9-2015

NEBLINE, September 2015

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/neblines

Part of the Agricultural Education Commons

http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/neblines/299

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Extension at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in The NEBLINE Newsletter Archive from UNL Extension in Lancaster County by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.
Many 4-H Youth choose to exhibit their project(s) and participate in contests at county and state fairs. The 2015 Lancaster County Super Fair was held July 30-Aug. 8 at the Lancaster Event Center. This was the fifth year the Lancaster County Fair was 10 days. Nearly 700 4-H/FFA exhibitors showcased over 5,100 exhibits (including static exhibits, Clover Kids, animals and contest entries). A special thank you to all the volunteers and sponsors who helped make 4-H & FFA at the fair possible!

The Lancaster Event Center and Super Fair’s new tagline, “Let the Good Times Grow,” applied to 4-H/FFA youth who “grew” knowledge and skills while having a good time exhibiting at the fair. 10-year-old 4-H’er John Sump said, “I love exhibiting my projects at the Lancaster County Super Fair because it’s so cool to see my hard work on display. I made a wooden mat out of old garden stakes. I learned how to sand — a lot! This was the first time I used stain, too. Most importantly, I learned patience because I applied three coats of polyurethane to my project. It was fun to make something old, new again!”

8-year-old Clara Johnson experienced 4-H activities at the Super Fair for the first time after being a Clover Kid (ages 5–7). When asked how her first year went, she said, “It was absolutely amazing! It was a lot of work and practice, but it was amazing. Next year, I will start earlier with documentation and writing my stories because I ran out of time in the end. I will write a list of things do that I need to do earlier in the year. Mostly, 4-H is really fun and you learn so much!”

Due to the outbreak of avian influenza, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture cancelled all events where birds are co-mingled in 2015. Extension Associate Marty Cruickshank, 4-H Poultry Superintendent Jean Nabity and 4-H poultry club leader Diane Merrell quickly responded by creating alternate 4-H poultry events for the Lancaster County Super Fair. New events included a poster contest, presentations, poultry parts identification contest, quiz bowl and a crowing contest. 4-H’ers used a stuffed bird in the poultry presentations which replaced live birds because of avian influenza. The team presenters above discussed bird diseases and demonstrated how to treat bumblefoot.

This was Extension Unit Leader Karen Wobig’s first year assisting 4-H staff with the fair. She said, “I learned how much time and effort staff put forth in the success of the Super Fair. I have a newfound respect for everyone involved in creating this amazing venue for our youth to shine and learn. Seeing the faces of 4-H’ers after showing their exhibits is priceless.”

Lancaster County has the largest 4-H county fair horse show, with 41 horse events spanning six days. This year, 134 horse exhibitors competed in 1,115 total entries. The Western Horse Show included Western Pleasure (pictured).
Read This BEFORE Reading Another Sensationalized Food Article on the Internet!

**Alice Henneman, MS, RDN Extension Educator**

- “Lose 10 pounds overnight!”
- “Avoid eating (name of food) to prevent dementia, autism, etc.”
- “Eat (name of food) to burn fat!”
- Promises, promises — the Internet is full of claims about special powers or pitfalls from eating various foods.

Following a false dietary claim that is ultimately ineffective may deprive you of foods you enjoy or contribute to needless expenses for special foods, supplements, etc. On a more serious note, you may delay getting needed treatment for a medical condition with resulting additional expenses and/or health consequences.

In searching for information on the Internet, the most sensational information may come up first as that is what tends to get read. You’re not likely to find a lot of peer-reviewed journal articles coming up at the top of a search.

How do you separate fact from fancy? Here are some guidelines to get you started.

**The Claim Is Too Good (or Too Horrible) to Be True**

Weight loss plans frequently fall in this category. Rapid weight loss is promoted. Food choices are limited or the plan warns one or more foods will make you ill. Legitimate diet plans recommend slow weight loss of about 1–2 pounds a week with a food pattern based on eating balanced, nutritious, wholesome meals. Most fad diets will work in the short term because they cut calories. However, they fail in the long term because they may be expensive, become boring, don’t fit into a normal lifestyle and/or don’t teach you how to lose weight for a lifetime. The Cabbage Soup Diet or the Grapefruit Diet are examples of diets that have come and gone.

**Correlation Does Not Equal Causation**

A relationship may be implied between two variables because as one circumstance increases, the other also increases (or decreases) proportionally. However, that doesn’t mean one caused the other. For example, at one time some “experts” felt eating ice cream caused polio. Both ice cream consumption and polio peaked in the summer months. While there was a “correlation” between these two events, it was not a “causation.” Ice cream did not cause polio in children. The actual cause was polio is a type of virus that is more likely to cause disease in the summer.

Read carefully to learn if further research was done on additional possible causes. If there might be several possible causes, was the testing sufficient to single out one cause?

**No Formal Testing Was Done to Validate a Claim**

Are the recommendations based on testimonials, personal experiences or observations? When possible, scientists compare results from subjects given a certain treatment or substance to a “control group” not given the substance being tested. Both groups are allocated randomly. Additionally, the subjects don’t know which substance they’re receiving.

People will often say they felt better after trying a certain diet, product or treatment because they perceive it will make them feel better — it’s called the “placebo effect.” In a “double-blind” study, the researchers also don’t know which treatment a group receives until the results are in.

Before an article can be published in a credible scientific journal, it must be peer-reviewed as to the quality of its information and the methods used to obtain the results. As for Internet articles, anyone can publish information on the Internet.

**The Author is Selling Something**

As part of the author’s recommendations, he or she may try to sell a product, supplement, etc. See FOOD ARTICLES next page
Cleaning Strategies When Pets Are in the Household

Having a pet in the household frequently poses some special cleaning challenges, particularly if family members or friends have allergies. The American Cleaning Institute offers some suggestions to help you avoid allergen control.

Vaccum regularly to keep up with the pet hair. An upright vacuum or a canister style with a power nozzle will pick up 2–6 times as much dust from a rug as canisters without a power nozzle. Be sure to move the pet to another space when you vacuum; otherwise, the noise may upset them. If possible, use a vacuum with a HEPA filter and/or exhaust filter, or use a special bag that holds allergens inside.

Brush your pet frequently. This advice is not just for dog owners! Cats, particularly elderly ones who may have trouble grooming themselves, can also benefit from regular brushing. If possible, do it outside, away from those with allergies. After brushing, bathe your cat, wash your hands with soap and water.

Pett-proof the environment. Tuck electrical cords out of the way. Install safety latches in lower kitchen cabinets. Don’t leave small items around that might be mistaken for chew toys. And don’t leave any type of cleaning liquid out where pets might be tempted to take a drink.

Wash pet food dishes daily. They can be a magnet for ants and other crumbly critters. Store all pet food in a securely closed container. This keeps out bugs, exploring toddlers and forgotten dishes.

Keep bedding clean. Choose a pet bed with washable, removable cushions to make cleaning easier. Dust mites love to eat pet dander, so consider dust mitte covers for your pet’s bedding.

Sensationalized Food Articles from preceding page play tricks on your mind. Be especially wary if you’re offered a diagnosis of your health status and then told a product sold by the author will cure you.

The Author Has Little to No Specialized Training in Nutrition

What are the author’s credentials? If he or she has an advanced degree, what type is it? Is it from a recognized college or university? How was it obtained? There are several examples of animals whose owners obtained PhD’s for them through diploma mills. One of the most famous animals with a doctorate degree was “Dr. Z. H. Katz,” a housecat.

If the person has an authentic degree, check their practice with the realm of generally accepted science? Or, do they operate on the fringe with little accepted science? Or, do they practice within the realm of generally authentic degree, do they practice?
Pasture Management for Weed Control

Tyler Williams
Extension Educator

The extra rain this spring has made many pastures green and, quite possibly, full of weeds. Many growers are not as concerned about hayland properly being the best form of weed control, but that does not always happen. Typically, weeds invade pastures because the existing forage stand was not thick enough to reduce or out-compete the weeds. Enhancing the competitiveness of the grass will limit weed growth and may be done by fertilizing, extra seeding and well-managed grazing.

Rotational Grazing

Rotational grazing is one option for weed control. This is done by cross-fencing portions of the pasture, increasing the stocking rate over the area and moving the animals often. With the higher stocking rate over a small area, more nutrients will be removed and will graze some of the weeds they normally might avoid or trample them into the ground. This form of intense grazing should be quick and done early enough in the year to promote adequate regrowth of the grasses. As you rotate, leave plenty of residue behind when moving animals to a new pasture to maintain a higher competition for weeds.

It is important to remember grazing periods are short; just a few days before winter begins limits the plant’s ability to develop the roots and tiller buds needed to fulfill its growth potential next spring. Be sure to keep several inches of green leaves on your grasses heading into the fall season. These green leaves will convert full sunlight into tiller buds, root growth and rootnutrient reserves.

Overskimming any time of the year will inhibit grass growth and provide less competition to weeds.

Herbicide Control

If your operation is not conducive for rotational grazing, herbicide applications may be the best option. October and early to mid-June usually are the two most effective times to control most perennial weeds. Annual weeds, such as Setaria, Canada Fleabane, Hairy Fleabane, all important considerations when deciding whether or not to apply. The risk of changes in hay value, rainfall timing and amount and varieties yield response to the fertilizer may not be worth the money spent to apply the fertilizer.

Fertilization

Fertilizer can be used to increase the production of your grass, which may also increase the competition for weeds. The cost of fertilizer, value of hay or pasture and the plant species response to fertilizer are all important considerations when deciding whether or not to apply. Nitrogen and phosphorus are the most common fertilizers applied in eastern Nebraska. Application timing and amount depend on the type of grasses in the rangeland or, if a mixture, the type of grass most desired. Cool-season grasses should be fertilized in early spring and warm-season grasses should be fertilized mid-to-late May.

Tree Fertilization: Spring vs. Fall

Sarah Browning
Extension Educator

Most Nebraska soils are fertile enough to support good growth of trees and shrubs without the need for additional fertilization and trees surrounded by a fertilized lawn generally do not need additional fertilization. Vigorous growth is a good indication no additional nutrients are needed. However, if trees show poor growth with small amounts of new growth each year, small leaves, off-colored yellow leaves and poor canopy fill, but are not suffering from disease, insect or environmental problems, then fertilization may be warranted.

Factors Contributing to Soil Nutrient Deficiencies

Trees growing in severely eroded, poorly drained or soils or soil disturbed by new construction may benefit from additional nutrients. Landscape trees and shrubs are frequently subject to adverse soil and environmental conditions. Removal of topsoil can reduce the fertility of the remaining subsoil during home construction leaves many landscape plants unprepared for plant growth. Poor soil drainage, competition from grass sod and high soil acidity are all factors that are additional factors contributing to tree and shrub nutrient deficiencies. Supplemental nutrients may sometimes be needed to help trees maintain vigor.

When to Fertilize

Supplemental fertilization is most beneficial during periods of maximum plant growth. The ideal time to fertilize is in the spring, just after trees have fully leafed out. This allows trees to maximize the amount of fertilizer taken up by the roots and growing tissue. Body parts take up nutrients through their root systems and, in most cases, respond best to soil applications of fertilizers.

Fall applications, once leaf drop begins and before the ground freezes, are the second best time to fertilize, however, considerable amounts of nitrogen may be lost to leaching during the winter months. Do not fertilize turf that is freezing. Do not apply fertilizer:

- In late summer, August and September, which may promote growth flushes that are very succulent and could be easily damaged by the freezing temperatures of early autumn.
- During the first year for newly planted trees, since this can create an unbalanced leaf canopy relative to nutrient needs.
- For large transplanted trees, it is best to wait several seasons for the new tree to become established before fertilizing.

What Nutrients are Needed?

Nebraska soils typically have high levels of phosphorus and potassium, so additional fertilization with these nutrients is seldom needed. If a soil analysis indicates the phosphorus level is less than 6 ppm (Bray #1) or 4 ppm (sodium bicarbonate) or potassium is below the range of 75 ppm (extractable K), then applications of one or both of these to bring the nutrients to these respective levels would be beneficial for tree and shrub growth.

Nitrogen is the most frequently limiting nutrient for plant growth, but completing a soil test to determine existing nutrient levels is a good idea before additional fertilizer is applied.

Phosphorus and nitrogen runoff are frequent polluters of lakes, ponds and streams. Many states restrict the use of phosphorus in landscape fertilizers for this reason.

Calculating the Amount of Nitrogen Fertilizer Needed

First, determine the number of square feet under the tree’s canopy. Next, the actual pounds of fertilizer product to be applied is calculated based on the product’s nitrogen concentration.

Recommended rates are 1.5 lb of actual nitrogen or 1 lb of actual phosphorus per 1,000 square feet of area under the tree’s drip line or a shrub’s base.

The formula for finding the square foot area is:

Square feet of circle (area) = \( \pi \times \text{radius}^2 \)

The radius is the distance from the trunk to the end of the branches. The formula for pounds of actual N fertilizer needed is:

1.5 lb of actual N × (area/1,000 square feet).

Then, fertilizer mixture needed:

(1 lb of actual N/ % of N in the fertilizer) × 100

In an example with a radius equal to 20 feet, the formula would be the following: Area = \( \pi \times 20^2 = 3.14 \times 400 = 1,256 \) square feet. Actual nitrogen needed would equal 1.5 × 1,256/1,000 = 1.19 lb of N. If the fertilizer had a 20 percent nitrogen content, as is in the sample label, the amount of fertilizer mixture needed would then be 1.19 × 20 = 8.5 lb of fertilizer.

Application rates greater than the recommended amounts can make trees more susceptible to insect and disease problems and drought injury.

Making Applications

Due to the potential damage to grass under trees when making granular fertilizer applications, do not exceed 1.5 lb of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of area per application. This will reduce the risk of “burning” the grass.

Fertilizer can be applied with a spreader calibrated to apply the recommended amount. Start 2–3 feet from the trunk and move outward in concentric circles until you reach 2–3 feet beyond the drip line (end of branches). Care should be taken to avoid overlapping your circles. Immediately irrigate to move fertilizer into the soil profile.

Fertilizer spikes are a convenient and simple way to apply fertilizer, and can be effective if used in sufficient quantities. However, they are a more expensive alternative when compared to granular fertilizer.
Explore our natural world through hands-on activities that encourage the use of all five senses and builds help vocabulary. Early science activities are most effective when children can explore while we ask interesting questions like “What do you think would happen if...?” Or “I wonder how this works.” Here are some ideas you can use to engage young children to help them learn more about science and nature:

- Watch a butterfly on a flower, ants crawling across the sidewalk or spider building a web.
- Talk about birds, eggs and nests. Have the children recreate a nest or help them build a nest box and place it outdoors for birds.
- Examine objects with magnifying glasses, create new ones.
- Mix colors (paint, chalk, crayons, liquids, etc.) to create new ones.
- Peel fruits and vegetables to see what’s inside. My dad used to split a banana length-wise for us so we could see the tiny seeds before eating it.
- Some activities you choose may be messy or may not start out messy, but end up that way as children explore. Take a play area outdoors too where clean-up is easier.
- As parents, grandparents, teachers and mentors, we have opportunities each day to engage children in science and nature. Sometimes these opportunities take a bit of planning to prepare activity.

Early science activities are most effective when children can explore while we ask interesting questions like “What do you think would happen if...?” Or “I wonder how this works.” Here are some ideas you can use to engage young children to help them learn more about science and nature:

- Watch a butterfly on a flower, ants crawling across the sidewalk or spider building a web.
- Talk about birds, eggs and nests. Have the children recreate a nest or help them build a nest box and place it outdoors for birds.
- Examine objects with magnifying glasses, create new ones.
- Mix colors (paint, chalk, crayons, liquids, etc.) to create new ones.
- Peel fruits and vegetables to see what’s inside. My dad used to split a banana length-wise for us so we could see the tiny seeds before eating it.
- Some activities you choose may be messy or may not start out messy, but end up that way as children explore. Take a play area outdoors too where clean-up is easier.
- As parents, grandparents, teachers and mentors, we have opportunities each day to engage children in science and nature. Sometimes these opportunities take a bit of planning to prepare activity.

There’s a lot going on in the wildlife world as we experience late summer and early fall. You may be considering the services of a pest control company to help you manage any pests. How do you know if you need to hire someone or can you manage pests on your own?

First, are you having trouble with pests in and around your home?

If the answer is NO, then you don’t currently need a pest control company.

If you are having pest problems, take the first step by identifying the pest you are having trouble with. This will let you know if you can solve the problem yourself or if you need to contact a pest control company.

- Nebraska Extension promotes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach which involves:
  1. Minimize their attraction.
  2. Monitoring and assessing pest numbers and damage.
  3. Guidelines for when management is needed.
  4. Preventing pest problems.
  5. Using a combination of management tools: biological, cultural, physical/mechanical and finally, chemical.

Post identification is a critical first step because you’ll learn what your problem pest needs to survive — what they eat, where they live and their life stages.

- Capture the problem pest and bring to your local county Extension office. Of course, alive is always best, but if you can’t capture the pest alive, make sure the sample is in good condition. Pests squished between tissues are nearly impossible for us to identify when all that is left is a bit of dried goo and part of a hair leg.
- You can also take a digital photo of your pest, but this can be tricky, since some features help identify an insect or spider need to be seen under a microscope. We still might ask you to bring one in, but you can try emailing us a high-resolution photo.
- Once your pest is identified and you learn more about the pest, you’ll be able to make the best decisions for control. A solution may be as simple as sweeping up the pest with a broom or using a flyswatter (wasp cockroaches are acci- dental invaders in our area — no pesticides needed). If it is one of the many pantry pests, you would search for an infested stored foods product and learning how to best store dry goods in your pantry to prevent pests.
- Sealing and caulking around openings like windows and doors, keeping the home in good repair by repairing leaks and rotten wood is also key to reducing pests in the home.

Depending on the pest, you may need to hire a pest control company. For example, German cockroaches can quickly get out of control. For people dealing with bed bugs or pest, you’ll want to hire a pest control company. If you have bats in your attic or raccoons trespassing your yard, the pest control company to help you. If you have termites in your house, a treatment will need to be done by a certified pest control company. Do not attempt to control termites on your own. Pest control compa- nies will also perform an annual inspection for termites if you are concerned about them on your property.

If you decide you need to use the services of a pest control company, ask if the company practices Integrated Pest Management. IPM is the best and safest way to control pests found in and around your home.

Reliable pest control companies will provide you with information about their services. Ask if they offer an initial service followed by ongoing treatments to control pests and safely keep your family and pets safe from pesticides.

Do you need to hire a pest control company?

Soni Cochran
Extension Associate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outdoor Fun: Leaf Rubbings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Jane Frogge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Associate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leaf rubbing is a great activity to get kids outside and learning about trees. While collecting leaves from your yard for this activity, look up the trees in a book. If you do not have a tree identification book, check one out at the library. Are the trees that you collected leaves from native to the United States? Discuss how trees are beneficial supplying oxygen, providing shade and wildlife habitat. What are other ways trees are important to us?

**Supplies:**
- Different sizes and shapes of tree leaves (maple, oak, hackberry, mulberry, ginkgo)
- Colored paper
- Leaf ID book

**Directions:**
1. Place a piece of paper over the leaf. Remove the paper covering from a crayon.
2. While holding the leaf and paper in place, use the side of a crayon to rub across the leaf.
3. Make sure you color over the entire leaf. Rubbing over the paper over the leaf will show the veins and the outline of the leaf.
4. Do another leaf with a different color crayon. Continue until the paper is filled.

- For more information, call 402-797-2301.

**TWILIGHT ON THE TALLGRASS**

Family fun under the harvest moon!
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center
11700 SW 100th St., Denton
Saturday, Sept. 26, 6-10 p.m.
- Live owl show at 7 p.m.
- Wagon rides through the prairie
- Guided bird and nature walks
- Views of the full harvest moon
- And many more activities for all ages

For more information, call 402-797-2301.

**GARDEN GUIDE**

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

Mary Jane Frogge, Extension Associate

Allow plants to finish the summer growth cycle in a normal manner. Never encourage growth with heavy applications of fertilizer or excessive pruning at this time. Plants will delay their dormancy process that has already begun in anticipation of winter in the months ahead. New growth can be injured by an early freeze.

Collect okra seed pods, gourds, sumac seed heads, rose hips and other suitable materials for dried arrangements. Air dry these materials in a dark, cool location.

Perennial phlox can be divided about every third or fourth year. Divide big clumps of perennial phlox into thirds. Early fall or early spring are the best times to plant or transplant them.

Do not wait for frost warnings to move your plants indoors. Temperatures of 45°F or lower can damage many tropical house plants.

Select accent plants for your landscape that will provide autumn colors. Trees that have red fall color are flowering dogwood, red maple, sugar maple, Norway maple, red oak and scarlet oak. Shrubs with red fall foliage include sumac, viburnum, winged euonymus and barberry.

Before the first frost dig up caladiums. Allow them to dry and store them in a dry place for the winter.

Put up chives, parsley and other herbs to extend the growing season in the house.

Tree wound paints used after pruning are no longer recommended as they can slow healing and may promote decay. If pisky seedlings of woody plants, such as elm, mulberry, hackberry or maple are found growing in your yard, remove them as soon as possible. If left too long they will take over gardens and other landscape plantings.

Fall is a good time for improving your garden soil. Add manure, compost and leaves to increase the organic matter content. Plant peonies now, but make sure the crowns are buried only one and a half to two inches below ground level. Planting them too deep may cause the leaves to stunt from blooming.

Plant peas now, but make sure the crowns are buried only one and a half to two inches below ground level. Planting them too deep may cause the leaves to stunt from blooming.

Root cuttings from annual bedding plants such as begonias, coleus, geraniums and impatiens. These plants can be overwintered in a sunny window and provide plants for next year’s garden.
Michelle Huber
Lancaster County 4-H

4-H is proud to announce Michelle Huber as winner of September’s “Heart of 4-H Award” in recognition of outstanding volunteer service. Michelle has been a 4-H volunteer for 30 years. She is currently 4-H Photography Superintendent at the Lancaster County Super Fair, a parent volunteer with the South Prairies Wranglers 4-H rabbit club and instructor at Clover College. Previously, she volunteered with the horse program for 20 years as a hippology and judging coach, member of Horse VIPs committee and horse judge.

“4-H has been in my family for four generations,” she says. “4-H provides an opportunity for youth to gain leadership experience, citizenship and community service. Participation in 4-H allows youth to develop lifetime skills. My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer has been as the Photography Superintendent. I have enjoyed working with the 4-H youth, Extension staff and judges. It’s been a joy to watch youth develop their photography skills, creativity and confidence.”

Lancaster County 4-H thanks Michelle for donating her time and talents. Volunteers like her are indeed the heart of 4-H!

---

4-H at State Fair

Get ready for fun at the 2015 Nebraska State Fair, Friday, Aug. 28 through Monday, Sept. 7, at Fonner Park in Grand Island! For a schedule of 4-H at the state fair, results and more, go to http://4h.unl.edu/nebraskastate-fair/. State Fair information is at www.statefair.org.

The Lancaster County Extension office has a limited number of $4 exhibitor tickets for 4-H exhibitors and their immediate family only. First come, first served. These can be purchased at the office at 444 Cherry Creek Road (cash or check only, no credit cards).

Public gate admission will be $10 with reduced price days Aug. 31–Sept. 3. Children 6–12 will be $3 and children 5 and under will be free.

Rabbit Clinic, Oct. 31

A free 4-H Rabbit Clinic will be held Saturday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m.–noon at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Road, Lincoln. Open to all youth and families.

This is a great opportunity to learn about the 4-H Rabbit Program which is open to all youth ages 8–18. Sessions include feeding and care of a rabbit, how to judge rabbits and showmanship. For more information, call Marty at 402-441-7180.

Livestock Booster Club Scholarships

The Lancaster County 4-H Livestock Booster Club awards two $500 college scholarships each year. Husker Auto Group sponsored both of the scholarships this year. Micah Scholl and Renae Siek were presented the scholarships at the Lancaster County Super Fair 4-H/FFA Livestock Premium Auction.

---

Horse Awards Night, Oct. 1

Come one and all!

The annual Lancaster County 4-H Horse Awards Night will be Thursday, Oct. 1, 6:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Rd., Lincoln. The Horse VIPs Committee will provide snacks. Awards presentation includes Incentive Awards, Horsemanship Levels, All-Around Awards, Herdsmanship, Top Judging buckets and ribbons, and a few surprise awards! Come help celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of the 2015 Lancaster County 4-H horsemen!
Top Static Exhibits

GENERAL AREAS
Poster: Addison Wonsor
Club Banner: The Egg Basket Club
Quilt Contest: Kylee Plager
Dog Exhibit: Anna Sump

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
Model Vehicle: Tyler Vander Woude
Aerospace: James MacGregor
Woodworking: Riley Peterson
Safety: Kyle Hansen
Overall Science: Tami Casdall

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Human Development: Alyssa Zimmer

PHOTOGRAPHY
Unit 1: Syd Krame
Unit 2: Sarah Curney
Unit 3: Philip Hanigan

CLOTHING
STEAM 1: Claire Boeun
STEAM 2: Riley Peterson
STEAM 3: Kylee Plager
Beyond the Needle: Ellie Babcock
Crocheting: Emma Noel
Knitting: Ellie Babcock

HORTICULTURE
Vegetables: Sarah Cunningham
Herb Exhibit: Kyle Hansen
Annual Flower Exhibit: Jacob Rushman
Perennial Flower Exhibit: Phillip Rushman
Rose Exhibit: Bailee Gunnerson
Specialty Plant: Kyle Hansen

CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE AND FORESTRY
Conservation and Wildlife Exhibit: Teaygon Show
Forestry Exhibit: Riley Weitz

Top Contest Awards

BICYCLE
Sr Ch: Nathaniel Gabel
Jr Ch: Gregory Johnson
Res Ch: Sarah Cunningham

LIFE CHALLENGE
Sr Ch: Ellie Babcock
Jr Ch: Vo-Boobie
Jr Ch: Aleya Cuttlers
Jr Res Ch: Sarah Cunningham

PLANT SCIENCE
Horticulture Contest: Abby Babcock
Tree ID Contest: Grace Dow
Grass & Weed Contest: Abby Babcock

PRESENTATIONS
Ch Premier Contestant: Rose Ingracia
Ch Sr Presenter: Rose Ingracia
Res Ch Sr Presenter: Abby Babcock
Ch Inter Presenter: Ellie Babcock
Res Ch Inter Presenter: Julia Stephenson
Ch Jr Presenter: Kyle Hansen
Res Ch Jr Presenter: Troy Jordan

STYLE REVUE
Ch Style Revue: Emily Pillard
Res Ch Style Revue: Renee Sieck
Ch Shop Make: Joci Sherrill
Swetek
Res Ch Shopping in Style: Mary Dowd
STEAM 1: Luke Johnson
Make One/Buy One Level 1: Karter Kinard
Make One/Buy One Level 2: Julia Stephenson
Make One/Buy One Level 3: Sheridan Swetek

Attention Shoppers: Clara Johnson
Upcycled Garment: Bailee Gunnerson

TABLE SETTING
Jr Picnic: Lisa Szwansky
Jr Casual: Clara Johnson
Jr Birthday: Clare Bauman
Jr Formal: Sarah Cunningham
Inter Picnic: Anna Sump
Inter Casual: Ella Hendriksen

Top Animal Exhibits

BEEF
Ch Supreme Breeding Heifer: Kylee Gana
Res Ch Supreme Breeding Heifer: Caityn Wallbracht
Ch Supreme Feeder: Renae Sieck
Res Ch Supreme Feeder: Kylee Gana
Grand Ch Market Heifer: Skylar Sterns
Res Grand Ch Market Heifer: Ashlyn Meng
Grand Ch Market Steer: Ashyn Cooper
Res Grand Ch Market Steer: Lauren Robertson
Supreme Ch Showmanship: Brett Heinrich
Sr Ch Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht
Jr Ch Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht
Res Ch Inter Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht
Jr Ch Inter Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht
Res Ch Sr Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht
Jr Ch Jr Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht
Res Ch Jr Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht

DAIRY CATTLE
Overall Ch Showmanship: Cassie Meyer
Sr Ch Showmanship: Cassie Meyer
Ch Inter Showmanship: Cassie Meyer
Jr Ch Jr Showmanship: Benjamin Meyer
Sr Ch Holstein: Cassie Meyer
Jr Ch Holstein Feeder: Cassie Meyer
Jr Ch Cross Breeder Heifer: Benjamin Meyer
Ch Inter Showmanship: Benjamin Meyer
Ch Sr Showmanship: Benjamin Meyer
Ch Jr Showmanship: Benjamin Meyer
Ch Holstein: Benjamin Meyer
Ch Jr Showmanship: Benjamin Meyer

BUCKET CALF
Ch Bucket Calf Jr Division: Elijah Delhuy
Res Ch Bucket Calf Jr Division: Carlie Sorge
Ch Bucket Calf Inter Division: Allison Brandt
Ch Res Bucket Calf Inter Division: Allison Brandt

SHEEP
Grand Ch Market Lamb: Cole Cooper
Res Grand Ch Market Lamb: Riley Scott
Ch Exhibitor Bred & Owned Market Lamb: Allie Docter

Res Ch Exhibitor Bred & Owned Market Lamb: Allie Docter
Supreme Ch Breeding Ewe: Ashlyn Cooper
Res Supreme Ch Breeding Ewe: Sophia Lentfer
Sr Ch Showmanship: Madelyn Scott
Res Ch Jr Showmanship: Colee Cooper
Ch Inter Showmanship: Riley Scott
Res Ch Inter Showmanship: Megan Lange
Ch Jr Showmanship: Thomas Nealog
Res Ch Jr Showmanship: Heather Lange

SWINE
Ch Overall Market Swine: Kylee Gana
Res Ch Overall Market Swine: Brett Heinrich
Sr Ch Showmanship: Trevor Shultz
Ch Inter Showmanship: Caityn Wallbracht
Ch Jr Showmanship: Nicole Keetle
Ch Breeding Gift: Ashley Gruber
Res Ch Breeding Gift: Taylor Nielsen
Ch Jr Pen of Three: Brett Heinrich
Res Ch Pen of Three: Trevor Shultz

DAIRY GOAT
Ch Alpine Goat: Corianna Kubicek
Res Ch Alpine Goat: Corianna Kubicek
Ch Nigerian Goat: Corianna Kubicek
Res Ch Nigerian Goat: Kaitlynne Meyer
Res Ch Overall Nubian Goat: Taden Bell
Res Ch Res Grand Nubian Goat: Genevieve Hennesey
Ch Toppenburg Goat: Corianna Kubicek
Res Ch Toppenburg Goat: Corianna Kubicek
Res Ch Ch Red Grade Goat: Stella Uiterwaal
Res Ch Res Ch Red Grade Goat: Stella Uiterwaal

MEAT GOAT
Overall Ch Ch Meat Goat: Madelyn Scott
Res Overall Ch Meat Goat: Lilian Bogle
Overall Ch Breeding Goat: Lilian Bogle
Res Overall Ch Breeding Goat: Samuel Heinrich
Sr & Overall Ch Ch Meat Goat Showmanship: Madelyn Scott
Res Overall Ch Meat Goat Showmanship: Danielle Schreiber
Res Ch Jr Meat Goat Showmanship: Lilian Bogle
Res Ch Res Jr Meat Goat Showmanship: Cyrus Harner

LLAMA/ALPACA
Ch Sr Showmanship: Alyssa Jensen
Ch Jr Showmanship: Olivia Waters

POULTRY
Poultry Part I Jr Ch: Linara Carlson
Poultry Part I Jr Ch: Zachary Pinman
Ch Jr Showmanship: Elana Babcock
Ch Res Grand Jr Showmanship: Linara Carlson

RABBIT
All Around Showman Award Co-Ch: Jobi Brown
All Around Showman Award Co-Ch: Rhianna Metcalf
All Around Showman Award Res Ch: Emily Harmon
Best 4 Class: Noah Huber
Best 4 Class: Cora Vrbka
Best 4 Class: Noah Huber
Best 6 Class: Emily Harmon
Best 6 Class: Rhianna Metcalf
Best 6 Class: Rhianna Metcalf

DOG
Ch Sr Showmanship: Jasmine Allen
Jr Inter Showmanship: Emma Dearment
Ch Beginning Jr Showmanship: Emily Allen

CAT
Best in Show: Celeste Uiterwaal
Best in Show Long Hair: Emma Jo Whaley
Best in Show Short Hair: Celeste Uiterwaal

HOUSEHOLD PETS
Gr Ch Grand Ch Mammal: Jocqi Dufy
Res Ch Grand Ch Mammal: Jocqi Dufy
Ch Fish, Reptiles/Amphibians: Nathan McConnell
Res Ch Fish, Reptiles/Amphibians: Emma Schlesiger

HORSE
Grand Ch Hunt/Unsaged Ages 4 and up: Avery Hayes
Res Grand Ch Hunt/Unsaged Ages 4 and up: Bryanna Louden
Res Grand Ch Hunt/Unsaged Ages 4 and up: Joshua Ronnau
Res Grand Ch Stock Horse Ages 4 and up: Lillie Hennesey
Grand Ch Stock Horse Ages 4 and up: Lillie Hennesey
Grand Ch Hunt/Unsaged Horse: Avery Hayes
Res Grand Ch Hunt/Unsaged Horse: Heather Welsh
Grand Ch Pony: Mya Higgins
Res Grand Ch Pony: Kayla Watson
Grand Ch Miniature Horse: Allision Densberger
Res Grand Ch Miniature Horse: Kayria Hinrichs
Ch Jr Showmanship: Grace Kim
Ch Jr Showmanship: Aubrey Hayes
Ch Elem Showmanship: Lillie Matteu
Ch Jr Showmanship: Nicole McConnell
Ch Jr Beginning Jr Showmanship: Madison Solomon
Ch Jr Miniature Showmanship: Lillie Beach
Ch Jr Jr Miniature Showmanship: Allision Densberger
Ch Elem Miniature Horse Showmanship: Lillie Hennesey
Ch Elem Miniature Horse Showmanship: Lillie Hennesey

Clockwise from upper left: Top Overall Science, Engineering & Technology (a restored 1934 Maytag engine), Top Clothing Beyond the Needle (skirt sewn from fabric woven on a loom), A Top Home Environment, English Horse Showmanship Senior Champion, Rabbit All Around Showman Co-Champions, Livestock Elite Showmanship participants, Top Quilt Contest.
Maureen Burson Retires
Public Invitation to Reception Sept. 29

Extension Educator Maureen Burson is retiring after 40 years in Extension. Her last day will be Oct. 1. She has worked at Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County since 1985, after 19 years with the Kansas State Extension.

The public is invited to Maureen’s retirement celebration on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 3–5 p.m. with a formal presentation at 4 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln.

If you would like to submit a letter or card to be included in a book of letters for Maureen, please send by Sept. 22 to: Attn Lorene Bartos, Extension Education, Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln NE 68528.

Over the years, Salina, Kan., Maureen earned her B.S. from Kansas State University in Home Economics and M.S. in Adult Education. Maureen served Nebraskans and Kansans by teaching, developing curriculum and writing grants in a variety of positions throughout her Extension career:

- Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent in Graham County, Kansas (1975–1978)
- 4-H Agent in Riley County, Kansas (1978–1984)

Maureen says, “Some of the most gratifying experiences during my Extension career were watching youth develop life skills over a period of years and the lifetime friendships developed as 4-H professionals. I’ve also been inspired by the heart-felt appreciation expressed by participants of ‘Co-Parenting for Successful Kids’ and ‘Guardianship Training’ classes.”

She also enjoyed the opportunity to work with various community partners to improve the quality of life for families. Examples of partnerships include: “Guardianship Training” (attorneys from the Nebraska State Bar Association, Nebraska Supreme Court and others); “Co-Parenting for Successful Kids” online and on-site classes (Nebraska Supreme Court and others); Nutrition Education Program School Enrichment nutrition kits (LPS) and Garbology (LPS, City of Lincoln Recycling office and others).

Maureen was a member of Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association (NCEA) (31 years), National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Science (NEAFCS) (14 years, including serving as state affiliate president), and National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA) (17 years, including serving as state affiliate president).

Throughout her career, Maureen has earned many awards, including:

- 2009 National Distinguished Extension Educator (NCEA) (17 years, including serving as state affiliate president)
- 2014 Creative Programming by a Team award presented by NEAFCS to the Co-Parenting for Successful Kids adapting on-site to online team
- 2010 2nd place national Community Partnership Award presented by NEAFCS for Guardianship training team
- 2009 National Distinguished Service Award presented by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)

Maureen and Dennis, husband of 31 years and Nebraska Extension Meat Specialist, have three children. As young adults, Kristen, Andrew and Becca continue to benefit from the life skills they learned as Lancaster County 4-H members.

On behalf of Extension staff, we will miss Maureen’s dedication and passion for serving the community. Best wishes and happy retirement, Maureen!