5-1997

The NEBLINE, May 1997

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earth wellness festival—a blast!

Kites fluttering in the breeze. A tipi on the horizon! AND — around 2,500 Lancaster County fifth-graders ready to attend earth wellness festival and activities that range from playing a water education computer game to learning how to compost with worms.

At earth wellness festival on Thursday, March 27, over 80 presenters and 200 volunteers gathered at Southeast Community College to help kids and teachers become better stewards of the earth. Through hands-on activities, participants dug, poked, squeezed, dunked, smelled, and tasted — through imagination and discovery youth experienced science in an exciting way.

In its third year, earth wellness festival encourages youth to become aware of personal, community and global impact on the environment. They recognize the relationships and interdependency of land, water, air and living resources and determine steps of action to enrich our environment.

earth wellness festival is making a difference! Ask any Lancaster County fifth-grader who has attended. There are over 10,000 of them. (ALH)

Festival wins award

earth wellness festival is the proud recipient of a University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources Excellence in Team Programming Award for 1996. The award was presented to Extension personnel at April Preview by Dr. Kenneth Bolen, Dean and Director of Extension.

The Excellence in Team Programming Award criteria for selection includes the program outcomes and impact, innovations in planning, the delivery and evaluation of the program and the supporting partnerships and linkages that are evident.

The earth wellness festival steering committee represents eleven community educational resource units. They are Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County/UNL, City of Lincoln, The Groundwater Foundation, Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department, Lincoln Public Schools, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, Southeast Community College-Lincoln, University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension, University of Nebraska Water Center, and Ventures in Partnerships.

Congratulations ewf — for a great program that impacts the whole community. (ALH)
Girdling tree roots

One cause of gradual tree decline and death is girdling roots. This occurs when roots begin to grow around the main stem of the tree and cut off the movement of water, plant nutrients and stored food reserves. Over time, growth of the branches on the side of the plant affected by the girdling will be slowed. As the injury progresses, the cambium layer will become smaller and a lighter green, fewer leaves will be produced, and eventually the branch will begin to die back. Death of the entire tree can occur in five to twenty years.

Wetting, fertilizing and pruning will do little to correct the problem.

Normal trees have a gentle trunk flare or b ottom at their base. Tree trunks that grow straight up from the ground like a telephone pole can be suspected of having girdling roots, as can a trunk with a straight side or concave depression on one side.

Improperly planted trees, especially container-grown, and resting leaves when the trees have girdled roots result in girdling roots. Lindens, magnolias, pines and maples other than silver maples are more prone to root girdling. (MM)

Lilacs in the landscape

Lilacs are among the most popular of the deciduous flowering shrubs. They are highly valued for their appearance and early bloom. Because of their vigorous habit of growth, lilacs are ideal for tall screen plantings, hedges, borders, and in mass plantings for their tremendous display of flowers. Few shrubs can rival lilacs for bloom even under adverse city conditions. They are useful as specimen plants on the house, in borders or along house and buildings. Another desirable landscape feature is their ability to improve year after year in their environment. All pruning and pest problems are not serious, pruning of lilacs is when the branch is dead. Never prune lilacs in the winter when the branches are stripped. One of the most popular species are the double-flowered types. Lilacs have a tendency to stretch out by the removal of suckers. The best way to control this is to strip the area of shredded bark and wood, and wait to see whether the tree will grow. (DJK)

The best time to plant petunias

Petunias are often used in summer flowers, but petunias do not require a lot of care, but they do benefit from some attention. Petunias are often raised for winter months with a balanced fertilizer; double-flowered cut-tivas need a bit more, perhaps once every two to three weeks.

Petunias can be grown without support, although some of them will require support. Determinate varieties produce flowers in clusters of three flowers. Indeterminate varieties produce flowers continuously. A balance between the two types of petunia is desirable. (DJO)

The best time to plant petunias in the evening or on a cloudy, breezeless day.

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Free latex paint
It's a paint exchange

May 31, 1997 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Who can bring paint
Home owners only*

Who can take paint
Painters (professionals and do-it-yourselfers), artists, crafters

For more details or if you have any questions, call the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at (402) 441-8035.

*Businesses (even private, one-owner businesses) cannot bring excess paint stain to this exchange, but they can select paint and stain from the materials brought in. (LH)

Plants deer will not eat

Deer have been a real problem in Lancaster County. According to Cornell University, the following list of plants are less appealing to a deer’s hearty appetite. Intro-duce a few of these plants into your landscape if deer have been a problem in your area. (MM)

Trees and Shrubs
- barberry
- paper birch
- Russian olive
- Colorado blue spruce
- European white birch
- American bittersweet
- red osier dogwood
- English hawthorn
- European beech
- forsythia
- honey locust
- Chinese juniper
- beautybush
- Norway spruce

Perennial Flowers
- white spruce
- Austrian pine
- mugo pine
- red pine
- Scotch pine larch

European lynx chives
- ornamental onion
- garlic chives
- basket-of-gold
- blue star
- anemone
- wormwood
- butterfly weed
- astilbe
- false indigo
- bergenia
- boltonia
- butterfly bush
- bellflower
- cornflower

Lilac
- purple coneflower
- Joe-pye weed
- queen-of-the-prairie
- geum
- baby’s breath
- candytuft
- spirea
tiger lily
- perennial blue flax
- ostrich fern
- mint
- beebalm
daffodil
- evening primrose

Presently there are no regulations that would require developers to submit an erosion and sediment control plan, so it is up to the developers to voluntarily develop and implement such plans.

The Antelope Commons Project
Good for Holmes Lake

Controlling soil erosion on construction sites can be difficult. Sediment from these sites can clog storm drains and damage neighboring property. Sediment in surface water increases water turbidity and reduces the abun-dance and diversity of aquatic organisms. Ultimately, soil erosion results in silting-in of lakes and reservoirs which reduces their lifespan. In the last 30 years, the rapid development in the Holmes Lake watershed has resulted in a significant problem with sediment loading. During this time, the sediment loading of Holmes Lake has tripled. As a result, Holmes Lake is rapidly losing its capacity to support fishing and other recreational activities.

Recently, a developer who has developed and implemented his own erosion and sediment control plan is Richard Speidell. As owner of Nebraska Nurseries, Speddell realized that urban encroachment on his property would eventually necessitate the relocation of his nursery business and eventual conversion of the existing area into a residential development. His vision for the development included a plan that would minimize impacts on the existing

Where have all the honey bees gone?

Take a walk on a bright sunny day to several locations where you might expect to see foraging honeybees. Do you see as many as you did 10 or 20 years ago? It might depend on how far you are from the nearest kept hive. It is a fact that there just aren’t as many (feral) wild honeybees as there used to be. What has happened to them all?

Honeybees are very susceptible to mite infestations that almost certainly will kill the entire colony. Feral colonies die off because there are no kind beekeepers to treat the colony when it becomes infested. Many vegetable and fruits need to be pollinated by bees to produce fruit and seed. There is a growing list of local home gardeners who would welcome a colony of bees in their yard/acreage. If you keep bees and need an additional location for a hive, we can find a place for it. Call Barb Ogg, 441-7180. (BPO)

BLUE THUMB program
“Giving Water a Hand”

Do you wait a week to fix a leak? That faucet can drip more than 800,000 drops while you’re waiting. That’s water we can use. It’s time to act now! Begin your conservation and protection efforts during National Drinking Water Week, May 4–10. (LH)

The BLUE THUMB Program is affiliated with the American Water Works Association and encourages Americans not only to take action to protect water as a natural resource, but to take personal and public actions on drinking water as a public health resource.

We each make at least 30 decisions a day that affect water. For example, turning the tap on and off and/or choosing to throw bug/weed killers, oven cleaners and other toxins in the trash. Each day there are opportunities to make decisions that conserve and protect water.

Think you can’t make a difference? Take a stand for clean water through your actions and through your words. Give drinking water a hand—every day.

For information regarding the BLUE THUMB program, call Aleene at 441-7180. (ALH)

The ups and downs of newsprint recycling

Newspaper recycling programs are in a constant state of highs and lows. In one year alone, old newspapers went from $20 per ton to an average $116 per ton. A year later the price was back to $25 per ton. Such fluctuations put paper producers into a tailspin. When prices increased in early 1995, paper-making plants decreased the amount of recycled paper. Another newsprint recycling program is the BLUE THUMB Program.

Earthworms can predict soil health

Did you know that scientists can determine the health and viability of soil in agricultural fields by studying the composition of earthworm fecal matter (casts)? Earthworm casts contain soil, organic matter, microbes and carbon, all of which give clues about the condition of the soil in a field. Because earthworms are the primary consumers of organic material in the soil, they are important in decomposing the previous year's crop residue. Scientists have also found that agricultural fields tilled less had greater populations of earthworms.
The methodology and ramifications of greenbelting all agricultural and horticultural land in Lancaster County

Robin Hendrickson  
Chief Deputy Assessor

The continued escalation in selling agriculture and horticulture is a result of increased land values. The concept of "greenbelting" all such land in the entire county. To be in compliance with ratio standards established by the Nebraska Board of Tax Review, Lancaster County must determine the value of land for "greenbelting" all such land in the entire county. To be in compliance with ratio standards established by the Nebraska Board of Tax Review, for the year 1997, Lancaster County must determine the value of land. It is important to note the term "agricultural marketplace" in this definition. The sole intent of the institution is to determine the value of land as a means to establish the "true "uninfluenced" value which can be applied uniformly to all qualifying ag-land.

Before I embark on the methodology utilized to implement this approach, I believe the explanation of "greenbelting." It is a system that involves valuing qualified ag-land in two separate and distinct manners. For perennial taxation purposes, the land is valued on the basis of consideration of outside influences that might stimulate the value to a level greater than that of un-influenced ag-land. Each year the land is also valued at its true or ultimate market value considering all stimuli affecting value, no matter what it's origin. If at any time, for any reason, the land becomes disqualified for special assessment, it triggers the recapture of three years' tax calculated on the difference between each year's two assessments, plus 6% interest calculated from January 1 of each of the three years. As long as the land is assessed by increasing assessments. This results in a true or ultimate market value considering all stimuli affecting value, no matter what it's origin. If at any time, for any reason, the land becomes disqualified for special assessment, it triggers the recapture of three years' tax calculated on the difference between each year's two assessments, plus 6% interest calculated from January 1 of each of the three years. As long as the land is assessed by increasing assessments. This recapture is a product of the potential of future development or recreational use. Even if the agricultural or horticultural land of the purchaser, it is so prevalent that the overall rural marketplace it seems only reasonable that this influence would enter into the mind of the prudent seller when determining the asking price. If I or others are to make a reasoned and calculated decision, the influences analyzed to determine the "true uninfluenced" value which can be applied uniformly to all qualifying ag-land.

...we feel the end result of this process clearly is a benefit to the agricultural community by providing for accurate and stable ag-land values...

Putting CRP back in production

Putting Conservation Reserve Program land back into production in 1998 will start this year. A group meeting in late summer will consider the perennial forage grasses and prepare the land for row crops. Herbicides must be applied to actively growing vegetation to be effective. The accumulation of residue from perennial forage grasses on CRP land may interfere with a herbicide reaching the target. The residue may be removed by burning, cutting and baling, grazing or shredding to four to six weeks before herbicide applications. This allows regrowth to occur before herbicide application. Some of these operations may influence 1997 program benefits. Consult the Natural Resources Conservation Service for details. Other tips to remember:

1. Never transport containers including cigarettes, away from the ground. Inside a car, car trunk or pickup truck.
2. Avoid overfilling and spilling. Always keep open flames, including cigarettes, away from gasoline or gas vapors. (WS)
3. When filling canisters/gas canisters, test for accurate and stable ag-land values...
4. • Don't use gasoline as a cleaning agent.
5. • Secure gasoline containers when not in use.

Cleaning can be dangerous

Winter cleaning chores using pressure washers indoors can be poisonous without the right precautions.

Small gas engines used to power the washers can produce carbon monoxide to kill a person, if used without proper ventilation.

Most documented cases of carbon monoxide death occurred while cleaning animal confinement facilities. Death occurred when a pressure washer was used indoors, even through windows and doors were open in some situations.

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headaches, sleepiness, nausea, fatigue, dizziness or irregular breathing, but some people may show no signs before collapsing.

Carbon monoxide death occurs through asphyxiation, suffocation caused by too little oxygen and too much carbon monoxide in the blood. Asphyxiation can occur in any building insulated enough that the floor doesn't ice over and the pressure washer operates without freezing.

To be safe, never operate a small gas engine inside a closed building. An alternative might be an electric power washer, as long as it is properly grounded. (WS)

Explosions possible when filling gas can in truck bed

Filling a gasoline container inside a plastic-lined pickup truck box may cause injury or death when a few simple rules are not followed.

Static electricity generated from gasoline flowing into a metal container cannot be grounded on the plastic liner. As the static builds, it can create a spark between the can and the gas nozzle.

To avoid injury, always place gasoline cans on the ground when filling them.

Other tips to remember when handling gasoline:

• Never transport containers in a car, car trunk or pickup truck cab. If transporting in a closed vehicle cannot be avoided, purchase a container made to contain gasoline vapors effectively.

Farm Views

Postemergence weed control in alfalfa

Are weeds showing up in your new alfalfa? If they get thick, your alfalfa will suffer, says Dave Anderson, Extension Forage Specialist.

When weeds threaten seeding alfalfa, a common method to control them is mowing. Mowing controls broadleaf weeds better than grasse weeds. Adjust the mowing height so several leaves will remain on the pasture seeding after clipping, to encourage rapid regrowth of the alfalfa seedlings. Also, do not smother small seedlings with clipping.

Mow weeds before they get tall and produce a large quantity of clippings. If you would rather spray broadleaf weeds than mow them, use either Butyrac, Butryc, or Butoxtone. Buctisol, just like in corn, controls most small broadleaf weeds. Some alfalfa injury can occur, though, when air temperature exceeds 80 degrees. If the air temperature exceeds 80 degrees, it might be better to use Butyrac or Butoxtone. Both Butyrac and Butoxtone control some small broadleaf weeds, but weeds must be less than six inches tall and results still are inconsistent. So, maybe mowing would be better after all.

When mowing is not effective with grasse weeds, use Poast Plus herbicide, just like with beans. Alfalfa tolerates Poast Plus very well, but make sure you spray before grasses get 4 inches tall or control will be poor. Both broadleafes and grasses are a problem. Pursuit likely is your best choice.

Weeds can slow down growth of your new alfalfa by shading out small seedlings and competing for moisture. You can prevent these problems by acting quickly. So examine your fields now and control weeds as needed. (WS)
Is your drinking water safe?

Few things are as bad as contaminated drinking water. It’s dangerous for you and your loved ones, but since it often looks, smells and tastes O.K., it is usually very difficult to tell what is going on. If it is contaminated, the only way to be absolutely certain is to have your water tested on a regular basis.

Water is called the universal solvent because it dissolves a vast number of substances and what it can’t dissolve it often carries in suspension. Because of this characteristic, we use water for just about everything. We wash with it, we flush with it; we mix it with chemicals to spray on fields. Water is used in just about every industrial and domestic process. This means that it’s very hard to put anything out of water.

Does your well water taste O.K. it is usually very difficult to tell whether or not the water you are drinking is contaminated. The only way to be absolutely certain is to have your water tested on a regular basis.

During the first year of establishment, unless it is being removed or buried. A small amount of phosphorus may be applied prior to planting to encourage root growth and development. Nitrogen should not be applied unless the soil is very deficient in nitrogen. Even small amounts of nitrogen will stimulate weed growth and slow the establishment of the mature stands. Large areas (over one-half acre) are easier to plant using a native grass drill. Smaller areas can be broadcast seeded by hand. Mixing sand with the seed can help distribute the seed more evenly. After broadcasting, the seed needs to be incorporated to the appropriate depth by tilling or harrowing and then the seedbed should be rolled to assure a good soil-to-seed contact. After sowing, be patient! During the first year of establishment, prairie grasses grow down, not up. The top growth normally amounts to a narrow, pale green, straight leaf until late in the summer and are often difficult to see, even for the experienced grower. It is very important to control weeds during this period of time. Mowing or shredding weeds often the first year is necessary to prevent the seedlings from being choked or smothered. The soil should be kept weed free as possible to allow the seedlings and mow frequently enough to prevent the weeds from producing seed.

Although prairie weeds and grasses are low maintenance, they are not “no maintenance”! Once your stand is established, mowing or shredding can be done in late spring or early summer. To eliminate dead material if desired and will normally encourage the vigor of the stand. However, since standing grasses are an attractive addition to the landscape during the fall and winter and provide valuable wildlife habitat, it is generally better to wait until late March or April.

Acreage Insights

Weed control in new tree plantings

Trees and shrubs add beauty, protection, diversity and value to almost any property and the care they receive during the first few years after planting is critical. Seedling trees require a grass- and weed-free zone to become established. The zone needs to be maintained for the first 3-4 years or longer and should be at least 4 or 5 feet wide.

There are three basic methods for controlling weeds in tree plantings: mulches, mechanical methods, and chemical methods. Of the three methods, mulching is perhaps the easiest and most environmentally-safe way to accomplish weed control. Mulching also prevents soil erosion, conserves moisture, insulates roots from temperature extremes and can prevent damage from mowers and weed trimmers. Desirable mulching materials include wood chips, bark, or equivalent materials. Coarse-textured organic mulches are preferred since they tend to aerate the soil and replenish soil nutrients as they decompose. Mulch with a two- to four-inch layer of organic material and replenish as needed.

Caution must be used when applying mulch since a layer greater than four inches thick may provide an excellent habitat for small rodents who can cause considerable tree damage, primarily during the winter months. Heavy mulching can also be a problem in poorly-drained or wet sites where moisture can remain at high levels for extended periods and cause root rot. In addition, very thick layers encourage tree roots to grow up into the mulch material which may dry out during long dry periods, causing the roots to die.

Mechanical weed control, whether with hand tools or machines, can also be very effective. However, it is generally labor intensive and, if machines are used, may injure or destroy some of the trees. In addition, since it often leaves the soil surface unprotected, soil erosion can become a problem when mechanical weed control is used.

Chemical methods, while very effective, require the greatest management skills. Not all herbicides are labeled for all species of trees and application of the wrong herbicide in the wrong amounts may injure the trees or may result in poor weed control. Remember, always learn the label before applying herbicides and follow label directions. Each method of weed control has its own positive and negative aspects and no one method is necessarily better than another. You must decide which method or methods are most feasible for your situation. However, regardless of the method chosen, some form of weed control is necessary to insure successful establishment of the trees.

Establishing native grasses in the landscape

Native plants such as warm season grasses and wildflowers are a wonderful addition to any landscape and are particularly well suited to acres. They require less water and less maintenance than many of the introduced species and can provide habitat for birds, butterflies and other types of wildlife. If you have been considering using native plants in your landscape, now is the time to begin planning for next season grasses and wildflowers.

Most prairie plants are adapted to full sunlight and grow well in most soil types. However, there are some plants that will grow in shady areas and some that are better suited for specific soil types or conditions such as wet or sandy soils. Check with your seed dealer or a specialist to identify which types of plants are best suited to your site.

Prairie grasses must be planted only about one-fourth to one-half inches deep. In most cases, a prairie grass seed needs little or no fertilizer at establishment, unless it is being established on a disturbed site where the topsoil has been removed or buried. A small amount of phosphorus may be applied prior to planting to encourage root growth and development. Nitrogen should not be applied unless the soil is very deficient in nitrogen. Even small amounts of nitrogen will stimulate weed growth and slow the establishment of the mature stands.

Large areas (over one-half acre) are easier to plant using a native grass drill. Smaller areas can be broadcast seeded by hand. Mixing sand with the seed can help distribute the seed more evenly. After broadcasting, the seed needs to be incorporated to the appropriate depth by tilling or harrowing and then the seedbed should be rolled to assure a good soil-to-seed contact. After sowing, be patient! During the first year of establishment, prairie grasses grow down, not up. The top growth normally amounts to a narrow, pale green, straight leaf until late in the summer and are often difficult to see, even for the experienced grower. It is very important to control weeds during this period of time. Mowing or shredding weeds often the first year is necessary to prevent the seedlings from being choked or smothered. The soil should be kept weed free as possible to allow the seedlings and mow frequently enough to prevent the weeds from producing seed.

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Families learned to stretch their food dollars by using “Share” food packages during the three part “Tasty and Light” classes presented by nutrition advisors in Lancaster County. Each session included food preparation, food safety and food buying techniques.

They liked the hands-on approach to learning how to reduce fat from the family meals. Lenora Fitto, nutrition advisor, emphasized the importance of draining fat from hamburger as participants made hamburger vegetable soup. Charlene Morris, nutrition advisor, shared ways to add flavor through using herbs and spices. Several participants went home and made stir-fry after Nobuko Nyman, nutrition advisor, involved participants in preparing vegetables during her food demonstration. Many commented that they learned new ways to integrate fruits and vegetables into their family diets. They also inventoried foods, which they have at home, planned a menu and shopping list.

This family focused program included activities for the children who came with their parents. The children watched the food demonstrations, listening to books about healthy eating, and coloring pictures of nutritious foods. Of course, the children sampled the food which was prepared.

They ranked the third session on a five-point scale (one the lowest and five the highest) as follows: knowledge gained (4.7); usefulness of the information (4.7); and the quality of the presentation (4.7). Participants also learned that purchasing a SHARE package for $14, which is valued at $30, really helps in feeding their families nutritious meals.

SHARE (Self-Help And Resource Exchange) is a nonprofit program open to anyone who wishes to participate by giving two hours of community service. Most of the food included in the current month’s packages were used during the food demonstrations. At times it took a little creativity. For example, turkey sausage was substituted for chicken for the stir-fry demonstration. Fruit salads were turned into stir-fry sessions, since there was an abundance of fruit. Each month’s packages contain 13-18 items including 6-11 pounds of meat, 5-8 fresh fruits and vegetables, staple items such as rice, beans, pasta or cereal and a few specialty items.

The Lincoln Housing Authority and Cozad Pork Family Resource Center cosponsored this program. They provided funding for the food, the facility and a cookbook for participants attending all three sessions. The Nutrition Education Program staff provided the educational expertise and the printed resource materials. Both organizations were involved in promoting the workshop.

Families who are also a part of the WIC program, received credit toward secondary WIC nutrition education. (MB)
Alice's Analysis

The last day of March which means Valerie, our oldest grandchild is 15 today (boy how time flies). The sun is bright this afternoon but I think March is going to be a lion, especially the way the wind sounds. I know spring is here, the tractors and dozes are going down the road. I can also see the pickups pulling the anhydrous tanks to the fields. The yards and pastures are taking on a green look. The new lambs and calves can be seen out in the lots and fields today.

I was thinking about what I read in the Six Mile Cookbooks from Independence, Missouri (a collection of pioneer and modern recipes, first printed December 31, 1936). This book had a miscellane- nous section and a household hints section. Here are a few hints:

1. Keep the flashlight on the sewing table and use it to thread the needle. It saves much time and effort.
2. Much labor can be saved by taking towels off the line when almost dry folding them.
3. To remove white spots on furniture made by hot dishes, use powdered pumice and laced oil

Applied with a soft cloth then rubbed dry. Always polish with the grain.

4. A pail of water in a freshly painted room will help remove the odor.
5. To keep rice and similar things from boiling over, grease the sides of the cooking pans with bacon fat. I could just see Miss Florence Jackson County Home Extension Agent, giving the Extension lessons on sewing, ironing, cooking or maybe spring cleaning or wood care with all of these hints found in this cook- book. In 1980, they revised this book. This edition was called “A Home Master’s Handbook. The Household Hints had been replaced by “Quantities to Serve 100 People.” There were sections of pictures of six steps to a perfect pie and how to convert to the metric system. Haven’t cookbooks changed over the years?

We held our March 24 meeting with 21 attending at the Genealogical Library and learned to discover our ancestors. They have classes for beginners or will help you find information on your ancestors if you have already started. By the way, we look for this entry for the Cultural Arts Contest. Cristy Johnson of the Waverly Matronettes brought a beautiful vase she had painted. It was purple and gold. Cristyal had forgotten to bring a cloth on which to set the vase. So she set the vase on the purple “cape” she had gotten in Ireland. It made an outstanding display.

Sorry to say only six pledge sheets have been returned to the Extension office. This looks like a big group of friends together for the Sizzling Summer Sampler on July 10. Come and enjoy a light supper and program. The learnshop will be presented by Sew Creative, Friedman Micro- waves, Jean Wacock of Kitchen Cosmetics and Edna Shields on Dry Flowers. Mark your calendar for June 23, 7 p.m., for the FCE Council meeting. Lynne Camp will be our program speaker on “Habitat for Humanity.”

Quote for the month: “A frisky colt, a feisty lamb, Blue sky from which warm sunshine spills, Simple buds now blushing pink, And yellow fields of daffodils.” —D. A. Hooven

Alice Deane, FCE Council Chair

Look for these signs of speech and hearing problems

Speech and language abilities usually develop in predictable ways, but any one of a number of things can interfere with that development. These may include delay in the child’s development, hearing loss, emotional problems, lack of language stimulation in the child’s environment, and birth and other physiological conditions. If problems are spotted early, however, children can usually be helped greatly if you prepare them for school. Many children now can be tested as early as age two.

Here are some of the clues to look for that might signal a possible speech, language or hearing problem:

• The child aged two or more not talking or only talking when absolutely necessary and not taking part in social conversation?

• Does a child say “huh” a lot (child is hard of hearing), or does the child ask to have things repeated?

• Does the child need to watch your face for visual messages, rather than learning from vocal clues?

• Does a youngster have trouble recognizing where sounds are coming from? By age 1 or 1-1/2 this should not be happening.

• Did the infant babble normally, then suddenly decrease his vocalization after the first six to nine months?

• Does the child indicate an awareness of what is being said?

• At age three or older, does the child omit the final sounds of words?

• Does the child seem to be behind his/her age group in expressing and understanding language?

• Does the youngster regularly pull on an ear, poke a finger

in an ear or have ear drainage or excessive ear wax? (CAUTION: Ear wax in the ear canal should be removed medically, NEVER with a cotton swab.)

At 2 to 1-1/2 years or older, does a child start repeating words or parts of words more often?

Most children repeat sounds as part of learning to speak, and 80 percent of these kids grow out of it. If repeated sounds continue accompanied by signs of struggle or unusual breathing, it may indicate a hearing problem.

When you suspect a speech or hearing problem schedule a professional evaluation for the child.

Other help is available from community speech and hearing clinics and clinics run by colleges, universities and large hospitals.

Adapted from North Central Regional Publication No. 128f.

Children learn through observation. Seeing parents and their partners at work motivates children to do the same. When parents turn off the television set so they can help their kid read a book, they send a powerful message to children.

Children learn through observation. Seeing parents and their partners at work motivates children to do the same. When parents turn off the television set so they can help their kid read a book, they send a powerful message to children.

• Have a checklist for daily practice in showing respect.

• Treat everyone with respect by being courteous and polite.

• Be kind, appreciative, and accepting of individual differences.

• Set a good example for your children by treating others with respect.

• Avoid repeating remarks or jokes that demean other races, religions or ethnic groups.

• Don’t take advantage of other people.

• Refrain from insults, put downs, and harassment.

Here are a few activities that teach respect for children with young children:

• Develop a checklist for daily practice in showing respect.

• Reward children with praise or special prizes for random acts of “respect.”

• Read together stories like the Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Andersen and Leo the Lion by Stephen Cosgrove and talk about the importance of not judging others by the way they look.

• Help children accept ways to vent anger and frustration. Hitting and rudeness are not the answers.

• Attend a cultural festival to learn about the tradi- tions and customs of people of other races or religions.

• Play games like “Simon Says” that teach children how to be polite and treat others with respect.

• Search your local newspapers for examples of citizens showing respect to others.

To learn more about teaching respect and other lessons in “Character Counts” please contact LaDeane at Lancaster County Extension.

Respect—A pillar of character

Rodney Dangerfield isn’t the only one who feels he “gets no respect.” We hear it frequently and see it even more often. As adults and/or parents we are responsible for teaching our children how to show respect. Respect means showing others you are valued for who you are and not for their position or the way they treat others the way you want to be treated, never insulting or making fun of others who are different from you.

Respectful people are tolerant, courteous, and accepting. They do what is tasteful and proper in dealing with others. They don’t stoop to violent or rudeness.

• Treat everyone with respect by being courteous and polite.

• Be kind, appreciative, and accepting of individual differences.

• Set a good example for your children by treating others with respect.

• Avoid repeating remarks or jokes that demean other races, religions or ethnic groups.

• Don’t take advantage of other people.

• Refrain from insults, put downs, and harassing others.

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Parental role in school success

Are high academic achievers more likely to become well-adjusted and productive citizens? Yes! A national study of high achiev- ers found that the attitudes, habits and discipline that worked for students in the classroom served them well as adults. This study also confirmed the results of other research and provided solid evidence for something many of us intuitively feel: that parents can play a critical role in our children’s success at school. Here are some other findings:

• Any child with basic intellectual capability can become a high achiever in school. Kids do not have to have a high IQ or a special talent for creativity. School achievement is most likely to happen when parents and teachers work together. Parents are more effective when they guide—instead of push—kids to do well in school.

• Learning is rooted in curiosity. Because young kids are naturally curious, this is a trait parents can help to develop as kids grow older. The sense of curiosity and desire to learn is reinforced and strengthens children’s later ability to learn.

• Not all high academic achievers are early bloomers—especially kids who have had a learning disability or a physical challenge in their early years. Many students who go on to great success in school may have experienced failure along the way.

• Children learn through observation. Seeing parents start and finish activities and work assignments motivates children to do the same. When parents turn off the television set so they can help their kid read a book, they send a powerful message to children.

• Having responsibilities and doing chores at home helps kids develop skills and work habits that are transferable to the classroom.

• Quiet time is important for learning. Kids need a space of their own (however small) in which to think, study and do homework.

• Extended families can form an important support system for high achievers—not only parents but grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins as well as extended family, neighbors and friends.

• Parents of high academic achievers tend to emphasize...
The 1997 4-H Rabbit Show at the Lancaster County Fair promises to be exciting for exhibitors, parents and spectators. The fun gets underway Wednesday, July 30, 4:00-8:00 p.m. when all rabbits and exhibitors check in at the Lancaster Building. Superintendents Gordon Madsen and his committee have planned the following schedule:

Wednesday, July 30—8:00 a.m. in the 4-H Building
• Judging of stationary exhibits

Thursday, July 31—7:00 p.m. in the Lancaster Building
• Pet Class
• Breeder’s Choice
Friday, August 1—8:00 a.m. in the Lancaster Building
• Doe and Litter Class
• Market Class
• Breed Class
• Fur Class
Friday, August 1—1:00 p.m. in the Lancaster Building
• Showmanship

Special notice—poultry, pigeon, and rabbits

Lancaster County Lamb Tagging will be held Friday, May 30 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 31 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This activity will be held at the Extension Office, 444 Cherrycreek Road. It is required that all lambs be weighed and tagged on one of these two days. If you have any questions please feel free to call Deanna at 441-7180. (DL)

4-H rabbit project members must be 8-14 years old. All should coordinate and be enrolled in Clothing Arts or Recycled projects. (CB)

Clover College workshop descriptions

The number preceding the description is the class number you will sign up for on the registration sheet.

Four-day workshops:

1. Rock & Roll: Countdown to Family Fun!
   8:00-10:00 a.m.
   Instructors: Ron Suing and Gene Gillam
   How to o on rocket building.
   Requirements: Participants are required to purchase their own rockets. The first day will concentrate on the different kinds of rockets, how to buy the right rocket and rockets that can be made.
   Class Size: 20 maximum
   Cost: None

2. Outdoor Education—“The Wild Side”
   10:00 a.m.-
   Instructor: Shirley Condon
   Outdoor education exhibits will be selected from the Tree Identification, Wildlife Conservation, Homes for Wildlife, Bird Behavior and Fishing projects. We will be making bird feeders. Other exhibit ideas will be presented based on the interests expressed by the participants.
   Requirements: All participants must be 9-14 years old.
   Class Size: 12 maximum
   Cost: $2.00

3. Americana Door Sampler
   12:30-2:30 p.m.
   Instructor: Natalie Miles
   Participants will have a great time creating a Folk Art of July door sampler. They will learn and practice hand and machine sewing techniques.
   Class size: 8 maximum
   Cost: $8.00
   Items bringing: a sewing machine, scissors and sewing needle.
   Requirements: Participants need to be familiar with their sewing machine and know how to thread it.

4. Stripe Quilt
   2:30-4:30 p.m.
   Instructor: Jan Madsen
   Quilting can be easy and fun. Put your imagination into action and design your very own tied quilt. Participants in this session will make their own TV quilt (approximately 50” x 69”).
   Requirements: 4-H members should be enrolled in Clothing Level I or higher.
   Class size: 6 maximum
   Cost: $10.00
   Items to bring: 3 fabrics for blocks (2/3 yard of a light color, 1-1/2 yard of medium color, and 2/3 yard of dark color); 2 fabrics for border (2/3 yard for first border and 1 yard for the second).
   All should coordinate and be 100% cotton. You will also need 3 yards of backing fabric (an old sheet will work), 3 yards of batting (bonded-rolled batting for quilts), a sewing machine and sewing supplies (pins, scissors, etc.), thread that coordinates with your material, 6 strands of embroidery floss in a color that coordinates with your quilt, a curved needle for tying, a 6” x 12” clear plastic ruler would be good.
   Please come to class with all material pre-washed.

One-day workshops:

1. Trojan Quilt
   All of the one day workshops will be held from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

in the Lancaster Building
• Rabbit Judging Contest
• Rabbit Quiz Bowl
Saturday, August 2—7:00 p.m. in the Lancaster Building
• Show Awards
Sunday, August 3—4:00 p.m.

Dismal of all rabbits and stationary exhibits

The fair registration deadline for all 4-H rabbit project members is Monday, July 7. Fair books will be available by the middle of May. Please remember that all rabbits must be tattooed before check-in day, Wednesday, July 30. (CB)
Take a friend—make a friend
Go to 4-H camp

4-H membership is NOT required to attend these camps.

FISH CAMP
June 10-12
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
In addition to camping fun, we’ll “take you to the best fishing site in Nebraska.” Your campsite is the area. Bring your own equipment or ours. You catch ‘em, we clean and cook ‘em. There is no better way to fish.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE I & II
June 13-16 or June 26-29
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
For all the adventurers who love the great outdoors and “roughing it” adventures. It may include canoeing down the Platte River with a friend, cave exploring a night under the stars and rappelling down a 35 foot wall! Bring a friend to share the adventure.

NIORABA I & II
June 17-20 or June 30-July 3
10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
A chance of a lifetime awaits 14 special 4-H members. This camp includes canoeing the beautiful Niobrara, Nebraska’s wild and scenic river. Then sleep over under starlit skies. Will you be truly the best part of your summer?

SUMMER SAFARI
June 17-20
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
For all you animal lovers out there, this camp is a must! See the Henry Doorly Zoo as you have never been before—at night! Back at camp you will hang out with our wildlife.

BOLDLY BOUND
June 21-25
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
If rappelling walls, climbing towers, super highs, nitro pits and meat grinders sound like fun to you and your are between 11-14, this is your camp!

WETEN-WILD I, II, III
June 30-July 2 or July 7-9 or July 14-16
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
The Mahoney State Park pool and giant water slides are waiting for you! A great way to spend three days in the hot, summer keeping cool with a friend in a lot of water!

FIRST TIMERS
July 5-8
10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
We want your first camping experience to be the best! So we’ve packed a ton of good times into this overnight. Bring a friend and prepare to have a fantastic time!

BACKSTAGE ’97
July 10-13
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
This is a casting call for all you artists out there! Acting, art, stage make-up and a talent show all included. Along with all the other camping activities, this is the perfect camp for out-going, fun-loving people.

JUST PLAY IT
July 17-20
10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Old games, new games, and some really weird games! You can spike it, dunk it, kick it, but don’t fumble this chance to just play it!

DISCOVERY ’97
August 4-6
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Come and discover all the fun this camp has to offer! You and your friends pick which activities you do and how many times! It doesn’t matter if it’s canoeing, confidence course or any of the other adventures. Choose one, some or all—‘you’re sure to encounter lots of exciting discoveries!

ME & MY PAL
August 8-10
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Here’s an opportunity! You know how your parents and other adults are always teaching you stuff? Well, at this camp your teacher! Come out for a day of fun and adventure. Then say your adult pal comes out and you get to share your experiences with them! (Also in May and October—call 332-4496 for details.)

Cancellation Fee $10.00

County fair dates
Lancaster County Fair is July 31-August 3
Thursday, July 29—Demo Day
Tuesday, July 31—Table Setting Contest, 8:30 a.m.
Saturday, August 2—Demonstrations
Watch future issues of the Nebline for a complete calendar and details. Each 4-H family should receive a Lancaster County Fair Book by June 1. A fair packet will be mailed to all 4-H club leaders and members. (LB)

Lancaster County's livestock judging team wins PAK 10 contest
The Lancaster County Livestock judging team of Jeremy Holthus (Happy Go Lucky club), Jared Brock (Happy Go Lucky), Aaron Naber (Norns FFA) and Anthony Nicely (Happy Go Lucky) won first place in the PAK 10 Livestock Judging Contest.

The 1997 10 Livestock Judging Contest was held March 20 at the Saunders County Fairgrounds. Attending the livestock judging clinic and contest were 136 youth and 55 adults. The clinic taught what to look for when judging different species of livestock. The judge talked the 4-H members through several classes, teaching them how to feel for finish on the animals, how to look for structure and also terminology used to describe the difference in the species.

After the clinic, the 4-H members put their new knowledge to use in the contest. The contest was constructed of six classes of livestock, including both a market and breeding class for beef, swine and sheep. Along with being members of the winning team, Jeremy Holthus was also high scorer of the contest and received first place overall as an individual and Jared Brock received seventh place overall individual. Congratulations go out to all that participated! (DL)

4-H & Youth

Pre-district Clinic and Horse Show
The Lancaster County 4-H Horse VIPs Committee has planned an exciting fun-packed weekend for Saturday, May 31 and Sunday, June 1 (rain dates are June 14 and 15) at the Capitol City Horse and Pony Club Arena.

Saturday will feature a full day of clinics featuring such topics as district rail work, horsemanship patterns, showmanship, trail and hunter hack. A judging clinic will be held following the last break. The cost is $5 per class which will go toward the trophy fund at the Lancaster County Fair.

For more information, contact your club leader or the extension office. (CB)

District and horse ID deadlines
Friday, May 23 is the last day that entries will be taken for the 1997 District Horse Shows and 4-H Horse Expo. Exhibitors are asked to submit entry forms, money, horse IDs and horsemanship level II verification (if needed) to the Extension office.

If you are not planning on exhibiting at the district horse shows, your horse IDs are due no later than Monday, June 2 to the Extension office.

Contact the Extension office if you have questions. (CB)

Horse BITS
Changes at the county fair
The 4-H horse show held during the Lancaster County Fair will again be held prior to opening day of the fair. Stall times are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the grounds until 4:00 p.m. Thursday, July 31.

July 28 beginning at 7:30 a.m.—East Arena
• Horse Judging Class (class description in Lot 1 of fair book)
• Hunter Hack
• Hunter/Jumper—new in ’97 is a “showmanship jumper class”

July 29 beginning at 8:00 a.m.—East Arena
• Hunt Seat/English Seat Showmanship
• English Pleasure
• English Equitation
• Working Hunter
• Physically Challenged Performance Class
• Horsemanship Pairs
• Free Style Drill Teams
• Basketball and soccer—new in ’97 for third
fourth level riders only
• Horse Trail Class

July 30 beginning at 8:00 a.m.—East Arena
• Western Pleasure Ponies
• Western Pleasure
• Western Horsemanship
• Ranch Trail
• Western Riding
• Game Classes

Meals and accommodations
Be sure to submit your meal and housing orders by June 17-20 or June 30-July 3
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
The Mahoney State Park pool and giant water slides are waiting for you! A great way to spend three days in the hot, summer keeping cool with a friend in a lot of water!

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10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
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Cancellation Fee $10.00

1997 4-H CAMP REGISTRATION FORM
Please Print
Camper’s Name __________________________
M/F _____________
Birthdate __________________________
Address __________________________
City/State/Zip ____________
County ____________
Phone No. __________________________
Parent’s Name __________________________
Work No. __________________________
Allergies __________________________
Special Medications __________________________
Last Tetanus Shot __________________________
Check camp(s) you are registering for:
June 10-12 Fish Camp ______ $76
June 13-16 Outdoor Adventures I ______ $90
June 17-20 Niobrara I (Teens) ______ $160
June 20-26 Summer Safari ______ $90
June 26-29 Outdoor Adventure II ______ $90
July 1-7 Wild-N-Wild II ______ $76
July 6-30 Niobrara II (Teens) ______ $160
July 7-9 Wild-N-Wild II ______ $76
July 10-13 Backstage ’97 ______ $76
July 15-19 Just Play It ______ $76
July 20-23 August ’97 ______ $76
Aug 8-10 Me & My Pal ______ $76

Donation __________________________
Total Enclosed __________________________

Since many camps will be filled before the scheduled date, we cannot guarantee space for walk-ins or last minute registrations. Fee is required with registration. Please make checks payable to Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center and mail to the Center at 21520 W Hwy 31, Gretna, NE 68028.
Farm/home plat maps and directory available

The Lancaster County Extension Office has Farm & Home Plat & Directory copies available for purchase. The directories list rural residents alphabetically by last names, followed by mailing address, parcel and section number. The directories are also listed alphabetically and followed by name of the precinct and section number. The directories are published by Farm and Home Publications, Inc. The cost for the directory is $7.00 and available at the reception desk during office hours. (GB)

Excellence in Team Programming Awards

Three University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension teams were honored for outstanding effort Wednesday, April 9, during the organization’s annual conference.

The earth wellness festival NUFACfS and ServSafe Food Safety programs received Excellence in Team Programming Awards from Extension Dean Ken Bolen. “We were pleased to recognize these outstanding Extension staff for developing these innovative Extension programs,” he said.

The earth wellness festival is now in its third year. The festival fosters year-round opportunities for students and teachers to link environmental issues, showmanship, and their trip to a local nursing home where the obstacles! Next year’s plans include competition in the Lancaster Community Fair and Nebraska State Fair, visiting a classroom of disabled children and another nursing home.

The first Nebraska Learn & Serve Conference was held in early March, Nebraska Learn & Serve Conference organization’s annual conference. "AVERAGES" ARE "MYTHS:"

A tornado is the most concentrated form of violent weather, capable of generating winds in excess of 300 mph in the funnel wall, and of moving across the ground at 70+ mph. Such extremes are rare, but do occur. The average tornado has funnel wind wall speeds of 150-175 mph, cuts a damage path about 150 yards wide and moves across the ground at about 30-35 mph. The U.S. has more tornadoes than any other country, and Nebraska consistently ranks 9th in the U.S. in the number of tornadoes per year (average: 37 per year since 1950; most in any year to date: 88 in 1990).

Myths: Lincoln is immune from tornadoes because (1) it’s in a bowl or valley; (2) the big ridge to the southwest and west separat- ing us from the Blue River valley will divert storms around us; (3) an old Indian legend says this is a valley of peace and tranquility, safe from violent weather. Not true! There is no effect on tornado movement or duration on the ground. The funnel is the “tip of the iceberg”; where and how the tornado moves is determined by what’s going on in the ten- mile-high storm cell and the entire storm system. Since 1950, at least 30 tornadoes have touched down in Lancaster County; nine of them within the Lincoln city limits. Fortunately, most of the county’s tornadoes have been small, but the biggest was an F-4, and it was in the City of Lincoln. Averages: Most tornadoes come out of the southwest and move toward the northeast. Most occur in Nebraska between early April and mid-August, with peak activity in May and June. Most develop in the late afternoon/early evening. But tornadoes can and do occur at any time of the year, any time of the day or night, and move in any direction. In Lancaster County, since 1983, the number of tornado watches per year has varied from one to nine, with the earliest coming in the first week of March, the latest in mid-November. One more thing: out of 8 funnels that start down out of the clouds pull back up without making contact with the ground. But there have been cases of two or more funnels on the ground at the same time from the same storm cell.

Danger Signs: Tornadoes almost always develop in the trailing edge of the storm cell, dropping out of a formation called a wall cloud. A wall cloud is an isolated lowering of the cloud base, a “bubble” from one to four miles in diameter. If you can see rotation in and around a wall cloud, the situation is dangerous. Down Bursts: Wall clouds sometimes emit a narrow, intense local shaft of high-velocity wind called a down burst. Down burst speeds can exceed 100 mph. When this wind shaft hits the earth, it turns and moves along the surface, initially at speeds up to 85 mph, and doing as much to build damage as a small tornado.

Radar: Even the latest Doppler radars do not pick up all tornadoes, nor can they indicate whether a funnel is on the ground. The only way to know a tornado is on or near the ground and therefore a threat to lives and property is for someone to see it and report it. Trained spotters are essential in any effective severe weather warning system. Spotters Network: There are more than 200 trained weather spotters in Lancaster County. The basic group includes members of the Lincoln Amateur Radio Club, E-Team, REACT and County Sheriff’s Deputies, who staff up to 37 fixed positions throughout the county. They are in radio communication with the Weather Service and the County/County Emergency Operating Center. Some rural volunteer firefighters also sport around their own communities and relay information by radio. Patrolling Lincoln Police officers are also trained.

Definitions: Tornado Watch: A storm with the potential of producing tornadoes is expected to move through the area. In other words, there is a potential danger; watch and prepare.

Tornado Warning: A tornado has been spotted on or near the ground approaching Lincoln or part of Lancaster County. Take shelter!

Pop-ups: Is possible for a tornado to develop when there is no formal watch. Sometimes an isolated thunderstorm cell will pick up the wrong combination of heat, moisture, rotation, etc. and spin off a funnel. This “pop-up” can form in an area as fast as 20 minutes.

Warning Signals: A continuous, steady tone from the CD warning sirens for at least three minutes plus broadcast warnings by area radio and TV stations, and Lincoln CableVision. Note: There is no all clear signal on the sirens; the “all clear” will be broadcast by the radio and TV stations.

Nebraska Learn & Serve Conference

The first Nebraska Learn & Serve Conference was held in early March, providing the unique opportunity for youth involved in service learning projects (projects which are both educational and community service oriented) to come together to share and celebrate their accomplishments. Several groups from Lancaster County attended.

Bryan Center high school science students created a display about their project, “4-H SERIES: Ridges to Rivers,” in which they led hands-on science activities related to watersheds in local elementary science classrooms. Their project will be continuing and expanding into the areas of horticulture and chemistry in the coming year.

The Teens Growing Into The Future (T.G.I.F.) group from Goodrich Junior High created a display and presented a workshop in which participants learned how to make their own recycled paper. The group also shared this past year’s accomplishments which included “Environmen- tal Fun Day” (a neighborhood event that highlighted hands-on environmental activities and games), setting up recycling centers in West Lincoln Elementary, and helping out with “Kids’ Day” (a summer program for elementary age youth) at the West Lincoln Family Re- source Center. Their plans for the coming year include hosting a “Teen Hang Out Night” weekly at the West Lincoln Family Resource Center, encouraging local businesses to recycle, another “Environmental Fun” event in conjunction with West Lincoln Elementary’s Fun Fair on May 2, and a neighborhood clean-up and picnic celebration in June.

The Star City Llama 4-H Club also created a display, at which they played a tape of their participation in the Star City Parade. They also presented a workshop describing llama care and husbandry treat- ment issues, showed a snow leopard to a local elementary school where residents experienced a unique form of pet therapy. Workshop partici- pants got a real treat when they were able to pet and feed the lovable creatures; even an obstacle demonstration was staged with the kids as the obstacles! Next year’s plans include competition in the Lancaster County Fair and Nebraska State Fair, visiting a classroom of disabled children and another nursing home.

Congratulations Learn & Serve participants! You’re making a difference in your community! (TB)

Season change brings severe weather safety concerns

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Faculty Focus

The Nebraska Learn & Serve Conference was held in early March, providing the unique opportunity for youth involved in service learning projects (projects which are both educational and community service oriented) to come together to share and celebrate their accomplishments. Several groups from Lancaster County attended.

Bryan Center high school science students created a display about their project, “4-H SERIES: Ridges to Rivers,” in which they led hands-on science activities related to watersheds in local elementary science classrooms. Their project will be continuing and expanding into the areas of horticulture and chemistry in the coming year.

The Teens Growing Into The Future (T.G.I.F.) group from Goodrich Junior High created a display and presented a workshop in which participants learned how to make their own recycled paper. The group also shared this past year’s accomplishments which included “Environmen- tal Fun Day” (a neighborhood event that highlighted hands-on environmental activities and games), setting up recycling centers in West Lincoln Elementary, and helping out with “Kids’ Day” (a summer program for elementary age youth) at the West Lincoln Family Re- source Center. Their plans for the coming year include hosting a “Teen Hang Out Night” weekly at the West Lincoln Family Resource Center, encouraging local businesses to recycle, another “Environmental Fun” event in conjunction with West Lincoln Elementary’s Fun Fair on May 2, and a neighborhood clean-up and picnic celebration in June.

The Star City Llama 4-H Club also created a display, at which they played a tape of their participation in the Star City Parade. They also presented a workshop describing llama care and husbandry treat- ment issues, showed a snow leopard to a local elementary school where residents experienced a unique form of pet therapy. Workshop partici- pants got a real treat when they were able to pet and feed the lovable creatures; even an obstacle demonstration was staged with the kids as the obstacles! Next year’s plans include competition in the Lancaster County Fair and Nebraska State Fair, visiting a classroom of disabled children and another nursing home.

Congratulations Learn & Serve participants! You’re making a difference in your community! (TB)
Methodology and ramifications of greenbelting continued from page 4

then from remote areas where sale prices for homesites and development have not reported or shown discernible influence. Secondly, and most feasible for local assessors, establishing a value based on the capability of land to produce and maintain a viable income, whether through cash rents or production of agricultural commodities. When analysis is confined to the products being produced, a true non-influenced value can be established. This is the approach that we have selected for Lancaster County.

The first step in establishing a value by this approach involved the estimation of a production capability factor for each of the 57 soil types present in Lancaster County. This was done by the US Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, using their software package.client. This software package is based on the premise that the soil type is the major factor in determining the production capability of the land. The next step was to determine the yield of crops based on the soil type. This was done by the University of Nebraska, Cooperative Extension, using their software package. This software package is based on the premise that the crop type is the major factor in determining the yield of crops. The final step was to multiply the production capability factor by the yield of crops to arrive at a "value per acre" for each soil type. This value is then used to determine the fair market value of the land.

Healthy meals simmer when cooked on the grill continued from page 6

• Rub it on. Try experiment- ing with rubs and marinades. Rubs are blends of dried herbs and spices that flavor the exterior of meats. Marinades, made with herbs, spices, and an acidic liquid like wine vinegar or lemon juice, tenderize cuts of meats.

Gather-and-go-grilling
Summer produce offers bold flavors and colors to meals and is perfect for grilling. Season chopped vegetables, such as zucchini, bell peppers, and eggplant with spices like curry, cumin, and garlic. Wrap veggies in foil and grill for 10 to 15 minutes. Balance your meal by serving refreshing low-fat frozen yogurt with grilled applesauce and cinnamon. plant also known as the "value per acre" for each soil type. This value is then used to determine the fair market value of the land.

Antelope Commons continued from page 3

Antelope Commons is an example of how the public and private sectors can work together to solve environmental problems. Working together, WE CAN make a difference. (SCB)

Type II diabetes course continued from page 6

become a better health consumer. If you are single and between the ages of 18-25 with a desire to meet new people and promote the dairy industry, this could be a great opportunity for you!

For an application and further information contact: Linda Meyer • Rt. 1, Box 43 • Hallam, NE 68368-9518 402-826-5693

University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.
May 2
Hunter Education Certification Training
—Game & Parks Building, State Fair Park …………………… 6:00-9:00 p.m.

May 3
Hunter Education Certification Training
—Game & Parks Building, State Fair Park …………………… 8:30 a.m.- noon

May 6
Production Livestock Booster Club Meeting …………………… 7:00 p.m.
4-H Council Meeting ………………………………………… 7:00 p.m.

May 8
4-H Poultry and Pigeon VIPS Committee Meeting …………………… 7:00 p.m.

May 10
Hunter Education Certification Training
—Game & Parks Building, State Fair Park …………………… 8:30 a.m.- noon

May 14
4-H Horse VIPS Committee Meeting ………………………………………… 7:00 p.m.

May 15
4-H Rabbit VIPS Committee Meeting ………………………………………… 7:00 p.m.

May 23
4-H Market Broker Deadline
District Horse Shows and 4-H State Horse Expo Entries Due

May 30
4-H Lamb Tagging …………………………………………………… 4:00-7:00 p.m.

May 31
4-H Lamb Tagging …………………………………………………… 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

May 31 & June 1
Pre-District Clinic and Horse Show—Capitol City Horse and Pony Club Arena

June 2
4-H Horse IDs Due

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**Telephone Numbers:**

Office (leave message after hours) ……………………………… 441-7160
After hours ………………………………………………… 441-7170
Fax ……………………………………………………………… 441-7148

**CompostingHotline** ………………………………………… 441-7129

**Nebraska Information Center** ……………………………… 441-7188

**Office Hours:** 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

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**Extension Calendar**

All programs and events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless otherwise noted.

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**Educate yourself about Nebraska’s natural resources**

Teachers, educators, families and individuals interested in discovering Nebraska’s natural resources may want to check out the seventh annual Nebraska Environment Education Association Conference June 27-29, 1997 at Nebraska State Park.

The conference will provide an opportunity to educate through discovery, hands-on exploration and minds-on inquiry. This year’s theme is Dynamic Duos: Rivers and History. For more information, call Syd Hive at 476-2729 or Peggy Hunt at 441-8709. (GB)