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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lincoln, NE – September 19, 2011- True Buddy 4-H Therapeutic Sheep Club from Sarpy County has been selected as the 4-H Club of the Month for the month of September by the Nebraska 4-H Ambassadors and Nebraska 4-H Foundation. 4-H clubs from throughout the state of Nebraska nominated themselves by explaining why their club should be Club of the Month. Stories about community service projects, trips to museums and other fun activities were shared.

The True Buddy Therapy Sheep Club started in Papillion during the summer of 2009. The program pairs a special needs child or medically challenged child with a 4-H youth volunteer and a sheep. These kids learn to wash, dress, groom, and walk their sheep. Participants take their sheep through obstacle courses and they even play t-ball with the sheep. The True Buddy Program meets every other week during the months of June and July. There are approximately 30 4-H youth volunteers in the True Buddy Club. At the conclusion of the summer program, participants are able to partake in their own Sheep Show during the Sarpy County Fair. The youth volunteers put on a big production with an MC, music, and even fundraising to help support the club's efforts. Volunteers and participants have a blast and everyone gets to be a part of the fair. The Nebraska 4-H Foundation and Nebraska 4-H Ambassadors are proud to call True Buddy the 4-H Club of the Month for September 2011.

The Nebraska 4-H Ambassadors together with the Nebraska 4-H Foundation provide the 4-H Club of the Month program to all Nebraska 4-H clubs throughout the state. Clubs can nominate themselves by telling why their club should be chosen as Club of the Month. A different club will be chosen each month and will be awarded with a certificate and \$50 cash card. For more information go to the Nebraska 4-H Foundation website at <http://www.ne4hfoundation.org/events/4-h-club-of-the-month> or e-mail ne4hambassadors@unl.edu. To learn more about the True Buddy Therapeutic Sheep Program, please visit their website at www.luvalamb.com.

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For more information contact the Douglas-Sarpy County Extension office at (402) 444-7804 or e-mail Sarpy-County@unl.edu.