Local Dairy Entrepreneurs Are Filling Market Niches

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

High grain prices have brought about unprecedented increases in land values and cash rental rates and have been seen as a windfall for cash grain producers. The other side of the story, and one that doesn’t make the headlines as often, is the negative effect high energy and grain prices have had on the meat animal feeding and dairy industries. I interviewed two dairy producers in southeastern Nebraska who have taken the initiative to develop value-added products to market for consumers. This is their story.

Legacy Dairy and Creamery

Dairy farmers Rex DeFrain and Jerry Bond joined forces in 2007 to produce and sell their own liquid milk products under the brand name Legacy Milk. They presently supply product to 45 grocery stores plus three coffee houses in 14 towns from Omaha to Kearney. I interviewed Debbie DeFrain at the Legacy Milk bottling plant in Hallam. The following dialouge is excerpted from the interview.

Q. Why did you decide to start your own liquid milk company?
A. Our two dairies are both small by today’s standards. We milk 120 to 150 cows at the How-de (DeFrain) Dairy near Fairbury and the Bond family dairy milks 60 to 80 cows at their Bonderosa Dairy near Avoca. We were getting squeezed out by the big dairies that relocated in Nebraska from other states. We simply couldn’t survive on the milk price we were being offered and the cost to haul our milk to the milk company was getting so expensive, it was eating up much of potential for profit. We decided to apply for a block grant to start up our own business to fill a niche in the liquid milk market. We received the block grant in 2007 which has made it possible for us to build Legacy Dairy and Creamery in Hallam.

Q. What do you consider to be your market niche?
A. We sell high-quality liquid milk from cows not fed any hormones. Our milk is sold in environmentally-sustain able returnable glass bottles. We believe glass bottles give us many advantages beyond the environmental aspects. Glass does a better job of protecting the milk from oxidation than plastic milk jugs. Milk must stay cold to remain fresh. Our thick glass bottles hold the cold better than plastic when sitting on a pallet in the back of a grocery store waiting to be put in the dairy case. This extends the shelf life of the milk. Large milk companies not only remove butter fat from the raw milk, they remove some of the other milk solids as well. We do not remove any of the milk solids other than butter fat. We are told, our milk tastes better and we believe it is better for you.

Besides selling the usual choices (whole milk, two percent, one percent and skim milk), we have found a market niche with our flavored milk products. The list includes chocolate, strawberry, root beer, vanilla, cotton candy, monkey milk (banana) and several others. We use only natural flavors. Natural flavors are more expensive than artificial flavors but we are after the higher-end market and you certainly can tell the difference in taste.

Q. Are you marketing all of the milk you produce on your two farms through Legacy Dairy?
A. Yes, our own and more. Last year we have started buying some milk from a third small dairy to meet the demand for our products.

Q. What research did you do before deciding to start your business?
A. We got help from Bellevue University with our market research and the College of St. Mary helped us on an economic feasibility study. We have done demos and passed out taste samples at grocery stores. Perhaps the best market research we could have done was to have a sales booth at the 2007 Nebraska State Fair. We sold 4,800 pints of flavored milk in three days before we ran out of product. Some of our best repeat customers were the folks from the other food stands.

Q. Are you looking into producing any new products?
A. Yes, we are exploring the possibility of making cheese, butter and flavored butter.

Q. What three pieces of advice would you give to other entrepreneurs wanting to break into the food market?
A. 1. Go for the high-end market and produce a better quality product than any of your competitors. 2. Diversify or die. 3. Listen to your customers and give the kind of service only small owner-run companies can give.

Jisa Farmstead Cheese

Dave Jisa farms nearly 2,000 acres and operates a 300 head dairy in rural Butler County. Jisa began making and marketing his own brand name cheese a little over three years ago. Jisa Farmstead Cheese can be found in regional Hy-Vee and Bakers supermarkets and is carried by numerous locally-owned grocery stores in southeast Nebraska. I recently interviewed Mr. Jisa on his farm.

Q. How did you become interested in producing cheese?
A. My wife’s family has been in the cheese business for many years. Her brother is still running a cheese plant. So I have been somewhat familiar with cheese making for a long time. I had a good friend and mentor when I was about 18 years old and he was about 80.

see Jisa Cheese on page 12
Effect of Fuel Price Increase on Production Costs

Table 1 presents the estimated fuel use for different power units, based on estimates in the Minnesota publication. Table 2 presents estimates of fuel use for field operations. Note: The fuel use per acre for field operations is independent of implement use.

Most farmers, however, don’t track fuel consumption by field operation and need a research-based estimate to compute the effect of a price increase on overall production costs. A good reference for fuel use estimates is Minnesota Farm Machinery Economic Cost Estimates for 2008. Table 1 presents the estimated fuel use for different power units, based on estimates in the Minnesota publication. Table 2 presents estimates of fuel use for field operations. Note: The fuel use per acre for field operations is independent of implement use. The following procedure is recommended for both two- and three-disks analysis (with a 20-foot width and the other with a 30-foot width), it would take 50% more power to pull the 30-foot disk (assuming the same travel speed, depth, etc.) but since the disk would be tilling 50% more acres per hour, the fuel use per acre would be the same for either scenario.

Data for Table 1 are taken from Minnesota Farm Machinery Economic Cost Estimates for 2008, by William Lazarus, Extension Economist, University of Minnesota. This publication is available online at http://www.agronomy.cornell.edu/pubs/.

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<tr>
<td>1.9 fl.-oz. x 29.6 milliliters (ml)</td>
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<td>1.60</td>
<td>6.40</td>
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How to Measure Small Quantities of Pesticide

You can measure small quantities of pesticides using a number of different measuring devices. These common examples are:

- A measuring cup (dedicate a measuring cup for garage use only. Never use the same cup that is used for cooking.)
- A tablespoon (Tbsp) (If you will be measuring pesticides from the silo or drawer, check your volume by pouring water from a measuring spoon to the spoon designated for pesticides to check the actual volume.)
- A disposable syringe calibrated in milliliters (These are sold at veterinary supply and farm supply stores). This is my personal favorite because you suck chemical into the syringe instead of pouring chemical from the bottle to an open measure which can spill on your hands or clothes. A syringe accurately measures any volume up to its full capacity.

The calculations below demonstrate how to compute the chemical needed for our example using three fluid volume measuring devices:

- 1.9 fl.-oz. / 8 fl.-oz. / Cup = 0.24 Cup per tank. Add just under 1/4 cup of product per tank.
- 1.9 fl.-oz. x 2 Tbsp per ounce = 0.38 Tbsp. Add just under 4/5 Tbsp per tank.
- 1.9 fl.-oz. x 296 milliliters (ml) / fl.-oz. = 56.2 ml. Add just over 56 ml per tank.

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<tr>
<th>Chemical to Add to the Tank</th>
<th>Gallons per Acre</th>
<th>Cost/acre</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anhydrous Applicator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rotary Hoe</td>
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<th>TILLAGE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Till Planter</td>
<td>$0.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Drill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prusselweed Drill</td>
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<tr>
<td>No-Till Drill</td>
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<td>275 HP</td>
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Practice Water Conservation to Lengthen Septic System Life

Jan Hygnstrom
UNL Project Manager and Sharon Skipton
UNL Water Quality Educator

Conserving water to reduce the amount of wastewater that needs to be treated and distributing water flow to the septic tank over an extended period of time, will extend the life of a system. Wastewater should remain in the septic tank long enough, at least 24 hours, for heavy solids to settle out, forming sludge and light solids to float to the top, forming scum. Except immediately after pumping, a septic tank contains wastewater to its full capacity at all times. As a gallon of wastewater flows into the tank from the house, a gallon of effluent flows out of the tank into the drainfield. If wastewater moves in and out of the tank too rapidly due to constant flow for extended periods of time or heavy water flow at any given time, solids remain suspended in the wastewater and may move with the effluent out of the tank and into the drainfield. Solids can clog a drainfield, decreasing its ability to treat wastewater. This can lead to costly repairs or even replacement. Conserve water and spread out water usage by following these suggestions:

• Wash dishes in the sink, turn off faucet in between use.
• Install low-flow water fixtures, low-volume toilets and low-water-use appliances when they need replacing.
• Check for and repair leaky faucets, toilets and other leaks in the plumbing system. Leaks can account for almost 15 percent of all wastewater that goes into a septic system.
• Take short showers.
• Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth or shaving.

If purchasing a water softening unit, select one with demand-initiated regeneration. These types of units automatically determine when to regenerate by keeping track of the number of gallons of water used by measuring the change in the electrical conductivity of the resin bed or by sensing a change in water hardness. These regenerate and use water based on when the system needs it, rather than on a set time schedule. Most people find that a demand-installed system regenerates less frequently than one with a timer.

Most biting flies bite in still air. Increasing air movement in porches, patios and picnic areas will keep biting flies away, but will not usually provide complete protection. Burning candles, coils and torches containing citronella or other biting fly repellent will sometimes help reduce bites. Burning these items produces a smoke which repels biting insects. Most biting flies bite on low vegetation until they detect a host. Screening porches, mowing weedy areas and opening up the environment for air flow will reduce numbers of biting flies in an area.

Despite all efforts, biting flies may still be a problem. If biting flies get inside the house, space sprays can be applied to kill them. Remove all people and pets from rooms, turn off air handling systems, apply the product according to label directions and wait about 10-15 minutes before reentering the room. Keep room vacant as long as the label recommends.

Control of Biting Flies

P. G. Koehler
University of Florida
Professor/Extension Entomologist

Many of the biting flies, like black flies, horse flies and deer flies breed in water or in mucky areas near ponds and swamps. Consequently, it is very difficult for individuals to attempt control of these biting flies by reducing breeding sites. Stable flies breed in decaying grass or crop clippings, hay residues and sludge. Because they are extremely strong fliers, the source of the infestation may be located up to several hundred miles away. Therefore, stable flies usually cannot be controlled by individuals.

Many biting flies are active at certain times. Avoid outdoor activity during these peak biting times. Horse flies, deer flies, black flies and stable flies are usually most active during the day. Most of the biting flies are also most active in late August through October or November. Deer flies and black flies are most prevalent in early to late spring. Stable flies are most abundant in late August through October or November. If it is necessary to go outdoors into areas where biting flies are prevalent, wear protective clothing. Long sleeved shirts, long pants will protect arms, legs and head from bites. If necessary, apply a repellent labeled for biting fly protection. Apply products according to label directions. Reapply as needed and as recommended on the label. Most repellents do not work as well for biting flies as they do for mosquitoes; therefore, they have to be reapplied more often.

Don’t Mistake Blossom End Rot for Mold on Tomatoes

Kim Todd
UNL Landscape Horticulture Specialist

Late spring and early summer are common times for garden plants, such as tomatoes and peppers, to develop signs of blossom end rot. As a result, gardeners should be cautious not to overlook sunken, blackened areas of mold because they may be indicators of a more serious problem. Blossom end rot is a physiological disorder caused by calcium deficiencies in plants. The signs of the disorder commonly occur on the first fruits of each growing season. Irregular, sunken black spots will appear near the plant blossom and often lead to fruit that is mushy and flat. Blossom end rot may eventually destroy the entire fruit. Once it has established itself, it cannot be treated.

Blossom end rot is not a mold itself. However, it can contribute to the growth of mold on fruit. In the presence of moisture, mold will grow near a lesion where blossom end rot has already weakened a plant. To prevent blossom end rot, it is important to prevent the tie-up of calcium in the soil. Providing a consistent moisture supply and maintaining pH levels from 6.5 to 7 are good methods of ensuring the plant will receive enough calcium and other important nutrients.
Add “Star” Appeal to Fruit Dishes

Sprinkle your fruit dishes with “stars” to add “star” appeal. Use a star-shaped ice cube tray to form the stars. The stars in this picture were made by using a food processor to mix two parts fruit (fresh or frozen) to one part flavored yogurt. Don’t worry about overestimating the amount you’ll need to make — any remaining mixture makes a good snack! If necessary, stop the food processor occasionally to push the mixture down the sides.

Fill ice cube tray with mixture. Freeze until firm, about 3 hours. Stars maintain their shape best if left in the ice cube tray until served. Cover with plastic wrap and freezer foil after they are frozen, if you plan to use them a day or so later. Stars don’t pop out of the ice cube trays right away, let them sit a minute or so to warm slightly and loosen.

Experiment with different fruit and yogurt combinations. Pineapple and vanilla-flavored yogurt would make attractive white stars to toss in with a mixture of red and blue berries for the Fourth of July. Several shapes in addition to stars are available in local stores and Internet sites selling kitchen wares.

Frozen Fudge Bars

(Makes 8 bars, 4 ounces each)

| 4 cups water | 3/4 cup granulated sugar | 3 tablespoons flour |
| 1 tablespoon cornstarch | 1/4 teaspoon salt | 3 tablespoons cocoa |
| 2 cups (1 pint) dry milk powder | 1/2 teaspoon vanilla |

Put water in medium sauce pan and bring to a boil. While water is heating, measure sugar, flour, cornstarch, salt, cocoa and milk powder in a medium bowl and mix well. When water boils, add the milk/cocoa mixture and beat well. Adjust heat so mixture simmers and cook for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and add vanilla. Pour into molds or small cups and insert a handle or spoon. Freeze.

Amy Peterson, MS, RD and Alice Henneman, MS, RD
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Educators

Farmers’ Markets offer a variety of fresh, locally produced fruits, vegetables, bakery and meat products in a festive atmosphere. Visit your local Farmers’ Markets and check out the many locally produced foods, such as those shown here. Keep the farm-fresh flavor at its peak with the following tips:

- Go directly home from the market! Avoid side trips. Foods will decline in quality and perishable foods like meats and eggs can pose food safety problems if left sitting in your car.
- Different fruits and vegetables require different temperature and humidity levels for proper storage. Some foods that taste best stored at room temperature include: melons, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes and winter squashes. Store them in a clean, dry, well-ventilated place, away from direct sunlight and away from areas where meat is prepared.
- Some produce can be ripened on the counter and then stored in the refrigerator. Examples include: nectarines, peaches, pears and plums. Avoid placing produce in a sealed plastic bag on your countertop. This slows ripening and may increase off-odors and decay from the accumulation of carbon dioxide and depletion of oxygen inside the bag.
- Refrigerate fruits and vegetables in perforated plastic bags to help maintain moisture yet provide air flow. Unperforated plastic bags can lead to the growth of mold or bacteria. If you don’t have access to commercial, food-grade, perforated bags, use a sharp object to make several small holes in a food-grade plastic bag (about 20 holes per medium-size bag).
- Wash produce thoroughly. Wash produce before you use it, NOT just before preparing or eating. Fresh produce has a natural protective coating that helps keep in moisture and freshness. Washing produce before storage causes it to spoil faster. Remove and discard outer leaves. Rinse under clean, running water just before preparing or eating. Don’t use soap or detergent as it can get into produce and make you sick. Rub briskly — scrubbing with a clean brush or hands — to clean the surface. Dry with a clean cloth or paper towel.

$retch Your Food Dollar by Using Dry Milk

Dry milk is a nutritious, convenient and economical alternative to fresh milk. Powdered milk contains calcium, protein, vitamin A and vitamin D. It is also low in fat and cholesterol. Using powdered milk costs 20 percent less than fresh milk. This is a savings of over 70 cents a gallon.

Dry powdered milk is easily reconstituted by mixing 1/3 cup with 1 cup water to equal 1 cup. The milk can be used for drinking or baking. The taste of reconstituted milk improves when the mixture is chilled well. Add milk powder to increase nutrition in cream soups, cereal, beverages and yogurt.

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Frozen Fudge Bars

(Makes 8 bars, 4 ounces each)

| 4 cups water | 3/4 cup granulated sugar | 3 tablespoons flour |
| 1 tablespoon cornstarch | 1/4 teaspoon salt | 3 tablespoons cocoa |
| 2 cups (1 pint) dry milk powder | 1/2 teaspoon vanilla |

Put water in medium sauce pan and bring to a boil. While water is heating, measure sugar, flour, cornstarch, salt, cocoa and milk powder in a medium bowl and mix well. When water boils, add the milk/cocoa mixture and beat well. Adjust heat so mixture simmers and cook for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and add vanilla. Pour into molds or small cups and insert a handle or spoon. Freeze.
The Mary Torell, Public Information Officer Poultry on the surface of the moon America. It stands proudly proud history, it was at the lead of every battle fought in America. It proudly on the surface of the moon.

June is busting out all over, so the song goes. Be sure you get your flag out to celebrate and show your respect for our independence on June 14, Flag Day. Our flag has a proud history, it was at the lead of every battle fought in America. It stands proudly on the surface of the moon.

FCE News & Events

The June Council meeting will be Monday, June 23, 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Tonya Bernadt will present a program, “Going Green.” The business meeting will follow. Entries for the Heritage Skills Contest should be brought to this meeting. Categories are hand stitchery, visual arts, creative writing (no poetry) and holiday articles. All FCE members are invited to attend.

Southeast District FCE Meeting — Women Extra Ordinaire

Southeast District FCE members enjoyed a fun and educational meeting on April 23 at the Lancaster Education Center. Janet Broer, Southeast District Director planned the hands-on omelet making brunch and program. Everyone went away with new ideas from networking with other members.

Presidents’ Notes—Bonnie’s Bits

Bonnie Krueger
FCE Council Chair

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Mrs. Albery, State FCE President speaks to Southeast District FCE members.

Mary Torell, Public Information Officer Poultry & Egg Division, Nebraska Department of Agriculture demonstrates making omelets.

Twyla Lidolph, Lancaster County FCE member tells about her many quilting projects.

June is Home Safety Month—Tips for creating a safer home

Home-related injuries result in nearly 20,000 deaths and 21 million medical visits on average each year. Families can take steps to create a safer home environment and prevent such leading hazards as falls, fires, burns and poisonings. Here are a few suggestions:

• Keep stairs and pathways clear of clutter.
• Promptly wipe up spills and splashed bath water.
• Test the temperature of your hot water. If it is higher than 120°F, turn down the water heater dial.
• Keep all household products in their original packages. Packaging includes useful first aid information in the event of accidental exposure or ingestion.
• Keep all medicines, including vitamins, in their original, childproof containers and store them high up out of children’s reach. Discard all medications and prescriptions that have expired.

• Install child-safe locks on cabinets where you keep cleaning supplies and medicines. Never assume a cabinet is too high for a curious, climbing toddler.
• Check all smoke alarms to make sure they are in working order.
• Don’t leave cleaning buckets unattended. Even those with a small amount of liquid pose a danger to “top-heavy” toddlers. If the child falls into a bucket, it may not tip over and he or she could drown. Even the water in the toilet can be a hazard to toddlers, so make sure all family members remember to close the lid.
• Place throw rugs over a rug liner or choose rugs with non-slip backs to reduce your chance of falling.
• Post the Poison Control Center phone number (1-800-222-1222) by every land phone in your home and save it on your cell phone.

Lancaster County Association for Family and Community Education presents

SIZZLING SUMMER SAMPLER

Thursday, July 10 • 6 to 9 p.m.
Light Supper at 6 p.m.
Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Rd, Lincoln

Cost $10. Make checks payable to FCE Council.
Send reservations and check by July 1 to: Clarice Steffens, 11804 S. 5 Street, Roca, NE 68430

Program

YESTERDAY’S LADY “Back to the Beach”
Victorian through the ‘60s styles presented by Susan McLain

SHOW N TELL — Bring vintage clothing, swim wear, etc.

by Lorene Bartos, UNL Extension Educator

Go Green—Clean with Vinegar

• Spray a mix of half white vinegar and half water onto soap scum in showers and bathtubs, leave sit then wipe or rinse off.
• Use as a fabric softener by adding half the amount of vinegar as you would your usual fabric softener.
• Use full strength to polish chrome and stainless steel.
• Use a mixture of half vinegar and half water to clean your iron. Add the mixture to your iron and allow it to sit for a while before hitting the switch.
• Use as a glass cleaner either full strength or mixed with water.
• Use white vinegar on urine mishaps on carpets, to prevent staining and remove odor.

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Youth Can Explore Career Options at Big Red Camps

The 2008 Big Red Summer Academic Camps are a chance for high school youth to spend time investigating an interest or potential career, explore the UNL campus, meet people from across the state and have lots of fun. Camps are June 15–20, except Unicameral Youth Conference is June 8–11. The following camps still had openings when Nebline went to press: Child Development, Dance, Food Molecular Biology, Golf, Movie Making, 3D Design, Salsa, Theatre, Unicameral Youth Conference, and Web Design & Animation. Big Red Summer Academic Camps feature eight career exploration camps hosted by Nebraska 4-H and UNL faculty members. The camps are residence camps held on the University of Nebraska–Lincoln campus. Housing and food are provided. Brochures and registration forms are available at the extension office or online at http://bigredcamps.unl.edu. For more information, call 472-2805.
Emerging Pest: Emerald Ash Borer

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

Emerald ash borer (EAB), Agrilus planipennis, is a small (1/2-inch) metallic green, highly destructive beetle discovered in southeastern Michigan in 2002. Experts believe this beetle arrived several years prior to its discovery, infesting solid-wood furniture and material from shipments from its native Asia. Adult beetles feed on ash foliage, but cause little damage. However, the larva (the beetle’s immagine stages) feast on the inner bark of ash trees and disrupt the tree’s ability to transport water and nutrients. Unlike other tree-boring beetles, EAB does not feed on and kills healthy ash trees. Since its discovery, EAB has killed more than 30 million ash trees in Michigan alone with tens of millions more lost in Ohio and Indiana. States include Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Maryland. It is important not to move firewood from infested states to Nebraska.

Because of the inevitability of this beetle reaching Nebraska, home-owners my want to think twice before planting ash trees in their home landscape. The Nebraska Forest Service no longer recommends planting ash trees in the state. Emerald ash borer has not been found in Nebraska so far. But, it is important to stop the spread of this beetle quickly if it shows up.

Peak emergence of the beetle is in June. Beetles will be found feeding on foliage of ash trees. If you see this beetle or think your ash tree may be infested, contact Nebraska State Entomologist Julie Van Meter at 471-6847.

Emerald ash borer (magnified—actual size 1/2-inch)

2008 Year of the Eggplant

Emerald Ash borer (EAB)

Eggplant was introduced to the United States in the early 1800s by our third president, Thomas Jefferson. An avid gardener, Jefferson was interested in discovering new plants and grew many flowers and vegetables from around the world in his extensive garden at Monticello.

Classification and Varieties

Eggplants are frost-tender, herbstype plants that are usually grown as annuals. The branched plants reach 2 to 4 feet tall and are covered with hairy leaves, sometimes having tiny spines. The attractive, star-shaped flowers are usually purple, sometimes white and produce edible fruit that may be black, purple, green, white, yellow, orange or red, sometimes striped or shaded. The flesh is a creamy white and spiced with tiny brown seeds. Harvest dates vary from 45 to 90 days after transplanting seedlings into the garden.

Eggplants are generally classified by the shape of their fruit. There are five basic groups: globe, elongated or cylindrical, egg-shaped, specialty and pea eggplants. Each category offers a choice of eggplants in varying colors, sizes and flavor to harvest. In the variety descriptions the number of days from transplanting to harvesting is shown in parentheses.

The most common type in North America is the western or oval shaped eggplant that has large, deep purple, pear-shaped fruits. These types are most commonly used for stuffing, baking and grilling.

Black Beauty (88 days) is the classic eggplant with deep purple skin and white flesh. The large 8 to 10 inch fruits can weigh up to a pound.

Dusky hybrid (65 days) is an improved variety that produces smaller, 3 to 7 inch purple-black fruits on productive plants that have disease resistance to brown marmor virus (TMV).

Japanese varieties are typically small, producing a variety of shapes and thin skinned in beautiful, deep purple or light violet colors, sometimes blended with white or green. The skin is tender so fruits do not need to be peeled. These varieties are ideal for stir-frying, grilling, sautéing and pickling.

Ichiban hybrid (58 days) has fruit the size of a golf ball. Each category offers a choice of eggplants in varying colors, sizes and flavor to harvest.

Hansel hybrid (55 days) is a 2008 award winner that produces clusters of glossy, dark purple fruits borne over a long season on plants that out yield traditional varieties. Fruits can be harvested when only 2 to 3 inches in length or left to grow to a full 6 to 10 inches long.

Round, egg-shaped eggplants come in a variety of colors. Easter Egg (32 days) is a fast maturing variety with highly ornamental, egg-shaped white fruit. While it is commonly sold as a novelty plant, the fruit are edible.

Caspian hybrid (64 days) is a beautiful white fruit variety prized for its very creamy interior flesh and beautiful skin in shades of rose, lavender and white.

Green Preferences Soil—Eggplants prefer a rich, fertile soil with plenty of organic matter. Add well rotted compost or manure before planting. If needed, work in a balanced, time released fertilizer when preparing the soil.

Sunlight—Plant eggplants in full sun until they will see EGGPLANT on page 10

Mid to late June is an excellent time to take cuttings of overwintered start new plants. Some shrubs which can be propagated in this way are rose, lilac and viburnum.

Keep a close eye on the quality of your spring crops. Hot weather causes leaf scorch and大姐，有时会突然发黄、干枯。

For hanging baskets, use luscious tubergene, ferns, impatiens or fibrous rooted begonias in combination with trailing plants, such as English ivy.

When you buy nursery stock that is container grown, check the root ball and make sure it is not too bound or tightly. A mass of circling roots will stay that way even after it is planted in the ground.

Remove old flower heads from annual bedding plants to keep them blooming.

If you do not have much room to landscape, consider using some of the many dwarf varieties available. These plants that have slow growth and stay small, is there is little pruning necessary. There are numerous dwarf evergreens, flowering trees and shrubs from which to choose.

Dahul chrysanthenum flowers to secure large, beautiful blooms on straight, strong stems. To disbud, remove the small side buds along which to choose.

Disbud chrysanthemum flowers to secure large, beautiful blooms on smaller ones.

Plant annual flowers in tubs or large containers for the porch or terrace. Make sure there are holes in the bases to provide good drainage.

Remove dead foliage from hanging bulbs after it turn yellow and lose to dry. Set out bedding plants to cover the bare spots using care not to crush the stems which form in the axils of the leaves. This will allow all of the food reserves to be used for one large flower rather than many smaller ones.

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Plant annual flowers in tubs or large containers for the porch or terrace. Make sure there are holes in the bases to provide good drainage.
Some pests, like ants, are nuisances. They don't really cause much damage, but annoy us. Other pests eat vegetable and crop plants, which ultimately increases the cost of food. A few pests, like mosquitoes, transmit important diseases that disable or even kill people.

Most people understand benefits of using pesticides to control pests, but more and more of us are also concerned about possible harmful effects of pesticides on the health and safety of our family and pets. Results from a recent survey by the University of Kentucky showed most people believe pesticides cause cancer. Whether this is true is not yet known, but all of us can agree it is good to minimize exposure to pesticides.

In this discussion, pesticides include insecticides, which kill insects; and herbicides, which kill weeds. Some other types of pesticides include fungicides (kill fungi) and rodenticides (kill mice and rats).

From Family Study

Researchers at the University of Minnesota decided to find out if pesticides get into the bodies of pesticide applicators and their family members. They wanted to know if practices used to prevent exposure to pesticides actually reduced pesticide concentrations in the bodies of applicators.

This study looked at 95 farm families. The three pesticides of interest were glyphosate, a herbicide commonly sold as Roundup®, 2,4-D, a herbicide found in many weed control products, and chlorpyrifos, an insecticide sold as Lorsban® and Durban®. To look at pesticide levels, researchers took blood samples from the person who applied the pesticide and his/her immediate family members.

The study showed chlorpyrifos and 2,4-D were always detected in the body of the person who applied the pesticide, but what was unexpected was low levels of these pesticides were often found in spouses and children, even when they did not have direct contact with the pesticides.

In this study, 100 percent of all family members (farmers, spouses and children), had detectable amounts of the insecticide chlorpyrifos in their bodies. The highest amounts of pesticides were found in applicators who did not follow pesticide label instructions. These applicators:
• Did not wear chemical resistant gloves while mixing pesticides.
• Spilled the pesticide during mixing and spraying operations.
• Had skin contact with pesticides during handling.
• Repaired spray equipment without wearing chemical-resistant gloves.
• Smoked during mixing and spraying operations.

Conversely, farmers who carefully followed label instructions and observed safety precautions had lower levels of pesticides in their bodies.

Risks from Pesticides

The health risk of an individual to a pesticide is a function of its toxicity and the exposure to the pesticide.

Pesticide toxicity is measured by how much pesticide is needed to kill a rodent population. A very small amount of one pesticide might produce a toxic effect, while a much larger amount of another may not. The signal words on the pesticide label indicate the acute toxicity that may occur with exposure to the pesticide.

• Danger = high toxicity
• Warning = moderate toxicity
• Caution = low toxicity

The route of human exposure to a pesticide also influences the toxic effect. Pesticides can enter the human body three ways: 1) by absorption through the skin or eyes (dermally), 2) through the mouth (orally) and 3) by breathing into the lungs (inhalation).

So, to reduce the risk of pesticides, choose low toxic products/approaches whenever possible and reduce exposure by using chemically resistant gloves and other PPE as recommended on the label. Or, hire someone else to apply the pesticide.

Source: Clyde Ogg, Extension Educator, Pesticide Safety Education Office

FOR MORE INFORMATION
University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension publication, Managing the Risk of Pesticide Poisoning and Understanding the Signs and Symptoms (EC2505) is available free on the extension office and online at www.inspubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec2505.pdf

Insect Photography Workshop Offered June 21

Do you like nature photography? Do you have a new camera but don’t know how to use it? Need a new hobby? If you can answer “yes” to any of these questions, you may be interested in attending a workshop that focuses on close-up photography of insects.

UNL Extension will present an Insect Photography Workshop on Saturday, June 21, 9 a.m. - Noon at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry creek Road, Lincoln. Cost of this workshop is $30/person or $40/couple who can share a reference book. Attendees are encouraged to bring their camera.

In addition to receiving workshop information, attendees will be given a reference book. Later in the summer, attendees will have the opportunity to submit photos to be critiqued. Best photos will be featured in a calendar given to attendees at the end of the summer. It is expected attendees will have a basic understanding of photography techniques but need help taking good close-up photos. Ages 14 - 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. For more information, call Barb Ogg at 441-7180. Register by submitting form below before June 13. Space is limited, so sign up early!

Insect Photography Workshop Registration Form

Registering as: □ Person (cost $30) □ Couple (cost $40)

Name(s): ____________________________

Address: __________________________

City: __________________ State: __ Zip: ______

Phone: __________________________

MAIL BY JUNE 13 to (check payable to Lancaster County Extension): UNL Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherry creek Rd, Ste A, Lincoln, NE 68528

UNL Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherry creek Rd, Ste A, Lincoln, NE 68528

June 2008
4-H Speech & PSA Contest Winners

The Lancaster County 4-H Speech was held April 20. New this year was a Closer Kids division. Participation was high and eight youth ages 5–7 gave their first public speech. This was also the first year the 4-H Public Service Announcement (PSA) contest was held. A video — 4-H’ers submitted entries on cassette tape or CD. The number of entries was significantly more this year than previous years, so this format will be repeated next year.

In both contests, the top three winners in each division (listed below) will go on to regionals, held May 29 at UNL East Campus. Photos are available online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h — top PSAs will be posted online in June.

**SENIOR SPEECH**
- Jessica Stephenson (1st)
- Elizabeth Boender (2nd)
- Erica Peterson (3rd)

**INTERMEDIATE SPEECH**
- Eli Deermont (1st)
- Hanna Ronnau (2nd)
- Anne Greff (3rd)

**JUNIOR SPEECH**
- Samantha Leyden (1st)
- Costy Every (2nd)
- Sam Krivanek (3rd)

**PSA**
- Kaya Green (1st)
- Hannah Ronnau (2nd)
- Elii Deermont (3rd)

**JUNIOR PSA**
- Jaime Stephenson (1st)
- Morgan Chipp (2nd)
- Liza Christensen (3rd)

**Clothing Level 2 Reminder**

Difficult, challenging fabrics should NOT be used for Clothing Level 2 projects.

**Teen Council Won’t Meet in June**

4-H Teen Council won’t meet in June. The next meeting will be Sunday, July 13 at 3 p.m.

**New 4-H Membership Cards Now Available**

New Lancaster County 4-H membership cards are available for all 4-H members. Stop by the extension office to pick them up.
Life Challenge Contests
4-H Life Challenge judging contests help youth learn more about things related to family, food, and consumer science (FCS). Contests are open to all 4-Hers, need not be enrolled in a specific project. Pregisteration is not needed for the county level contest. Contact Tracy at 441-7180 for more information.

County-level Senior Life Challenge (for ages 12 and up) is scheduled for Saturday, June 7, 9:30 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Contest questions will be based on the following 4-H manuals. To register, You’re the Chef, Foodwords, Money FUNDamentals, Money Moves, Design Decisions, In Style. They may be checked out prior to the contest for study.

Statewide FCS Life Challenge (for ages 12 and up) will be held on Monday, June 30 and Tuesday, July 1 on UNL East Campus. To participate, please call Tracy at 441-7180 by June 9. Information is online at http://4h.unl.edu/programs/statewide county-level Junior Life Challenge (ages 8-11) will be held Saturday, July 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Contact Tracy for study packet.

Premier Animal Science Events, June 30 & July 1
If you are interested in participating in UNL’s Premier Animal Science Events, Monday, June 30 & Tuesday, July 1, please contact Tracy for study packet. Contact Tracy at 441-7180 for study packet.

New Breeding Gift Show at Ak-Sar-Ben
A breeding gift show has been added to the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Expositionswine show. If you are interested in showing, project nominations are due into the office by June 15. Forms are available at the extension office online or at http://akserben.org/4-H

Ak-Sar-Ben Feeder Calf Show New Rule
If you are planning to exhibit feeder calves at the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition, they will need to be DNA tested by June 15. To set up an appointment, call Deanna Karmann at 441-7180.

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 Tuesday from 3-5 p.m., youth are welcome to bring their sewing machines and 4-H project members can sew and have their questions answered by experts. If your sewing machine does not make good button holes or will not sew through six layers of denim, you can come in with machines available for rental. The Bernina Sewing Center is located inside Hancock Fabrics 6800 S. P., Lincoln.

3-Day Workshops
Aquariums Beads
Learn the basics of making beaded jewelry. Make more than one piece of jewelry. 12:45-2:45PM AGES 8 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: Wendy O'Brien, Aquarium Beads & Gifts, Inc
Creative Crafts
Learn to creatively express yourself through imagination and to create characters through gestures and voice. Participants will receive a hoop, floss, needles, and pillows. Participants will make beautiful pictures, trims and pillows. Participants will make their own designs and receive instructor’s famous dunks or other advanced origami. AGES 9 & up • FEE $5 INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, Basketball Player, Evans Kucera

2-Day Workshops
Checkmate One Beginning chess players learn rules, positions, and pieces. Build skills and play complete games! AGES 8 & 10 • FEE $5 TUES & WED, JUNE 17-18; 10:15AM-12PM INSTRUCTOR: James Walla, 4-H Extension Educator
La “feria española” Learn basic Spanish vocabulary for the fair, play games, prepare and eat traditional Spanish dishes. CM & WED & THU, JUNE 18-19; 1:45-2:45PM AGES 8-12 • FEE $3 INSTRUCTOR: Jill Greff, 4-H volunteer

1-Day Workshops
Primitive Rope Making
Learn rope making as it was done by the indigenous cultures. Use all natural ingredients, is safe & will last 1-2 weeks. AGES 9 & up • FEE $10 WITH INSTRUCTOR: All-State Basketball Player, Evan Kucera

Money, Money, Money
Learn the basics of banking and how to spend and save wisely. AGES 9 & up • FEE $5 WITH INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, 4-H volunteer

Basketball Basics
Learn the basics skills needed to become a successful basketball player. Basketball included to Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition. AGES 10 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: All-State Basketball Player, Evan Kucera

Basketball Basics
Learn higher level skills to outplay your competition and improve your offensive and defensive skills. AGES 9 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, 4-H volunteer

Hooded Towels
Learn how to sew a baby or toddler (great baby gift). Includes towels and thread. Bring scissors, sewing pins, and sewing machine (if available). AGES 9-13 • FEE $15 10AM-12PM INSTRUCTOR: Lorene Bartos, Extension Educator

Imagination Galore
Learn how to creatively express yourself through imagination and to create characters through gestures and voice. AGES 8-10 • FEE $5 10AM-12PM INSTRUCTOR: Tel Hiva, Extension Assistant

Terrific Table Setting Contest
Learn to creatively express yourself through imagination and to create characters through gestures and voice. AGES 10-14 • FEE $5 10AM-12PM INSTRUCTOR: Lorene Bartos, Extension Educator

Diamonds Are Forever
Learn the basics of making beautiful pop-ups and add your own personal touches. AGES 10 & up • FEE $5 WITH INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, 4-H volunteer

Camping Cooking
Learn about the world of camping cooking. AGES 8-10 • FEE $10 1PM-3PM INSTRUCTOR: Lorene Bartos, Extension Educator

4-H Dog Club to Receive Governor’s Ag Excellence Award
Congratulations to the Lancaster County Dog Club for being selected to receive one of the Nebraska 4-H Foundation’s 2008 Governor’s Agricultural Excellence Awards! The awards will be presented at the PASELife Challenge event on Monday, June 30 at 7 p.m. on UNL’s East Campus green space, south of the Student Union.

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http://lancaster.unl.edu
4-H & Youth
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June 2008

Clover College
Tue., June 17–Fri., June 20
Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Rd
Open to youth ages 6–19
Four days of “hands-on” workshops full of fun and learning! You won’t want to miss any of them, as they are all free! Attending workshops that overlap the lunch period should bring a sack lunch. Food will not be available (unless otherwise stated in workshop descriptions). If you have questions, contact Tracy Kulm at 441-7180.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Fun with Paper II
Learn to make pop-up, weaving and fun things to do with bunches. These techniques will make unique greeting cards and decorations. AGES 9-15 • FEE $5 8-10AM AGES 10 & up • FEE $5 INSTRUCTOR: Rhonda Gries, 4-H volunteer

Anyone Can Act
Learn an improv game to make a great actor such as realistic stage stunts. Stunt prop included to keep. AGES 9-15 • FEE $5 10AM-12PM AGES 10 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: Kendra Youngdrops, Kids State Finalist, Christian Kucera

Anyone Can Cook!
Learn higher level skills to outplay your competition and improve your offensive and defensive skills. AGES 9 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, Basketball Player, Evans Kucera

Fabulous Face Painting
Learn how to paint awesome designs on faces, arms and legs. AGES 9-15 • FEE $10-12AM AGES 10 & up • FEE $15 8-10AM INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, Paradise Face and Body Painter

Hula and Hula Hoop
Learn about the history of Taekwondo, basic Taekwondo and self-defense. Learn how to make and wear a water bottle. AGES 10-14 • FEE $5 1PM-3PM AGES 10-14 • FEE $5 10AM-1PM INSTRUCTOR: Michael Carter & Hairy Storm, owners of Cha-Go-Do Kwon

Nail Art
Learn how to create different designs on your nails using decals, minerals, stripping tape and beautiful nail paints. Comes with clean finger and toe nails. AGES 9-15 • FEE $10 8AM-10AM AGES 10 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, 4-H volunteer

Air Brush
Learn from the pro. Ever wonder how easy it is to use an airbrush? AGES 9-15 • FEE $10 8AM-10AM AGES 10 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera and Evans Kucera, Paradise Face and Body Painter

Terrific Table Setting
Create a awesome centerpiece and learn to set the table. AGES 9-15 • FEE $10 8AM-10AM AGES 10 & up • FEE $15 INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, 4-H volunteer

Basketball Basics
Learn the basics skills needed to become a successful basketball player. AGES 9-15 • FEE $5 8AM-10AM AGES 10 & up • FEE $10 INSTRUCTOR: Jhoni Kucera, 4-H volunteer

Sensational Sandwich Crafting
Create your own sensational sandwiches & crafts. FRI, JUNE 20, 8-10AM AGES 8 & up • FEE $5 INSTRUCTOR: Jami Rutt, Extension Intern

It’s not too late to sign up!
To Register, Use Form on Page 11 of This Issue
Phone registration not permitted.
For current class availability, go to http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/clc-4h/ clovercollege

4-H 2010 Washington Group Forming Now!
Any Lancaster County youth ages 14-18 can join 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF), a summer citizenship program which culminates in a nine-day, intensive trip to Washington D.C. in June 2010. CWF delegates learn about the role of citizens and their role in government. Get the inside scoop on how government really works from prominent guest speakers and from Senators and Congressmen themselves. We will take a few more days to discover the wonders of New York City. Youth who sign up now are able to start earning funds through organized fund raisers. $150 deposit is needed to reserve your spot. For more information, contact Deanna Karmann at 441-7180.

Be a 4-H Clover College Volunteer!
Adult and teens volunteers are needed to help during Clover College! No experience needed! Volunteer for one session or all four days! If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Tracy at tklum@unl.edu or 441-7180.
Keep Your Family Safe in Rural Areas

Community Focus June 2008

State's over 350 fatalities are related to tractor incidents. Thirty percent of farm machinery related deaths are among children under the age of five. Tractors are essential to modern agriculture, but are unfortunately, in the U.S., are identified as the largest hazard for children. Roll-over protective structure (ROPS) and seat belts have been the two most important safety devices to protect operators from death during tractor overturns.

As parents, it is important to both teach and model safe behavior around the tractor. When teaching and supervising teens, practice these tips:

- Securely fasten your seat belt in tractors with ROPS or cabs.
- Reduce speed when turning, crossing slopes, and on rough, muddy or slick terrain.
- Avoid slopes that are too steep for safe operation.
- No riders. Riders are allowed only for teaching or supervising purposes.
- Be sure everyone is clear before moving.
- Set brakes and use park locks, if available.
- Remove keys when leaving the tractor.
- Never extra riders, no injured riders. It can't get any simpler.

Safety Around Ponds

Drowning ranks second only to motor vehicle mishaps as the most common cause of accidental death for children under age four are at especially high risk. Even adults are at risk, as water muddied by silts, plants and fish. It takes only a few moments and an inch of water for a child to drown. Small children have been known to drown in 5-gallon buckets. Most drowning, however, occurs when a child who was being carried accidentally falls into a pool or pond. Small ponds can look inviting, but many times they are deep with a sudden drop-off. A person can go from deep water to 50 feet deep in seconds. Additionally, weeds grow up from the bottom and can entangle a person, making it difficult or impossible to return to the surface.

- If you live close to a pond or irrigation source, take steps to keep your family safe. Begin with these:
  - Provide children over 3 years with swimming lessons.
  - Fence off ponds and other water areas as feasible.
  - Be sure children swim with a friend or adult.
  - Insist children use personal flotation devices, such as buoyant vests, cushions or rings.
  - Keep rescue equipment near water areas. Purchase a flotation device or make one from a gallon plastic jug and attach a rope. Install a safety post near the pond. Tie the loose end of the rope to the post. Add a laminated poster with instructions on how to use other water safety tips near the top of the post.
  - Teach older children and teens “Reach, Throw and Wade”, so they do not risk their lives to help a drowning victim.
  - Be sure everyone knows how to get help quickly. Older teens and adults should learn CPR.
  - Never swim during storms or lightning.
  - Swimming rates are three times higher in rural areas than in urban areas and often occur near waterways like ponds and irrigation canals. Summer and water go together, so help keep your family safe. An adult supervision of young children and teaching water safety measures to all family members.

Eggplant continued from page 6

receive at least 6-8 hours of direct sunlight each day.


- Harvesting and Storing Eggplants: Be sure to follow harvest guidelines for the eggplant you are growing. In general, large-fruited eggplants are ready to harvest 75 to 95 days from transplanting, while the small-fruited varieties and many of the newer hybrids are ready for harvest 60 to 70 days of planting outdoors. Fruits should feel firm and hand-held with a slight color change. Press lightly on the skin of the eggplant with your finger. If the pressed spot springs back it is ripe; if the imprint remains the fruit is overripe and will tend to be soft and somewhat bitter. Harvest fruits regularly to keep plants producing. Use a sharp knife or pruning shears to cut the eggplants from the plant. Do not try to move the fruit by twisting or pulling as this can damage or break the entire plant. Eggplant flowers are best used fresh but will keep for about a week when loosely wrapped in perforated plastic bag and stored in your refrigerator’s vegetable crisper or on the refrigerator shelf.

If you can’t remember the last time you ate eggplant, this is your chance to try something new. Eggplants offer endless possibilities to try something different this year and in years to come.

Since 2004, ATV’s have been the leading cause of agri
gicultural fatalities in Nebraska, averaging over five deaths each year. Children under age 16 and injured account for 30 percent of the fatalities. A Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) report released in February indicates in the U.S., ATV fatalities killed 11 children under the age of 16 and injured over 39,000 seriously enough to be taken to the emergency room. Parents can help stop this trend by following and teaching their children about safety. ATV’s, tractors and ponds are among the causes of injuries and fatalities. Here are some ways in which you can keep your guests and family safe as you enjoy your summer memories.

ATV — Make Every Ride Safe

Higher, Grandpa, higher! Gleefully shouted 4-year-old Mikey Dobberpuhl to his grandfather, Harlow. His grandfather was feeding cattle with a front-end loader on a brisk March day in South Dakota. Mikey loved shadowing his grandfather’s every move at chore time, even on a snow-

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*Source: The National Garden Bureau*
Camp Counselors & Mentors Needed
Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center and South Central 4-H Center are still in need of counselors and cabin mentors for the upcoming camping season. They are especially in need of males between the ages of 15 and 17. 4-H Council will reimburse Lancaster County youth the cost of counselor training. For more information, go to http://4h.unl.edu/camp or contact Tracy at 441-7180.

Nebraska 4-H Robotics & GPS/GIS Camp, June 16–20
Nebraska 4-H is offering a 4-H Robotics and GPS/GIS Camp for middle-school students (grades 6–8) in Lincoln June 16–20. Tuition is $125. For more information, go to http://camp.php or call Kevin Kramer at 472-2718.

Still Time to Sign Up for 4-H Summer Camps!
4-H Summer Camps & Trips are open to all ages 5–19—need not be in 4-H. It is not too late to sign up! Specializing in leadership development and team building, 4-H summer camps create positive memories which last a lifetime. With three unique Nebraska locations at Halsey, Gretna and Alma, there are more than 40 camps ranging from half-day to five days/four nights. Some camp sessions offer a range of activities while others focus on a specific theme. Most camps include one to three days/four nights. Some camps create positive memories which last a lifetime. With three unique Nebraska locations at Halsey, Gretna and Alma, there are more than 40 camps ranging from half-day to five days/four nights. Some camp sessions offer a range of activities while others focus on a specific theme. Most camps include one to three days/four nights. Some camps create positive memories which last a lifetime. With three unique Nebraska locations at Halsey, Gretna and Alma, there are more than 40 camps ranging from half-day to five days/four nights. Some camp sessions offer a range of activities while others focus on a specific theme. Most camps include one to three days/four nights. Some camp sessions offer a range of activities while others focus on a specific theme. Most camps include one to three days/four nights.

CLOVER COLLEGE REGISTRATION FORM
SEE PAGE 9 FOR CLOVER COLLEGE WORKSHOP INFORMATION
For current class availability, go to http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/programs/clovercollege

To register, complete the registration form (one person per form) and return with payment (make check payable to Lancaster County Extension). Registrations must be received by June 11. Registrations are handled on a “first come” basis and will only be accepted upon receipt of fees. Telephone registration not accepted. All fees are nonrefundable unless a class is filled to capacity or canceled. May photocopy this form if needed.

Assume your registration is confirmed unless we contact you about filled classes.

---

Name _____ Age _____
Parents Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____
Special Needs (allergies, etc.) _____
Workshop(s) _____ Title _____ Fee _____
_____ Title _____ Fee _____
_____ Title _____ Fee _____
_____ Title _____ Fee _____
Use additional sheet of paper if needed

I give permission to use my child's image in photographs taken at Clover College in publications, news articles, advertisements or Web sites pertaining to 4-H. Y yes _____ Y no _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail or bring registration form and payment to:
UNL Lancaster County Extension, 444 Cherry Creek Rd, Ste. A, Lincoln, NE 68528-1507

The Nebl ine

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University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County 444 Cherry Creek Road, Suite A • Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507 (402) 441-7180 http://lancaster.unl.edu E-mail: lancaster@unl.edu • Fax: 441-7148

Lancaster Extension Education Center Conference Facilities 444 Cherry Creek Road, Lincoln
Can You Guess It?

Did you guess it? Find out at http://lancaster.unl.edu
Did you guess it from the May Nanae?
The answer was a mole tunnel.

U.S. Drought Monitor Map
As of May 13, Lancaster County was not in drought conditions.

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

June

Sandy Talbert

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Sandy Talbert as winner of June’s “Heart of 4-H Award” in recognition of outstanding volunteer service. Sandy grew up in 4-H and was a junior leader in Colorado. In Kansas, when her daughter was old enough to join 4-H, Sandy started a 4-H club and was leader for five years. After moving to Nebraska in 1991, her daughter joined a club led by Barb and Ron Suing (who are still active volunteers) and Sandy helped. Sandy has been one of 4-H Food Superintendents at the Lancaster County Fair for 16 years. She has also volunteered for 4-H at the Kansas and Nebraska State Fairs. “I tell being a 4-H volunteer because I enjoy working with youth of all ages and help them to grow through learning things in areas of their interest,” says Sandy. “I love to see when kids learn something new and the excitement of learning things in areas of their interest, “ says Sandy. “I love to see when kids learn something new and the excitement of getting their projects done and the honors they win at the fair. I have even learned different ways to do things from the youth and other 4-H leaders.” Congratulations to Sandy. Volunteers like her are indeed the heart of 4-H!

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

Nearly 400 Attended Kiwanis Karnival

Dear 4-H Friends, Thank you for the great evening of family fun at Elliott School. Children practiced their knife skills, threw knives, and pitched baseballs to a catcher. They were also able to play catch with the Nebraska football players. There were fun games for all ages. Don’t think this was the end of fun! I’d never thought everyone something new! I’d never thought that children would be sitting straight up when the lights came on! I don’t think that children would have been so excited about cleaning up. It was amazing how quickly it happened. Most of all — thank you for sharing yourselves with Elliott School children.

Sincerely,
Deann Curran, Principal and Elliott School children

Pet Pals 4-H Club’s booth featured a fish toss game.

Members of Rabbit R Us 4-H Club brought rabbits for youth to pet and learn about.