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Kimmel helps bridge resources to further economic development

Oh, the possibilities.

Southeast Nebraska already has a lot going for it — trees, orchards, festivals, tourism, industry, agriculture, work ethic, location.

Connie Reimers-Hild is part of a group that envisions much more — youth entrepreneurship, value-added to local products, greater partnerships, more tourism. Lots more tourism.

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension educator is based at the Kimmel Education and Research Center near Nebraska City. Kimmel is designed to support regional economic development through collaboration, extension education and research in such areas as viticulture, specialty forest crops and sustainable agriculture. The state-of-the-art conference center hosts workshops, conferences, seminars and networking opportunities.

“Developing partnerships with the community and entrepreneurs is critical to success,” Reimers-Hild said.

Kimmel itself is the result of a partnership. The private Richard P. and Laurine Kimmel Charitable Foundation owns the 9,200-square-foot building. The Arbor Day Foundation takes care of the grounds of the Kimmel Orchard and Vineyard, on which the center is located. Extension provides expertise for educational programming and research.

Ernie Weyeneth of Lincoln is Kimmel Foundation president and chief executive officer. He said he “couldn’t be more pleased” with



Viticulture, specialty forest crops and sustainable agriculture are areas of extension education and research at the Kimmel Education and Research Center near Nebraska City.

Kimmel staff Debora Heidzig, left, office manager; Vaughn Hammond, extension technologist; and Connie Reimers-Hild, extension educator, coordinate regional activities at a conference center that hosts workshops, conferences, seminars and networking opportunities.



Debora Heidzig

Courtesy Nebraska City News-Press

the three-way partnership. Weyeneth added that in 1925 extension agent Ernie Hoppert helped lifelong Nebraska City resident Richard Kimmel set up his orchards.

Pat Haverty, executive director of the River Country Economic Development Corporation, said he sees the Kimmel center as a valuable resource and alternative location to extend university expertise to rural areas. Haverty said individuals, farmers and entrepreneurs have relied on valuable knowledge from Vaughn Hammond, extension technologist.

Other Kimmel center amenities and services include onsite laboratories, an educa-

tional trail system and an outdoor classroom.

Kimmel grounds feature woody florals, grasses, cut flowers, herbs, fruits and a blueberry bed. Such alternative plants provide education to visitors, an experience for their senses, and could promote value-added business opportunities, Haverty said.

One of Kimmel’s main events is the annual fall Wild Nut and Fruit Jam, which last fall drew 2,500 people. Another attraction is the Apple Jack Festival, which annually draws 40,000 to 50,000 people.

With such events as a starting point, Kimmel will be a training ground for UNL’s

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Dean's comments

Know how. Know **now**.

That theme captures the breadth, depth and expediency of University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension's work throughout Nebraska, and you can expect to see us use it a lot in the coming months and years.

"Know how" has several different meanings for extension.

It refers to the expertise of our extension specialists, educators and staff, who have the "know how" to develop strong educational programs filled with knowledge Nebraskans immediately can put to use in their lives.

The "know how" of extension education in turn becomes the transferred knowledge — the "know how" — of our constituents, helping provide the confidence, skill and understanding people can use to make a change, achieve objectives, improve effectiveness, or make their lives better in some way.

As for "know now" — timeliness is part of extension. Once we know something, our constituents know it soon after, through timely programming. That occurs not only in workshops, field days and seminars, but through the extension knowledge available 24/7 on the Web. Visit <http://www.extension.unl.edu>, and explore the knowledge there on your own schedule.

More than once I've heard the breadth and depth of extension education referred to as the university's best-kept secret. That's because our wide variety of constituents so

often know us by their point of touch.

For instance, extension education may provide a crop producer "know how" to grow 200-bushel corn with less water. But that producer may not realize extension education also is helping young parents with education to be better parents, helping businesses with food safety education, providing fun learning opportunities for youth, helping communities plan for the future and more. Much more.

We have a new video in which extension clientele describe how extension helped them increase their "know how." If you haven't yet seen it, I expect you soon will.

It will be played at extension education meetings and in other suitable settings, such

as civic group and club meetings, to provide Nebraskans greater knowledge of what extension offers them, so they can take advantage of these educational opportunities.

Extension is a front-line resource for knowledge people can put to use in their lives and businesses. Every day we are at work for Nebraska as our state's "know how, know now" provider.

To see the video, contact your nearest extension office. They'll be glad to show it to you. We hope it provides everyone ideas about programs UNL extension offers to help Nebraskans know how — and know now.



Elbert Dickey

Elbert Dickey
Dean and Director
University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension

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There is no charge for this newsletter. Each issue describes a few of University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension's ongoing, widely diverse programs. The newsletter is an informal report to interested taxpayers. Please send comments, questions and subscription requests to: Editor, *UNL Extension Connect*, 108 Agricultural Communications Building, P.O. Box 830918, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68583-0918.

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Partners with Nebraska

Land-grant universities work with the people they serve. NU's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources does so in priority areas of food, agriculture, agribusiness, natural resources, people and communities. We teach, discover new knowledge through research, and extend that new, unbiased information across the state and beyond through extension.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension is part of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension educational programs abide with the non-discrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Youth-adult partnerships enhance community pride



Ugly graffiti that marred the walls of some Scottsbluff buildings spurred a group of high school students to take action.

The 20 students participated in University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension’s Engaging Youth Serving Community (EYSC) program.

The program, funded through a USDA Rural Youth Development grant, matches students with adults in communities up to 10,000 people to work toward community betterment, said Jeff Hart, extension educator for special projects based in Lincoln.

The program encourages partnerships in communities with high minority populations, Hart said, since the highest poverty and school dropout rates are in Hispanic and Native American communities.

Extension developed EYSC programs in diverse minority communities across Nebraska to encourage participants to work toward a common goal.

“It requires youth and adults to work together at the community level,” Hart said. “One of the goals is to involve youth with decision-making groups. This brings youth and adults together so it’s not just adults making the decisions.”

Jackie Cervantes-Guzman, extension educator based in Scottsbluff, said Hispanic students from Scottsbluff, Gering and Mitchell high schools decided to address community beautification in Scottsbluff.

“They felt the area was being neglected and the appearance wasn’t what it should be,” Cervantes-Guzman said.

The students worked with area adults to form committees to spruce up the communities, cover up graffiti and paint murals, and recognize individuals and businesses that contributed to beautification.

Members of this local EYSC group, known as PRIDE (People Restoring Involve-

Students from Scottsbluff, Gering and Mitchell high schools paint over graffiti in Scottsbluff. The students participated in a community beautification plan through UNL Extension’s Engaging Youth Serving Community program.

Photo by Jackie Cervantes-Guzman

ment, Dignity and Excellence), have painted over much of the graffiti that defaced some buildings in Scottsbluff and are working with local artists to get murals painted, Cervantes-Guzman said.

Similar projects are underway in the other communities with an EYSC program, including Lexington, Crete, Nebraska City, Madison, Hartington and the tribal communities of Santee and Walthill/Macy.

In Lexington, youth helped sponsor candidate forums and voter registration drives. In Crete, they helped enhance a walking path for children going to school. Youth in Nebraska City sponsored a tree planting and an anti-litter campaign at an area recreation center. In Walthill/Macy, they sponsored youth training to address the problem of teen suicide and in 2006 organized a festival with music and speakers called Youth Celebrating Life. Youth in Santee developed a project to learn more about the cultural importance of bison to the tribe.

During the process, adults have made “a huge discovery,” realizing more about the way youth think, Hart said.

“Maybe we need to listen to youth more,” Hart said. “Youth have some good ideas about how to solve some of these community issues.”

— Lori McGinnis

Hart can be contacted at (402) 472-4743.

A note from the editor:

Thank you to all our readers who responded to a University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension *Connect* readership survey in 2007. We very much appreciate your help.

So often when people fill out readership surveys they never learn the results. We want to share what readers said, so we’re providing highlights of the survey results here.

In 2007, 2,286 off-campus *Connect* readers received an unsolicited survey in the mail, asking for input on *Connect*. More than 17.4 percent — nearly 400 individuals — completed and returned their surveys. That’s three times what experts say is an expected response for such a survey.

Thank you.

Ninety-six percent of respondents told us *Connect* helps them better understand the breadth and diversity of extension efforts throughout Nebraska. Ninety-three percent said they know more about extension since receiving *Connect*. Nearly one in five said they either file the newsletter for future reference, or pass it on to others.

Feedback on how readers read the newsletter and what they look for in it will help in putting future issues together.

Again, to all who responded — thank you so much for your time, and the valuable information you provided.

— The Connect staff

Going green with money-saving turfgrass education

Taking care of just one lawn can be a lot of work. Imagine, then, the responsibilities for the entire green space at a golf course or a park.

More than 22,000 turfgrass management professionals have more knowledge about those responsibilities due to the annual Nebraska Turfgrass Conference, said Roch Gaussoin, University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension turfgrass specialist.

The conference, held the last 45 years, is sponsored by extension and the Nebraska Turfgrass Association to teach the latest information to turfgrass professionals responsible for large areas of turf. It is the largest educational opportunity available to them in Nebraska, Gaussoin said.



Gerald Horst

Roch Gaussoin, UNL turfgrass specialist, is a presenter at the Nebraska Turfgrass Conference in Omaha. An estimated 750 to 900 people attend the annual event to learn about new cultural practices, turf varieties and more.

“It’s a very dynamic program,” said Gaussoin, who estimates 750 to 900 people attend the annual event in Omaha.

Conference participants, who care for about 300,000 acres of turf, learn about better grass varieties, irrigation management and fertilizer applications.

For example, knowledge gained during the conferences has helped turfgrass managers cut back on water usage, Gaussoin said, as many were unknowingly over-watering. Participants also learned the importance of leaving grass clippings on the turf, which can reduce nitrogen applications 25 percent.

Dan Riner, greens supervisor at Wellington Greens Home Association in east Lincoln, is caretaker of turf at 277 townhomes and a par-3 golf course.

“You learn everything from new turf-related products to new cultural practices,” Riner said of the conference. “You keep abreast of new turf varieties. There’s so much you can learn.”

Conference participants in 2007 indicate they have been attending the conference for an average of 15 years, and estimate they save \$57.25 per acre as a result. Riner, who has attended the conference regularly for about 30 years, said he has “absolutely” saved money by changing the way he manages his 51 acres of turf through less water use and more efficient product use.

Larry Burklund, manager of World of Green, a Lincoln lawn service, said the conference has allowed him to learn more about new lawn equipment on the market.

“We’ve had wonderful success with it,” he said.

For the 2008 conference in January, extension partnered with the Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association for the Nebraska Green Expo. Turfgrass managers had requested the joint show, as much of the information delivered

Par excellence at UNL



Brett Hampton

One of the most popular University of Nebraska–Lincoln degree programs had help from UNL Extension in getting off the ground.

UNL’s Professional Golf Management is coordinated through the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, and is the 15th in the country to be accredited by the Professional Golfers’ Association of America.

Terrance Riordan, PGM program director, said the new program in part grew out of extension’s turf management education. PGM and the turf programs complement each other, he said.

UNL’s PGM program has 135 students enrolled. Three December graduates were the first to complete the program.

— Lori McGinnis

Riordan can be contacted at (402) 472-1142.

at the turf conference overlapped with the association’s event, Gaussoin said.

Such joint conferences have taken place through other universities and “it’s proven to be very successful,” he said. “Now we have more to offer.”

— Lori McGinnis

Gaussoin can be contacted at (402) 472-8619.

Check out Extension’s

Web site at:

<http://extension.unl.edu>

Range of experiences benefit from beef home study courses

Duane Thomas and Katie Popejoy didn't grow up with beef cattle knowledge.

Because of University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension's beef home study courses, they know now.

Dr. Rich Lackaff grew up on a ranch near Bassett. He took the beef home study courses to know more.

People enroll from around the state, the nation and the world to gain the knowledge these Nebraska courses have to offer.

Dennis Bauer, interim district director for the Northeast Research and Extension Center at Norfolk and a beef home study founder, said producer profitability is the goal of the courses. Bauer estimates participants save \$15 per head because of the knowledge gained and management skills learned. That's \$9 million collectively, based on the cattle owned by those who have already taken the courses.

"It has far exceeded what we ever dreamt it could be," Bauer said.

Bauer and a group of extension educators began the home study courses as a way to make knowledge available to people unable to attend extension beef meetings. Their first course, Beef Cow Basics, piloted in 1993.

The original course since has been revised and six more courses added. Educators research and develop materials, reviewed for technical accuracy by a UNL specialist. Seven courses now cover growing calves, beef business, nutrition for the cow herd, cattle on rangelands and feeding corn coproducts. The course on reproduction is undergoing revision.

The home study series is successful because it is built across disciplines, including agronomy, animal science, veterinary science and agricultural economics, Bauer said.

Beef home study enrollments total 5,600 from 40 states and several countries. Thomas, Popejoy and Lackaff are among them.

Thomas, a Lincoln CPA, took a course because he owns some land and said he thinks cattle seem to be the right fit for it. He said he appreciates that the course is self-monitoring, well-organized and academically thorough.

"It would be good for people in the business," Thomas said. "The university needs to do more of that."



Sandra Bellows

Paul Hay, one of several UNL extension beef home study coordinators, reviews an optional quiz to help ensure participants understand the material. Beef home study enrollments total 5,600 from 40 states and several countries since the program piloted in 1993.

Popejoy ranches with her husband, Lafe, near Raton, N.M. She wants to be able to manage their Black Angus operation should the need arise.

"It's nice to see a different angle of how to do things," Popejoy said. "It's very helpful and eye-opening in a lot of ways."

Lackaff also is veterinarian for his family's Red Angus cow-calf and yearling operation. He says the five extension beef home study courses he has taken have been helpful. He said he still refers to the extension materials because nutrition and reproduction are closely aligned.

Optional quizzes are graded by educators

and help ensure participants understand the material, said Paul Hay, UNL extension educator based in Beatrice. Because the courses are self-paced, Hay said one producer got all his lessons done during waiting periods while hauling grain and checking cattle.

Courses now are used as curriculum for high schools and junior colleges, as continuing education for veterinarians and others, as part of the training for feed company sales representatives, and even to establish credibility for certain farm and ranch loans.

— Cheryl Alberts

Bauer can be contacted at (402) 370-4000.

Would you like to treat a friend?

Do you know someone who would like to receive *UNL Extension Connect* who isn't currently receiving a copy? Please send the name and address to: Editor, *UNL Extension Connect*, P.O. Box 830918, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68583-0918. We'll do the rest. Thanks.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Winning the Game teaches improved grain marketing tactics

It's not Monopoly and players don't handle fake money. But if successfully playing a marketing game is an indicator, agricultural producers in reality can make profits.

The real way to pass go in University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension's Winning the Game is by understanding marketing principles, said Doug Jose, farm management specialist.

"People most successful in the games have accepted principles of the game and follow through on them," Jose said, adding, "The goal isn't to get the highest price, but to do better."

The game can be for either preharvest or postharvest marketing. It is played during a three-hour workshop of 12-40 participants. Each has 100,000 bushels of grain, usually corn, to market.

Participants are provided criteria based on seasonal price variations and trends, crop

insurance, weather reports, market situations and storage costs. In the preharvest game, players must determine how much grain to sell and when. Any grain not already sold is automatically "sold" for them at harvest. Actual year and actual yield for the example are revealed when the game is over.

"It's for people who want to get more comfortable with developing a marketing plan and implementing it," Jose said.

Workshops are sponsored by lenders, cooperatives, insurance agents and seed dealers who provide meeting facilities, optional refreshments or meals. Support also comes through the Nebraska Soybean Board.

Marty Krohn, vice president of the Platte Valley Bank in North Bend, has sponsored three workshops.

"Our customers have always been great producers, but were looking for better ways to market their grain and increase profits," Krohn

said. Winning the Game has provided them with easy-to-understand principles on how to market their grain more effectively.

"We've really seen a difference in the way our customers market."

The 26 Winning the Game workshops in 2007 had 512 participants, who Jose said demonstrated they could sell corn for about 15 cents more per bushel and soybeans for 25 cents more per bushel. That's \$16,000 per participant or about \$8 million collectively.

The original Winning the Game program was developed by Roger Selley, former UNL farm management specialist; Roy Smith, Plattsmouth producer and marketing educator; and Jose. Further developments were made by the University of Minnesota, which now markets the game to about a dozen states.

— **Cheryl Alberts**

Jose can be contacted at (402) 472-1749.

Kimmel (continued from page 1)

new hospitality and tourism management degree program.

Robin DiPietro, hospitality management and lodging specialist, said Nebraska City attractions such as Arbor Lodge, orchards and Kimmel will benefit from internships and class projects. Regional cooperative marketing will encourage longer visits, she said.

"The small-town appeal is popular with tourism now," DiPietro said. "People now want to see what rural Nebraska has been doing for years."

Kimmel and a number of partners are involved with a new entrepreneurial networking program, Inventors, Investors and Entrepreneurs (I2E) Club.

Reimers-Hild said Kimmel will enable people to connect with successful entrepreneurs and creative individuals who can help steer a prospective idea toward a patent or business; ask hard questions that need to be asked; and help determine the right questions to ask when exploring an idea.

"I2E will get people to where they need to go. We have so many resources in our small communities," she said, adding, "You can't do anything by yourself or in a vacuum."

— **Cheryl Alberts**

Reimers-Hild can be contacted at (402) 873-3166.

Parenting plan now part of divorce decree

Divorce hits families hard, and often the children suffer the most.

That is why for the past nearly 10 years University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension has promoted programs to help parents and children involved in divorce better deal with stress and conflict. Now the state of Nebraska is following suit.

Following the lead of extension, the state has passed a law to require divorcing parents with children under age 18 to participate in a class to learn how to be better parents and help their children cope in a stressful environment.

Up until now, judges in five of the state's 12 judicial districts had the option of ordering parents to attend two to six hours of parenting classes, said Cindy Strasheim, extension educator based in Clay Center.

Since 1999, Strasheim has led extension educational programs called Parents Forever for parents and Kids Talk About Divorce for children.

In 2007, Speaker of the Legislature Mike Flood of Norfolk worked with an Omaha group called Voices for Children to expand the program, Strasheim said. The Legislature

passed a law that went into effect in January requiring divorcing parents to take a parenting class such as Parents Forever or something similar.

The majority of parents who attended a Parents Forever session said it would help them with parenting skills. One parent who admittedly was unhappy about having to take the class said "I learned a lot that will benefit me and my kids."

The new law is prompting extension to expand the Parents Forever curriculum across the state, Strasheim said.

"This is the result of the recognition of a need for parenting skills in a crisis situation and the need for parents to have a parenting plan in place," Strasheim said.

Flood, who also is an attorney, said Nebraska's children deserve to be given all protection possible when their parents divorce.

"I've seen the benefits of Parents Forever," Flood said. "After the dust settles, we still have to be good parents."

— **Lori McGinnis**

Strasheim can be contacted at (402) 762-3644.

Haskell Ag Lab a valued resource

And now, for the next half-century.

In 2007 the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Haskell Agricultural Laboratory near Concord celebrated 50 years of providing knowledge to northeast Nebraskans with six field tours, more than 25 information booths and 500 people in attendance.

That number “pleasantly surprised” event co-chair David Shelton.

Shelton, UNL extension agricultural engineer, has been at the Concord location for 30 years. He predicts future research and extension programs at the Haskell laboratory will continue to improve crop and livestock production and efficiency, and ways crops — not necessarily current crops — can be used as energy sources. Home and family issues also will be a focus.

“We’ll keep on top of current and future issues — some we don’t even know about at this point,” Shelton added.

Haskell Ag Lab has its roots in a citizen group advocating local agricultural research. The Experimental Farm Association took the donation of a 320-acre farm from the C.D. Haskell family of Laurel and turned it over to the university in 1957. About 10 years ago the site, originally named the Northeast Nebraska

Experimental Farm, was renamed Haskell Agricultural Laboratory.

The Haskell laboratory is a good example of a public-private partnership, said Elbert Dickey, dean and director of UNL extension. Northeast Nebraska producers, having special needs because of the region’s terrain, climate and agricultural diversity, asked for help and provided the land for the university to work to provide that help.

Burl Mormann of Crofton and his wife sought help from the university’s northeast crop, hog and cattle specialists when they began farming in the 1970s.

“We realized early on that if we were to be successful, we would have to do more than we were doing,” Mormann said.

“It isn’t that there isn’t good information out there” from the private sector, Mormann said, but, he added, extension’s information is unbiased and more valuable. As to what he would have done had the university’s ag lab not been developed in northeast Nebraska, he said: “We’ve always wondered that.”

— Cheryl Alberts

Shelton can be contacted at
(402) 584-3849.

Forward-thinking leadership enhanced

Nebraska county officials want more leadership training. University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension is providing it.

Extension has partnered with the Nebraska Association of County Officials to create the NACO Institute of Excellence. The institute was unveiled at NACO’s December meeting attended by about 200 county commissioners and supervisors, who learned through a mock trial featuring Buffalo Bill Cody about a forward-thinking county.

“UNL extension has been great to work with. It’s been a very successful partnership,” said Jon Edwards, NACO assistant legal counsel who has been working with extension.

Extension educators Phyllis Schoenholz, based in Hebron, and Carroll Welte, based in Tekamah, began working with NACO two years ago. Before that, extension provided Internet training to county employees and worked with NACO to strengthen technology skills among county officials. A survey with more than 500 responses indicated that county officials felt the need for more leadership training, especially in a more technological, ever-changing workplace, Schoenholz said.

Schoenholz and Welte initiated two national video/audio conversations with faculty from 13 other land-grant universities to learn how to better improve public official education.

Extension also met with faculty from the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s College of Public Administration and the University of Nebraska at Kearney to develop such topics as leadership, policy, public service, economic development and management. Those topics will be addressed at training sessions that were to begin in February for county supervisors and commissioners.

The first year will be a pilot, Schoenholz said, and may later expand to train more county officials.

— Lori McGinnis

Schoenholz can be contacted at
(402) 762-3644.



Dave Shelton, UNL extension agricultural engineer, and Rod Wilke, right, watershed water quality coordinator, lead a tour of riparian conservation buffers during the Haskell Agricultural Laboratory 50th anniversary celebration last summer.

Cook teen and dress grace the stage at Carnegie Hall

A Cook 4-H'er experienced the big city recently when a dress she created won a Scholastic Art competition, sending her to New York.

Abby Scheer, 18, a senior at Johnson County Central High School in Tecumseh, designed the 1920s-style dress for a University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension 4-H project two years ago. Her creation was made of black chiffon over rose satin, has spaghetti straps, a hand-beaded bodice and a paneled knee-length skirt.

Scheer entered the dress, as well as a handmade jacket, in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, sponsored by the national Alliance for Artists & Writers. The alliance gets 100,000 entries a year for the awards.

Both Scheer's pieces won gold key awards regionally and she got to enter one of them in the national competition in New York City. She was chosen as one of 1,000 young people from across the nation to enter the national competition.

Scheer's dress earned her a silver award last summer and she got to walk across the stage at Carnegie Hall to accept it. It was quite the experience.

"It was a really great honor. It's a great

competition," said Scheer, a member of 4-H for 10 years. "Through 4-H I have developed my love for fashion, design and the arts."

Sarah Purcell, extension educator based in Syracuse, said 4-H provides even more.

"Through her 4-H projects, Abby has definitely mastered decision-making, critical thinking and problem-solving to achieve success," Purcell said.

After the award ceremony, Scheer stayed in New York for a four-week program at Pratt Institute, an art school. Scheer, who has been in 4-H since she was 8, said she is considering a career in fashion design at Pratt, other East Coast schools or UNL.

— **Lori McGinnis**

Purcell can be contacted at (402) 269-2301.



Kathryn Scheer

Abby Scheer, 18, a senior at Johnson County Central High School in Tecumseh, designed a 1920s-style dress for a 4-H project. The dress won a national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition, taking Scheer to New York City.

Through a network of 83 offices serving all 93 Nebraska counties, extension is your front door to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln — no matter where you live or what you do. Your local extension educator, extension specialists and university researchers work together to bring unbiased, relevant and empowering information to families, farmers and ranchers, business and industry, communities, homeowners and young people across the entire state. Discoveries and findings rapidly make their way into the hands and minds of the people who need them — so you can apply this knowledge to answer your questions, make better decisions, achieve your objectives or improve your life in some way.

Extension is committed to helping Nebraskans know how — and know **now**.

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