

**Nebraska 4-H Alerts**  
**Issue 1291**  
**May 17, 2006**

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**1) 2006 4-H FCS Life Challenge Event**

Source: Kristin Warner, Kathleen Lodl

The 2006 4-H FCS Life Challenge Event is rapidly approaching! In an effort to better prepare Extension staff and 4-H volunteers for the contest, a WebEx training will be presented! The training will provide you with the tools and information you need to prepare 4-H'ers for the contest. The changes for this year's contest will be discussed. Opportunities to volunteer and to become involved with the planning of next year's contest will be shared. Please consider registering for this one hour training!

Registrations are currently being accepted at <http://cit.webex.com> for the following WebEx Trainings for UNL Extension 4-H Staff:

**Topic(s):** 4-H FCS Life Challenge Event  
**Date:** Friday, May 19th  
**Time:** 1:00p.m CST

Please enroll as soon as possible to help us determine how many people will be viewing the presentation. The training listed above will be recorded and will be made available on the CIT website for you to view a few days after the training. WebEx Trainings for UNL Extension Staff are recommended for all 4-H Staff members who are able to participate. All that is required to participate is a phone and a computer with Internet access.

Please contact Kristin Warner (<mailto:kwarnar2@unl.edu>) or Kathleen Lodl (<mailto:klodl1@unl.edu>) if you have any questions! Thank You!

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**2) Register Online to Assist with the 2006 National 4-H Technology Leadership Conference**

Source: State 4-H Office

Plans are underway for the 2006 National 4-H Technology Leadership Conference, to be held **July 24-28, 2006**, at the City and East Campuses of the University of Nebraska—Lincoln. A variety of opportunities exist for UNL Extension Staff members and/or 4-H volunteers who wish to be involved with the conference where approximately 350 participants from across the nation are anticipated to convene. By volunteering to assist with the conference, you will have the opportunity to partake in a variety of technology-based experiences!

If you would like to **assist with the conference in-person**, please consider volunteering for the following opportunities by registering online at:

[http://4htechnology.unl.edu/conference\\_volunteering/vol\\_opportunities.php](http://4htechnology.unl.edu/conference_volunteering/vol_opportunities.php).

- **Focus Area Workshop Chaperone**

*(Participation Dates – Entire Conference, July 24-27)*

As a Focus Area Workshop Chaperone, you will have the opportunity to accompany a group of 20-25 youth throughout the conference as they participate in the Focus Area Workshops. A complete list of the twelve Focus Area Workshops can be viewed at: <http://4hntc.4-h.org>. As a Focus Area Chaperone, you will learn about a specific technology area first-hand alongside youth from across the country. All Focus Area Workshop Chaperones will be required to register for the conference and will be responsible for their personal conference expenses; however, chaperones will be offered a reduced conference rate of \$150/person (this rate includes housing, meals, and all conference programs; regular rate is \$300).

- **Share Fair Participant**

*(Participation Date – Wednesday, July 26; 10am-1:30pm)*

Do you have a cutting-edge presentation or exhibit that you would like to share with youth who have a sincere interest in technology? If so, consider participating in the Share Fair! Join representatives from states across the nation, as well as industry leaders, as a presenter at this event. This showcase of the latest technology will be located throughout the UNL City Campus Union, and youth will have the opportunity to casually stroll through the variety of exhibits. There is no cost to be a Share Fair Participant.

- **Computer Refurbishing Service Learning Project Leader**

*(Participation Date – Wednesday, July 26; 12-5pm)*

Learn how to refurbish computers, share this skill with youth participants at the conference, and take this knowledge back to your own community where you can duplicate the project! Staff/volunteers are being invited to assist with the Computer Refurbishing Service Learning Project; once the computers have been refurbished at this event, they will be given to charity. In order to assist with this project, you must have completed the Computer Refurbishing class offered this past winter, OR be willing to complete the course online (which will soon be available) at: [http://4htechnology.unl.edu/4h\\_computer\\_refurb](http://4htechnology.unl.edu/4h_computer_refurb). There is no cost to be a Computer Refurbishing Service Learning Project Leader.

In addition to the above in-person conference opportunities, **all UNL Extension Staff/4-H Volunteers are asked to assist with the conference in the following way(s):**

- **Encourage Nebraska Youth to Register for Conference**

Hosting a national conference in our very own state provides an awesome opportunity for Nebraska youth to participate without having to travel large distances. All youth ages 14-18 (regardless of 4-H membership) are invited to register for the conference. Registrations for Nebraska youth will be accepted from April 1-May 15; to enroll for the conference, please have interested youth complete the registration form that can be downloaded at <http://4hntc.4-h.org> and forward it to Lisa Spilker (E-mail: <mailto:lspilker2@unl.edu>; Fax: (402) 472-9024). Conference promotional materials are available at: <http://4h.unl.edu/staff>. The number of Nebraska youth that we are allowed to register is limited, so please encourage youth to register early!

- **Locate Overnight Camp Sponsors**

The conference planning committee is seeking college-age students for **paid**, Overnight Camp Sponsor positions to assist throughout the duration of the conference. Overnight Camp Sponsors

will be staying overnight and will provide chaperone support during evening activities. If you know of any college-age students who would potentially be interested in assisting with the conference, please contact Kristin Warner (E-mail: <mailto:kwarners2@unl.edu>; Phone: (402) 472-9023).

For further information about the conference, check out the website at: <http://4hntc.4-h.org>. We look forward to working with numerous UNL Extension Staff throughout the 2006 National 4-H Technology Leadership Conference – your support in all capacities is greatly appreciated!

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**3) Please Promote the North Central Region Volunteer Forum**

Source: Doug Swanson

This year the North Central Region 4-H Volunteer Forum is in Rochester, MN on **October 13-14, 2006**. There are a broad range of workshops and general sessions to provide an outstanding experience for any 4-H volunteer. Volunteers should register directly with the conference. Registration information is available on the web at <http://www.fourh.umn.edu/ncr-vf>. I have 100 printed registration booklets. I will send them out to you to use on a first come first serve basis. If you have way to distribute them, please let me know how many you'd like. The least expensive way (\$210) to register is online and before August 1, 2006. Please encourage your volunteers to participate. Thanks!

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**4) Payments to American Income life Insurance Company**

Source: Beth Birnstihl

As an Extension staff member, you are most likely familiar with the American Income Life Insurance Company and how it has been serving the Nebraska 4-H Program by providing blanket accident and illness insurances for 4-H Clubs and other Extension-sponsored youth activities for many years. Their service of providing coverage for individual or multiple events without having to pay a premium up front is extremely valuable to the programming conducted in our state.

Because American Income Life Insurance is a true asset to the Nebraska 4-H Program, we would like to remind you about their *self-billing policy*, meaning that the insured party must calculate the premium due and must mail the payment without prompting from the company. When using Special Activities Coverage, please mail the payment or complete the internal check request *immediately* (within 10 days) after your insured activity is over. Please do not wait to receive a past due notice from American Income Life Insurance before paying the premium.

I encourage you to review your insurance file for unpaid coverage costs if you do not already have a system established that initiates on-time premium payment. While late or non-payments are most likely honest oversights, we hope to remain on positive terms with American Income Life Insurance Company.

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**5) Curriculum Corner**

Source: Patricia Fairchild, Tracy Pracheil

***Transition into New Small Engine 1 Manuals***

Please note that due to this past year's revisions of CCS Materials, our supply of Small Engine 1: Crank It Up (BU7324) has been depleted. However, in its place you may now purchase the newly revised Small Engine 1 manual, Crank It Up (CCS8186). Questions concerning the transition into this manual may be directed toward Tracy Pracheil.