supervisor. The only exception is that an individual may decommission a driven sand point well if it is on land owned by him or her and used by him or her for farming, ranching or agricultural purposes or is at his or her place of residence.

The Nebraska Health and Human Services System maintains a list of individuals with a valid license. Information can be obtained by contacting them at 471-0456.

Decommissioning an illegal well includes filling and capping the hole.

Upcoming Acreage Insights Clinics

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension is presenting a series of seminars entitled “Acreage Insights — Rural Living Clinics” to help acreage owners manage their rural living environment.

Pre-registration is $10 per person and must be received three working days before the program. Late registration is $15 per person. For more information or to register, contact extension at 441-7180 or go to the Acreage & Small Farm Insights Web site at http://acreage.unl.edu.

Grapes • Oct. 13

“Grapes” will be held Thursday, Oct. 13 from 7-9 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherryview Road in Lincoln. Steve Gamet, UNL Viticulture Technician, will discuss topics such as variety selection, the types of fencing and equipment needed for grapes, the economics of grape production, insect, disease and wildlife control for grapes, and the marketing of grapes to wineries. Steve will also answer your questions regarding grape production.

Woozy Florals • Nov. 10

“Woozy Florals” will be held Friday, Nov. 10 from 7-9 p.m. Can you really make a profit with these plants? Yes, you can! Join us for this presentation by the Nebraska Woody Florals group to learn the basics of this acreage enterprise, including planting species, planting and growing requirements, and marketing techniques. Marketing and sources of plant material will also be discussed.

Scrap Tire Collection Sept. 24 & 25

Individuals will have an opportunity to get rid of scrap tires that may have accumulated around your place. Tires (without the wheels) will be accepted Sept. 24 & 25 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Shoemaker Truck Stop, 48th and West O Street, Lincoln. Please have a count of the number of tires you are dropping off. Sorry, this opportunity is open to individuals only — the grant specifically prohibits tire dealers.

This program is funded through a grant from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and hosted by the Emerald Sanitary Improvement District Number 6. For more information, call 476-3590.

Tree and Landscape Maintenance Workshop, Sept. 29

The Nebraska Statewide Arboratum, the Nebraska Forest Service and University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension are cooperating to conduct a series of tree and landscape maintenance workshops across the state, including one at the UNL Agricultural Research Center near Mead on Sept. 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

The workshops are funded for anyone who helps plan or care for trees and important green spaces such as parks, school grounds, college campuses, fairgrounds, golf courses, cemeteries, acreages, etc. Professional CEUs offered for Certified Arborists, Turf Care Professionals, Park and Recreation Professionals.

The workshops will provide the latest information on such topics as weed identification, leaf identification, general landscape maintenance, basics of tree and shrub pruning, maintenance of landscape beds, effective mulching, and tips for growing trees and turf in harmony. The workshops will include indoor classroom, room sessions, outdoor tours and hands-on demonstrations.

Cost includes lunch and educational materials: $35 if received by Sept. 16, $50 after. For more information or registration form, call 472-2971 or go to http://arboretum.unl.edu.
Career Portfolios Replace Awards Books
Training on Oct. 27

As many of you know the old 4-H awards book has been replaced by a new 4-H Career Portfolio. By January 1, 2008 all 4-Hers applying for awards will have to be converted to the new system. To aid in this process, we are offering a training to teach you how and why to fill out the Career Portfolio. This training will take place Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center.

We encourage everyone to attend. We have many talented people in our county that should be recognized on the State and National level. If you have any questions regarding the new 4-H Career Portfolio or the training contact Deanna or Tracy at 441-7180.

4-H Trap Team Wins 1st Place in Senior–Novice Class at SCTP Nationals

The Lancaster County 4-H Trap Team competed in the National Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) shoot in Vandalia, Ohio on Aug. 9. The team placed 1st in the Senior Novice category — breaking 1,089 clays out of 1,125 total. The team consists of Nathan Thompson (Captain), Seth Davison, Justin Davison, Tyler Thompson, and Mike Veburg. This was Lancaster County’s first team to shoot at the SCTP competitions. Next year the team will be in the Senior Advanced category.

In June, the team qualified for the national shoot by placing 1st in the Novice category at the State SCTP shoot in Doniphon, Neb.

Submitted by Mike Veburg

“A Fair’s Over, Now What?” Volunteer Training, Sept. 29

Leaders, parents and interested volunteers are invited to attend this training Thursday, Sept. 29, 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. Discover how to complete the current 4-H year and how to prepare for the new 4-H year. Awards, project completion/selection and club reorganization will be covered. Bring your questions and ideas! You must RSVP by calling 441-7180 prior to Monday, Sept. 26.

4-H Teen Council Invites New Members, Next Meeting Oct. 9

The Lancaster County 4-H Teen Council is a leadership organization for youth in grades 7–12. Meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. The next meeting is Oct. 9. Call Tracy at 441-7180 for more information or to join!

Shooting Sports Reorganization Meeting Oct. 13

Mark your calendars for a Lancaster County Shooting Sports 4-H club reorganization meeting on Thursday, Oct. 13, 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherryreek Rd in Lincoln. This meeting will focus on the selection and club reorganization will be covered. Bring your questions and ideas! You must RSVP by calling 441-7180 prior to Monday, Sept. 26.

Livestock County Fair Review, Oct. 25

Everyone involved in the beef, sheep, swine, goat, dairy, llama and dog project areas at the Lancaster County Fair are invited to the 2005 Livestock County Fair Review meeting held Tuesday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center.

At this meeting we will make corrections and additions to the Fair Book and schedule. Hot topics will be discussed in the swine area — we need to determine if the show should be terminal or non-terminal. If you have any questions, please call Deanna at 441-7180.

Reminder to Pick Up Fair Projects

There are still county and state fair projects, comment sheets and ribbons that need to be picked up at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. If you have not done so yet, please pick up your projects.

4-H Award Nominations Due Oct. 31

Nominations are needed for the following awards. Application forms are available at the extension office.

4-H Meritorious Service — presented to individuals or organizations which have exhibited consistent and strong support of the 4-H program. 4-H members are not eligible.

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

1 Dare You Youth Leadership Award — awarded on behalf of the American Youth Foundation (AYF) to high school juniors or seniors who strive to achieve their personal best and make a positive difference in their community. Two members will be selected from Lancaster County.

Lancaster County 4-H Council provides award recipient with a hardbound copy of William H. Danforth’s book, I Dare You!

Winners also receive a $300 scholarship to attend one of AYF’s national 7-day Leadership Conferences.

4-H Scholarships Due Oct. 31

The Lancaster County 4-H program offers a variety of scholarships. Deadline is Oct. 31. Information and applications are available at the extension office or online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h. If you have questions, contact Deanna Karmazin at 441-7180.

COLLEGE

The following college scholarships for the 2006–07 school year are available to high school seniors active in 4-H:

4-H Council—awards six $500 scholarships
Lincoln Center Kiwanis—awards two $2,000 scholarships.
Teen Council—awards two scholarships to 4-Hers who are active in Teen Council and help with at least one major fundraiser.
Lance Scholarship—awards one $200 scholarship to a 4-H attending Raymond Central High School.

4-H Camp

The following scholarship goes toward attending 4-H summer camp(s):

Joyce Vahle Memorial Scholarship—awards one $100 scholarship to a youth age 8–14. Applicants should currently be, or have been, enrolled in at least one sewing project.
State Fair Results

Congratulations to the Lancaster County 4-H members who showcased their talents at the Nebraska State Fair this year! Out of the many events, these are the Top Award winners and Rainbow Ribbon Recognition recipients. Rainbow Ribbon Recognition is given to unique entries that have used special details — these may or may not be top placing items. Complete results are online at http://4h.unl.edu.

**FLORICULTURE**
- **Top Rose**
  - Kyle Pedersen

**DOGS**
- **Beginning Dog Showmanship Champion**
  - Renae Rathsack

**DAIRY CATTLE**
- **Special Dairy Production Award - Milk and Protein**
  - Carmen Claassen

**DAIRY GOATS**
- **Alpine Junior Champion; Oberhasli Senior Champion; Saanen Junior Champion**
  - Emily Henshaw

**RAINBOW RIBBON RECOGNITION**
- **Photography Unit III - Formal Portrait**
  - Hannah Beiermann
- **Child Development - Toy made for Preschooler**
  - Britni Waller
- **Photography Unit II - Framing & Leading Line**
  - Kyle Pedersen
- **Floriculture - Rose**
  - Erica Peterson
- **Heritage - Other Family Exhibits**
  - Abby Spencer
- **Fast Foods - Coffee Cake**
  - Kyle Pedersen

**Horticulture Contest**
- **Tree Identification**
  - Lancaster County Team
  - 2nd place
  - Individual Placings
  - 3rd place: Carmen Claassen
  - 5th place: Kyle Pedersen

**Horticulture Judging**
- Intermediate Division
  - Kyle Pedersen
  - 4th place
  - Brittany Weller
  - 10th place

**Presentations Contest**
- **Outstanding Presentation Award**
  - Abigail Gabel
- **Excellence Award**
  - Mary Henshaw

**Combined Training Event, Oct. 22**

The Sevillians 4-H Club and Legacy Equestrian Center are hosting a “Flying Into Fall” Combined Training event at Wranglers showground, 4300 S. Coddington Ave., Lincoln. The event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 22 beginning at 8 a.m. This event is intended to provide a safe, fun introduction to the Combined Training format. This day-long event, only in a one-day format — there is a dressage phase, a cross-country jumping phase and then show jumping (these will be baby jumps, although you can expect some pumpkins and flowers along the way). There will be a Tadpole, Baby-Green and Pre-Novice division with riders further divided into juniors and adults.

Come on out and show support for Combined Training in Nebraska. For more information or entry forms, contact Sherry Parsons at sherry@neb.rr.com. Entry forms can also be obtained from the extension office. Closing date on entries is Oct. 12.

State Fair Results
4-H & Youth

**National 4-H Week 2005**

**Karen Rutt**
Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Karen Rutt as winner of October’s “Heart of 4-H Award” in recognition of outstanding volunteer service. Karen was nominated for the award by Jo Fujan who said, “Karen has been a strong supporter of 4-H in Lancaster County for many years. She truly exhibits the “heart of 4-H.””

Karen has volunteered for Lancaster County 4-H in many capacities over the past 12 years:
- Organizational leader of the Fantastic 4-H Club for five years
- 4-H Council member and treasurer for six years, serving on food booth and budget committees.
- Co-superintendent of Clothing areas at County Fair
- Co-superintendent of Table Setting Contest at County Fair
- Co-superintendent of Style Revue Contest at County Fair
- Helped with 4-H Teen Council and annual Teen Dance
- Sponsor of 2005 Citizenship Washington Focus trip to D.C.

In addition, Karen has volunteered in the 4-H areas at the Nebraska State Fair for seven years.

“I like being a 4-H volunteer because I get to work with children of all ages and I get to work with other great volunteers,” said Karen. “My favorite experience is seeing the faces of the children when they talk to the judges or just showing off what they made to their friends and family. I also enjoy seeing kids from different schools all becoming friends.”

Karen lives in Lincoln with her husband Robert. Their daughters, Jami and Jaci, are 4-H alumni (Jami was a 4-H intern this summer). Karen grew up in a 4-H family in Scottsbluff showing sheep, hogs, beef, clothing, food and craft projects. Her parents were 4-H leaders and served on 4-H Council and local Fair Board.

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

Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer by submitting the form available at the extension office or online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/. Nominations of co-volunteers welcome.
Grants for Tree Planting and Landscaping Projects

Tree planting and landscape enhancements for public spaces can give a boost from a grant program coordinated by the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and Nebraska Forest Service.

The Nebraska Community Enhancement Program funds tree planting and landscaping that improves the state’s transportation corridors including public streets, highways, entryways and trails. This can involve parks, schools, fairgrounds, college campuses, libraries, courthouses, hospitals, welcome signs and other public properties.

“The funding assistance is meant to help communities develop landscapes that reflect and enhance the beauty of Nebraska,” said Sue Kohles, special projects coordinator for Nebraska Statewide Arboretum.

The Community Enhancement Program is funded by the Transportation Enhancement Program of the Nebraska Department of Roads. It is an 80 percent/20 percent matching grant program with a maximum funding award of $20,000 per project. The application deadline is Nov. 14; funding awards will be announced by January 2006.

One of the goals of Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and the grant program is to create long-term, sustainable projects that include diverse plants and encourage environmentally sound landscape practices, Kohles said.

“We hope that these projects not only improve the landscape of Nebraska roadways, but also provide an example for others and contribute to the health and viability of Nebraska communities,” she said.

The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and Nebraska Forest Service, both headquartered at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, have worked together for more than 20 years to improve Nebraska’s community forests. During that time, they have distributed in excess of $6 million to 220 Nebraska communities.

For applications or more information, go online to http://arboretum.unl.edu or contact Kohles at 472-2971.

Holiday Gifts Needed for LPS Headstart

A good community service project for the holidays is helping the less fortunate by providing gifts for the Lincoln Public Schools Headstart Program. This program is in need of over 500 gifts for children birth to 5-years old.

Lancaster County Extension and an application can be obtained from the Lancaster County Extension office located at 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528-1507, or phone 441-7180. Applications are available at http://interlinc.ci.lincoln.ne.us/cnty/commiss/boardapp.pdf.

FREE SPEECH

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Speakers Bureau

Not much is free nowadays, but the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Speakers Bureau can offer you something free—Free Speech! Need a speaker for your organization or club or perhaps your classroom? The Speakers Bureau invites you to select from a diverse selection of topics this year. University faculty and staff have a wide range of expertise to share with you through their presentations.

The Speakers Bureau is now in its 11th year and continues to be one of the University’s most visible and successful efforts in reaching the citizens of Nebraska. When you need an informative and entertaining speaker with an intriguing topic, think of the Speakers Bureau.

Most speakers will be available on a year-round basis, while others are available during the academic year only. Note that availability of speakers is limited during December and early January. By planning for a program soon, you will have the best selection of topics and speakers.

To request and schedule a speaker, call (402) 472-0088 or go to http://www.unl.edu/pr/speakers. All efforts will be made to accommodate your request.

2005-2006 Speakers

<table>
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<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>CHARLYNE BERENS</td>
<td>Associate Professor of Journalism and Mass Communications</td>
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<tr>
<td>PATRICE BERGER</td>
<td>Professor of History, Director, University Honors Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONALD F. COSTELLO</td>
<td>Senior Lecturer, Computer Science and Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERT F. DINFORD JR.</td>
<td>Professor Emeritus, Conservation and Survey Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEANNA EVERSOLL</td>
<td>Director of Other Lifelong Learning Grant, College of Education and Human Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAVID FEINGOLD</td>
<td>Assistant General Manager, Content, Nebraska Educational Telecommunications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAVID FOWLER</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Mathematics Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENNIS LEBLANC</td>
<td>Associate Athletic Director for Academic and Student Affairs, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PETER LEVITOV</td>
<td>UHL International Affairs &amp; Immigration Attorney, NU Central Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAREN S. MILLER</td>
<td>Registered Dietitian and Nutrition Educator, University Health Center and Campus Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>JACK OLIVA</td>
<td>Dean, Horace Lloyd College of Fine and Performing Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>WES PETERSON</td>
<td>Professor of Agricultural Economics, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>THOMAS POWERS</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Plant Pathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAUL E. READ</td>
<td>Professor of Horticulture and Viticulture</td>
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<tr>
<td>LARRY ROUTH</td>
<td>Director of Career Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>JOHN RUPNOW</td>
<td>Professor, Food Science and Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>RICHARD SINCOVEC</td>
<td>Head Professor and Chair, Computer Science and Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>GREG SNOW</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROBERT R. TOVADO</td>
<td>Cadet and Commander, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps</td>
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</tbody>
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American Ragtime and the Music Business in the Early 20th Century

Public Notice

The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners seek members of the community to serve on the Lancaster County Extension Board. The vacancies will be filled in terms beginning in January 2006.

Extension Board members represent and assist University of Nebraska Extension staff in Lancaster County with priority issue areas that include Agricultural Profitability and Sustainability; Children, 4-H Youth and Families; Food Safety, Health and Wellness, strengthening Nebraska Communities and Water Quality; and the Board meets monthly.

Registered Lancaster County voters interested in serving in the upcoming year should complete an application. Applications should be submitted no later than November 1, 2005. Additional information and an application can be obtained from the Lancaster County Extension office located at 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528-1507, or phone 441-7180. Online applications are available at http://interlinc.ci.lincoln.ne.us/cnty/commiss/boardapp.pdf.

In Defense of America

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Drying Grain

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High air temperatures and uneven moisture content within the kernel result in a much higher incidence of stress cracks in the kernels. Stress cracks created in the dryer result in a much higher percentage of broken kernels upon subsequent grain handling as compared to in-bin drying.

A variation using high capacity dryers is known as dryeration. Dryeration is the name given to a system where hot grain is removed from the dryer a point or two above desired storage moisture then transferred to a bin where it is allowed to temper for four to six hours before starting the fan for final drying and cooling. The final one or two points of moisture are easily removed in the process of cooling the grain because the moisture deep inside the kernels has had time to redistribute during the tempering period. This method of grain drying increases the capacity of the dryer and results in higher quality grain with fewer stress cracks than drying followed by rapid cooling.

Another intermediate system using both the high temperature dryer and in-bin aeration is called combination drying. With combination drying, you “take the edge off” high moisture corn by drying to 20–22% with the high temp–high speed dryer and then the grain is moved hot to a bin where the aeration fan can push at least two cfm/bu of unheated air through the grain mass to complete drying and to cool the grain. This cuts the reliance on heat and decreases the load on the high temp dryer even more than drying. It also cuts the energy cost if the heating fuel is the higher cost energy source.

As stated in the lead paragraph, the grain drying method chosen often is a trade-off between time and money. The bottleneck for many farming operations at harvest is time. However, when energy costs are escalating at the current rate, perhaps it is time to consider spending some time to save energy cost.

Reverse Mortgages Seminar, Oct. 20

A free seminar, “Dispelling the Myths of Reverse Mortgages,” will be held Thursday, Oct. 20, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Salmon Pines, 3001 Lake Road, Lincoln. If you have ever thought any of the following were true, this seminar is for you.

Myth #1: The lender will take ownership of the home.

Myth #2: A senior’s Social Security and Medicare payments will be affected.

Myth #3: The reverse mortgage is a risky loan that costs too much.

Myth #4: Seniors should get a home equity loan or move in with a reverse mortgage.

Myth #5: The children or heirs will be personally liable for repayment of reverse mortgage.

This seminar is specifically designed to address a diverse audience and will be beneficial to financial planners, attorneys, customers, senior housing providers, caregivers, advocates of the senior population, lenders and real estate professionals. Morning refreshments and lunch are provided. This program is being hosted by Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Financial Freedom and Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Nebraska. To register or for more information go to http://www.cccs.org or call Maggie or Linda at 484-7290.
Science Bucks

Commonly Held Belief

About Why Leaves Fall

Shorter days, not frost or low temperatures, is the main reason trees lose their leaves each fall.

As day length shortens in the fall, chemical changes take place in the leaf stalk. Where the leaf stalk and twig join, conducting vessels, which transport food and water between the leaf and other parts of the tree, become blocked. Then an abscission layer forms. The substance binding the two parts together breaks down and the leaf is easily separated from the tree by fall rains or wind.

Leaf drop is governed by Mother Nature and each tree species responds differently. For instance, black walnut and green ash are among the first to drop their leaves. However, oak, linden and maple trees commonly hold their leaves late into fall. Some trees, such as red oak and pin oak, may retain their leaves all winter even though the leaves are dry and dead.

Trees kept warm artificially will still lose their leaves as day length shortens. However, trees lighted artificially, for time periods corresponding to summer day length, will retain their leaves long after temperatures have dropped to wintry levels.

No one knows for sure why seasonal behavior is more a response to light than to other environmental conditions. Perhaps the reason is simply that most seasonal changes, such as temperature or rainfall, may vary from year to year, while the hours of daylight are not governed by climatic factors. Day length is the result of the regular movement of the earth around the sun and does not vary from year to year.

Source: Dennis Adams, forester, NUBAFR

Pine Wilt Symptoms

Appearing Around Lincoln

When a pine dies suddenly, especially a Scots pine, pine wilt is a leading suspect. Pine wilt is caused by the pine wood nematode which is moved from infested to non-infested pine trees by the pine sawyer beetle.

The most noticeable symptoms appear in mid to late summer when the greatest need for moisture is required, and blocked by the nematodes in the resin canals. In a matter of six to eight weeks the tree becomes a dull green, to yellow, and finally brown.

Currently, no chemicals are available to control the nematode or the beetle.

To limit the spread of pine wilt to nearby healthy trees, diseased trees must be removed and destroyed before the beetles emerge from the wood. Pine sawyers are inactive in winter, so if you find dead trees after October 1, they do not need immediate removal, but they must be removed and burned, buried, or chipped by May 1.

For more information about pine wilt, go to http://lancaster.unl.edu.

Danielle Fenster’s Photo Selected by 4-H Foundation

Lancaster County 4-H member Danielle Fenster’s photograph “Bronco Rider” was one of 15 photographs chosen by the trustees of the Nebraska 4-H Foundation for promotion in the upcoming year. In past years, the foundation has published a calendar and photo note cards.

Nebraska 4-H Foundation is a private sector partner of University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension 4-H, dedicated to seeking and managing contributions that will best meet the needs and advance the interests of Nebraska 4-H Club work and maintain 4-H camps and centers for instructive and recreational purposes. For more information, go to http://4h.unl.edu/foundation.

Public Asked to Vote on Egg Artistry Contest Entries

Eleven Nebraska artists have submitted entries in the 12th annual egg artistry contest sponsored by the Poultry and Egg Division of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

The public can view the eggs and vote for their favorite one at the University of Nebraska State Museum (Morrill Hall) on the UNL City Campus (14th & U Streets) in Lincoln. The eggs will be on display until Oct. 3. Museum hours are: Mondays through Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sundays from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

You may also view and vote on the contestants’ eggs on the Nebraska Department of Agriculture’s Web site at http://www.nebraskapoultry.org/photos/egg/06contest.htm.

Eggs are to be judged based on the best depiction of the state of Nebraska. The winning egg will be taken by the American Egg Board, along with other state submissions, to Washington, D.C. to be on display at the White House during Easter, 2006. A Nebraska artist will have his or her work viewed by the President of the United States and White House visitors.

For more information about the egg artistry display, contact Mary Torell at the Poultry and Egg Division at 472-0752.

Can You Guess It?

Did you guess it from the September Nazarea? The answer was Pyemotes itch mites feeding on oak leaf gall maggots.

“Make It Yourself with Wool” Entries Due Oct. 31

The 2005 “Make It Yourself with Wool” will feature one state contest instead of district competitions. It will be held Nov. 18-19 at UNL East Campus. Garments must be made of wool fabric (or blends made with a minimum of 60 percent wool). Entry fee is $5 for Pre-Teens and $10 for Juniors, Seniors and Adults. Entry forms are due Oct. 31. For an entry form and more information contact Tracy at 441-7180.

U.S. Drought Monitor Map

As of Sept. 6, Lancaster County was in moderate drought conditions.