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Back to the Basics 4-H Club Members Taking Interest in New Projects



(From left) Rio Remund, interpreter Linda Carr, welding instructor Jarrod Hill and Ethan Furne display some of the projects the boys have made for 4-H projects. (Courtesy photo)

Hill Overcomes Handicap to Teach Art of Welding to 4-Hers

Editor's Note: For a number of years, the Western Riders 4-H Club horse project has been going strong, with few to no entries in some of the other divisions at the county fair. This year, interest has significantly grown in other projects, with several new leaders taking 4-Hers "Back to the Basics." Welding and Dog projects are featured in our series this week.

By Kendra Veirs

This year, two Arnold 10-year-olds are enrolled in the 4-H welding project, under the direction of Jarrod Hill, of Arnold.

In his first year of teaching the craft, Hill said, "I have been welding ever since I was a little kid, and my dad taught me. I like kids and I think all kids

should have the opportunity to learn how to do something new like welding."

Meeting on Thursday afternoons, Hill emphasized that the #1 key to welding is safety, and the students are taught this. They are also taught the three different kinds of welds. At the fair competition, the projects will be judged on clean, steady welds on individual projects according to guidelines listed in the premium book.

Hill feels this is a skill that a lot of the younger generation has never learned how to do, and they have to rely and depend on somebody that went to college for it.

"I believe that if you want to stay in the ranching/farming community, learning this skill

will save you a lot of time and steps if you know how to weld and don't have to depend on someone else to do it for you," he said.

Almost five years ago, at the age of 39, Hill suffered from a hemorrhagic stroke, while welding at a friend's house. Prior to this, he was a horse shoer, team roper and welder. Doctors said that he would never be able to use his right side again, so he had to re-teach himself how to weld left handed and only with one hand. Hill said he also had to re-teach himself how to talk so people could understand.

"I think that me being in a wheelchair after my stroke helps teach the kids that no matter what God puts in front of them, there is always a way to put a smile on your face and go forward. Never back down from a challenge and always put your best foot forward," he said. "4-H kids who know how to weld will always have something they can fall back on and it is very useful in everyday life."

Of interest, Jarrod does all the teaching and helper Linda Carr interprets what he is saying for the boys when they can not understand him.

Dog Project Kids Doubles

By Kendra Veirs

This is the second year Mike Lehmkuhler has volunteered to lead Western Riders 4-H in the dog project. The number of participants have doubled in just one year to 12.

"Before last year, kids who did the dog project traveled to Broken Bow. I just thought that since I do a lot of training dogs that I would make it available to the kids to practice in

starts giving you guidance and discipline, noting that becoming the dog's leader is the most important thing he teaches the kids.

During practices, the kids learn several different commands and how to teach them to their dogs. Commands include: here, sit, down, stay, stand, heal, jump up, kennel, fetch. They also learn grooming techniques and how this affects



(From left) Riata Remund with Ice and Koda, Marianne Zuniga with Dozer, and Rio Remund with Dodge, are among Arnold 4-Hers enrolled in the Dog Project this year.

Local Boy Returns Home to Provide Attorney Services



Glenn Pelster is providing attorney services to area residents from his satellite office in the Arnold Insurance Agency building. (Kendra Veirs photo)

Glenn A. Pelster, a 2006 APS graduate, has returned to the area where he grew up to offer attorney services.

After earning an undergraduate degree in 2009 from University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Pelster earned his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Arizona Law School in 2013. After graduation, Pelster worked in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for almost two years at the Mountain States Employers Council, where he advised management/employers on labor/employment law compliances, wage/hour issues and

discrimination on age, sex, disabilities, etc.

In July of 2015, he moved back to Nebraska and started a solo practice, Pelster Law Office, in Ogallala.

"After living in Colorado, I knew I felt more at home in Nebraska with less traffic and people," he said. "I looked around and realized there was a definite need for attorneys in this part of the country. Many here are retiring and there is a lot of work to be done."

After having a connection with an attorney who had 20 years of experience and could

offer a share arrangement, but still have his own firm, Pelster saw this as the perfect opportunity to come back Nebraska, offer needed services and still have the guidance of a veteran attorney, while having his own practice.

In May of 2016, Pelster was able to open a satellite office in Arnold, located in the new Arnold Insurance Agency building.

"Since I grew up here, people have contacted me seeking legal services because they knew me growing up," he said. "It is more helpful to have a permanent location. Making access easy for people in return makes them proactive when it comes to contracts and legal documents."

Pelster offers attorney services in a general practice law firm, offering services in all fields specifically including estate planning, family law, employment law, business and real estate.

Pelster emphasized that he is available for anyone to talk to and if it is something out of his realm, he has many connections and can make excellent referrals.

Pelster hopes to continue to grow his practice in Ogallala and Arnold and add office days in Arnold as demand dictates.

Currently, Pelster is in Arnold one day a month and by appointment. He can be contacted at the phone number, 308-289-2635 or by e-mail gpelster@pelsterlaw.com.

Arnold," said Lehmkuhler.

He continued, "I see this growth continuing as I have had a lot of kids and adults come to practice that are not enrolled but just wanted to learn. When we practice I don't restrict it to just 4-H kids, but whoever wants to come."

With practices once-a-week at either the state park or Lehmkuhler's place, it became apparent very quickly that students have learned a great deal about dogs.

Dogs are pack animals and need to have a leader, the 4-Her. Some people do not realize this, wondering why their dogs do not mind or are just bad behaved, Lehmkuhler explained. If guidance and discipline are not provided, the dog becomes the leader of the pack and

the dog's physical health as well as mental health. Preventative medicine is also touched on and how vaccinations, exercise, clean facilities and good nutrition all play a large role in having a happy, healthy dog.

The class that the kids and dogs enjoy the most is the agility class. In order to compete in this class, the dog and leader must be in at least their second year and show that they can stay in control of their animal, at least most of the time. They are asked to go through tunnels, over jumps, walk a plank, stay in an area for five seconds, go through a collapsed tunnel and this is all done with time for completing the course being part of the total score.

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Trevor Halstead Ranks in Top 10 Percent of Airmen

2015 A.H.S. graduate Trevor Halstead started basic training in the Air National Guard at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, graduating on June 8.

He then began job training as a mechanic at Port Hueneme, California, Air Base, where he made the Honor Class, ranking in the top 10 percent of 670 airmen. He was a team leader in Squad 321 Flight 401.

At the end of October, he will be moving on to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he will be stationed in the Air National Guard for the next six years, and will continue his education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in Agronomy.

Trevor is the son of Jesse Halstead and Cindy Halstead.



Trevor Halstead