Happy Holidays everyone,

As we enter the season of family, caring, and giving, we would like to share some Inspirational Secrets with you (courtesy of Laura Bovitz, Middlesex County 4-H Agent)

- For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.
- For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.
- For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.
- For beautiful hair, let a child run his fingers through it daily.
- For poise, walk with the knowledge you never walk alone.

We leave you a tradition of the future. The tender loving care of human beings will never become obsolete. People, more so than things, need to be restored, renewed, revived, and reclaimed. Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you’ll find one at the end of your arm. As you grow older, you’ll find that you have two hands: one for helping yourself, and the second for helping others.

Best wishes for warm and wonderful holidays. Thanks again for helping Make The Best Better.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rothenburger
County 4-H Agent

Carol K. Ward
County 4-H Agent

Remember 4-H is for everyone, everywhere!

The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension of Somerset County. 4-H educational programs are offered to all youth, grades K-13, on an age appropriate basis, without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, or disability.

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4-H Mission Statement

The Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension 4-H youth development program uses a learn by doing approach to enable youth to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to become competent, caring, and contributing citizens of the world.

The mission is accomplished by using the knowledge and resources of the land grant university system, along with the involvement of caring adults.
Leaders’ & Parents’ Outlook

4-H Wreath Sales Info:
Club Orders Were Due October 28

October was 4-H Wreath Sale Month!! If you did not order one, please call the 4-H office at 908-526-6644. We may have extras! The proceeds benefit the 4-H Association (for 4-H Center expenses and the fair) and the clubs receive $1.00 for each wreath they sell.

Burn off those Thanksgiving dinner calories. Come join the fun in helping unload wreaths on Friday, November 25 at 7:30 am.

Club leaders should pick up wreaths:
- Saturday, November 26, 9:00 am – 1:00 p.m.
- Monday, November 28, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 29, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Each club should plan to decorate their own wreaths. To keep wreaths fresh, do not store on concrete, which absorbs moisture. Please call Maryann Del Gigante, night superintendent, 7-10 pm, Monday-Friday, at least a day before you plan to pick up your ribbon, wire and cones.

Wreaths should be delivered to the customers by December 5. Take $1.00 per wreath for your club treasury if payment is made to the 4-H Association by December 14. Clubs making payment after December 14 should take only 50¢ per wreath. Clubs making payments after December 31, 2005 will not receive money for selling wreaths. Leaders: Money drop-off days, December 12-14, 7 - 9 pm, 4-H Center. The 4-H office will accept money if these dates are inconvenient.

6th, 7th, and 8th grade students invited to explore career choices at …

2006 SOMERSET 4-H “CAREERS & COUNTY GOVERNMENT” DAY

The Somerset County 4-H Youth Development Program and the Board of Chosen Freeholders are once again teaming up to sponsor this special career program for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders on Tuesday, February 7, 2006.

Since County Government performs many different functions, there are many types of careers represented. Therefore, youth don’t have to be interested in a government job to take part. Participants will be matched with a County Division that matches a career interest. The students will then spend the day “shadowing” a high-level Division official to learn about that career type.

The program is open to both Somerset County 4-H members and non-members who are county residents. Preference will be given to students who have not participated before. There is no charge.

Application forms are available from the 4-H Office. Please feel free download additional copies by visiting online at: http://somerset.rcre.rutgers.edu. For additional information, please call the 4-H Office at 908-526-6644.
Achievement Dinners

- Livestock Dinner Saturday, November 5th, 6:30 pm
- Dog Project Achievement Dinner on Sunday, November 6th, 3 pm set-up, 4 pm dinner
- Science Achievement Night, Friday, December 9, 7 pm.
- Horse Achievement Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, January 14th, 6 pm

Call your leader for details.

Attention Leaders...

How does this sound? No agenda, no requirements, no fees, and no hassle! The Leaders Social in September was a fun, relaxing evening. The upstairs lounge was a comfortable place to sit back and enjoy the wonderful assortment of desserts.

The following leaders took this opportunity to chat and to get to know one another: Anne Parsons, Bob Petroski, Laurie Hazen, Judy Burlaw, Cathy Schlosser, Robin Brygier, Jill Brochinsky, Nora Balliet, Deb Goetjen, Cheryl McLaughlin, Kelly McLaughlin, Linda Ferry, Lenore Rasmussen, Kathy Alpaugh, Rich Norz, Paul Cirillo and Jim Rosetti.

Watch for an invitation to the next Leaders Social early in 2006.

Special 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training in Archery

Saturday, December 17th and Sunday, December 18, will be an intensive, “no frills” training program. Participants will be asked to arrive at 9:00 am, Saturday morning, ready to go. Training will end around 4:00 on Sunday. This is for Archery only. For details and a registration form, please go to the camp website at: www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu

Wanted - Chaperones

Like camp? Want to have fun? We need you! Adult volunteers needed to chaperone 2006 Winter Camp. Ideally seeking at least one male and one female adult volunteer to join Senior Council co-leaders in accompanying a group of teen 4-H’ers to LG Cook Camp in Sussex County from Friday evening to Sunday morning, January 27 - 29.

Chaperones supervise meal prep and clean up, outdoor sledding and cabins. It’s a great time to get to know fellow 4-H’ers, relax and have some fun. If you are interested in learning more about what is involved, please call the 4-H office or Beth Kavanaugh at 908-439-3751.

2006 Somerset County 4-H Calendar of Events

The 2006 Somerset County 4-H Calendar of Events is being prepared now. It will include state and countywide events for the upcoming calendar year. It should also include major club events (such as achievement dinners). If you have any ideas or contributions, let us know. If you’re not sure if your event should be on the calendar, give us a call. The 2006 Calendar will be mailed in December with the January/February newsletter.

Wreath Decorating

Help is needed on Wednesday, November 30 to decorate the wreaths. Association members, parents, leaders and friends are asked to attend beginning at 7 pm. Bring a friend. It is always a fun evening. (These wreaths are to fill orders phoned in, not club orders.)
Family ASTRO Leader Training
Wednesday, January 18, 2006

The goal of the Family ASTRO program is to train educators, astronomers, youth group leaders and anyone else who is interested in helping children and adults explore astronomy together. Participants will learn to lead family astronomy events on a variety of topics. Family ASTRO is about making science fun for the whole family!

Participants are asked to commit to doing at least two family events with groups of five or more families before the end of June 2006. Take-home kits for families can be purchased at the training for $10 per kit or ordered at a later date. Activities are appropriate for youth in grades 3 and up.

Training will be held at the Raritan Valley Community College, located in North Branch, beginning at 9:00 am and ending approximately 4:00 pm. The fee per person is $150 and includes 2 Family Leader Kits, supplies, breakfast and lunch. Scholarships are available.

For more information about Family ASTRO and to obtain a registration form see our website at http://www.raritanval.edu/planetarium/familyastro or contact Lisa Rothenburger, County 4-H Agent, at the Somerset County 4-H office at (908) 526-6644 (email: rothenburger@rcre.rutgers.edu). Registration deadline is January 8, 2006.

Eat Smart - Keeping Kids Healthy
Wednesday, February 15, 2006

This educator workshop, brought to you by Family and Community Health Sciences, will provide an overview of the current child obesity epidemic and other nutrition related child health issues; examine the problem of “super size” portions; and demonstrate hands-on classroom activities from two national programs. The Power of Choice from the USDA to promotes healthful eating and exercise in early adolescent youth. Eat Smart, Play Hard™ campaign is geared to children ages 8 to 12. The activities support the NJ core curriculum standards and will focus on using food labels to make decisions, healthful snacks, controlling portion sizes and increasing exercise. Participants receive copies of the lessons, camera-ready masters, background materials, and resources for the classroom.

Training will be held at the 4-H Center, beginning at 9:00 am and ending approximately 3:00 pm. The fee per person is $20 and includes lunch.

For more information and to obtain a registration form, call our Family and Community Health Sciences line at (908) 526-6295. Registration deadline is January 8, 2006.

Townships Websites Feature Somerset County 4-H

Somerset County 4-H is now featured as a link on Branchburg and Bridgewater Townships' official municipal websites: http://www.branchburg.nj.us and http://www.bridgewaternj.gov/links.html

Branchburg Deputy Mayor Kate Sarles, a volunteer in the 4-H Milkshake booth, says, "4-H provides youth with a variety of positive programs and role models. We are fortunate in Somerset County to have an active 4-H organization. I urge parents to learn more about 4-H so that their children can benefit from these great programs."

Bridgewater Mayor Patti Flannery understands the value of 4-H. She is a long time Somerset County 4-H parent and supporter.

Somerset County 4-H also has a page on both the American Towns Basking Ridge website (www.baskingridge.americantowns.com) and the American Towns Bernardsville website (www.bernardsville.americantowns.com). In addition to a page on each site, with a calendar of events, news, articles, contact info, links to the 4-H website and more, a weekly e-mail to subscribers of both these sites will feature upcoming 4-H events and programs.
Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Maryland during the summer. CWF continues to be a powerful learning experience for thousands of 4-H youth throughout the country. Teens who are interested can check out the website at:

www.4hcwf.org.

CWF is an extremely memorable experience and is the highlight of any 4-Her’s membership. Participants attend workshops about politics and government, meet members of Congress on Capitol Hill and see more of the city than some DC residents do in a lifetime. CWF is a fun, educational, and dynamic experience for all youth and adults who attend.

The 9th annual Somerset County Youth Conference will be held on Thursday, November 10 at the Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch from 6:00 - 9:00 pm.

The conference is designed by teens for teens. The Somerset County Youth Council sponsors it. There is no cost to attend but you must pre-register. Dinner is included. It’s open to all teens in 7th - 12th grades. For more information call Sarah Murchison at 908-704-6307 or email at: murchis@co.somerset.nj.us

8-13th graders from Somerset County will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp January 27 - 29, 2006. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. Cost for the whole weekend is only $30.00. For more information contact Mrs. Beth Kavanaugh (439-3751).
DAR Scholarships Available for Seniors

The Daughters of the American Revolution offer several scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are continuing their education. The deadline to apply for most of these scholarships is January 1, 2006. For an application form and more detailed information, please contact the 4-H Office or Holly Dunbar, 908-755-6079. Students may apply for as many scholarships as they like.

NJDAR SCHOLARSHIP: One-time award of $2,000 to a New Jersey student in need of financial assistance.

PITTINGER AMERICAN HISTORY SCHOLARSHIP: A scholarship in the amount of $2,000 each year for up to four consecutive years to a graduating high school senior who will have a concentrated study of a minimum of 24 credit hours in American History or American Government.

GRISWOLD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: One-time award of $1,000 to deserving students accepted or enrolled in an accredited college or university in the United States who are majoring in Political Science, History, Government or Economics.

J.E. CALDWELL CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP: One-time award of $2,000 to outstanding students pursuing a course of graduate study in the field of historic preservation.

BETTY BRADBURY VAIL SCHOLARSHIP: One-time award of $2,000 from the NJDAR for a student in need of financial assistance who is studying Political Science, History, Government or Economics.

HOLT NURSING SCHOLARSHIP: One-time award of $500 for students who are in financial need and have been accepted or are currently enrolled in an accredited school of nursing.

NUTTING SCHOLARSHIP: One-time award of $500 for students who are in financial need and who have been accepted or are currently enrolled in an accredited school of nursing.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SCHOLARSHIP: One-time award of $500 for students who are in financial need and have been accepted or are attending an accredited school of Occupational Therapy including art, music or physical therapy.

NELLIE LOVE BUTCHER MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP: Shall be given annually to a music student who is pursuing an education in piano or voice. This substantial scholarship is for one year, renewable annually for four years based on maintaining a 3.0 grade point average.

New Promo Club

What is the Promo Club? It’s an exciting new opportunity for teens grades 9 - 13 to plan some great get-togethers and dances for middle school youth. Some examples of planned events are “movie nights” and quarterly dances. Already the club has had one movie night with another planned for November 18 as well as the “Winter Whirl” dance. The club is accepting new members, so if you would like to join, please come to a meeting, held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm, or send an email to PromoClub4-H@hotmail.com.

The Promo Club is setting up their own mailing list to keep all those interested in coming events up-to-date on all the great activities. If you would like to become part of this special mailing list, please send your name and email address to somersetcounty4h@co.somerset.nj.us. If you don’t have an email and would like to be put on a regular mailing list, please call Georgeanne Valis at the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644.

Mark your calendars, November 18, 7:30 pm, Movie Night featuring “The Pacifier” starring Vin Diesel and Brittney Snow. Cost is $3.00 and includes popcorn and soft drinks.
Available Resources On-Line

Visit the National 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System website to find resources for your 4-H project area.

The National CCS curriculum is used throughout the US and is found in hard copy. But there are additional on-line resources all volunteers can access for many of the different project areas. Please visit this site and see what resources it offers for your club meetings.

http://www.n4hccs.org/online/index.shtml

Here is a list of project areas:

- Financial Champions
- Embryology Projects
- Science Discovery Series
- Swine Projects
- Entomology Projects
- Computer Projects
- Sport Fishing Projects
- Aerospace Projects

4-H Project Record Books

All club members should be using state approved record books. These are available at the 4-H office for $2.00 each or as a free download at http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/pubs/index.asp.

- My 4-H Horse Project Record Book-4H52
- My 4-H Goat Project Record Book-4H245
- My 4-H Sheep Project Record Book-4H246
- My 4-H Bird and Poultry Project Record Book-4H263
- My 4-H Rabbit, Cavy, and Small Animal Record Book-4H241
- My 4-H Herpetology Project Record Book-4H243
- My 4-H Dairy Record Book - 4H242 (Note: Seeing Eye project members may want to use this or the general purpose record book, 4H239, based on club leader discretion)
- My 4-H Model Horse Project Record Book - 4H244
- My 4-H Clothing & Textiles Project Record Book – 4H262

For projects which do not have an approved Record book, members are encouraged to use “My 4-H Record Book” a general-purpose record-4H239.

Meeting Reports for Around the County

We always want to let everyone know the exciting events of your 4-H club. Meeting reports can be mailed to us, ATTN: Georgeanne Valis, dropped off at the 4-H office, or in the evening to Maryann Del Giagante, night superintendent at the 4-H Center, or emailed to us at: valis@co.somerset.nj.us

We will put your club meeting news in Clovertales-Around the County section or on the Prep Page.
Contest Opportunities

The Daughters of the American Revolution is offering 3 different contests. Below is a summary of these opportunities. For complete rules and an entry form for any of these contests, please contact the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644.

**2005-06 Junior American Citizens Contest**

All students, grades 1-12, are invited to participate. The theme is: “Benjamin Franklin: The Many Talents of an American Patriot.” Contest categories include an Art Contest using either poster design, stamp design, photo essay or banner. A Creative Expression Contest featuring either poetry or a short story or a Community Service project consisting of photographs and can be either a group or individual entry. Students can focus on the many talents of Franklin, or his many contributions as a statesman. **The deadline is January 31, 2006.** Awards are presented on the local, state and national level; national award winners will be displayed in Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

**2005-06 Christopher Columbus Essay Contest**

All students, grades 9-12 are eligible to participate. This year’s topic is “Santa Maria to the New World and the Apollo Mission to the Moon: Christopher Columbus and the Astronauts.” Compare and contrast the two voyages. Students are asked to consider the historical significance for both voyages. **The deadline is December 31, 2005.** Awards are presented on the local, state and national level. The national award winner will read the winning essay at the Columbus Memorial in Washington, DC on Columbus Day, October 9, 2006.

**2005-06 Fashion Design Contest**

All students, grades 5-12 are eligible to participate with a garment(s) that he/she has made, regardless of skill level. Categories are Junior Division, with less than 2 years experience and Senior Division for 2 years or more. There is also one for any student in a special education class. Categories include separates, simple ensemble, suits, outerwear and party/evening wear. Garments are judged on quality of construction, creativity, and general appearance. You must include an essay entitled: “What did I discover about myself and my sewing during the experience of making my garment.” **The deadline is February 1, 2006.** Two awards will be given, one for Creative Skills and one for Technical Merit. Winners will be asked to have their garments modeled at the NJ State Annual Spring Conference in April 2006.

Public Presentations 2006

It is not too early to start gathering ideas and information for public presentations. Save the dates:

**January 24, 7:00 pm; January 26, 4:00 pm.** Presentation Workshop. Easy tips for a better presentation.

**March 21-22-23.** Presentations at the 4-H Center.

For more information about presentations, call Barbara Navatto at the 4-H Office, (908) 526-6644.

Pet Partner Class Available

Be a Pet Partner and do meaningful Community Service with your pet. You and your pet can become Delta Society Certified!! **January 15, 2006, 8-hr training class; cost $80.**

Delta Society is a national organization to train people and their pets to work successfully with elders, handicapped and more. It is not just for dogs and cats. Rabbits, cavies, birds, goats, alpacas, pot bellied pigs and more are all welcome.

For the whole list see their website, www.deltasociety.org. If you are interested call Sue MacCombie at 908-281-5858.
United Way for Holiday Cheer

Clubs are needed to help spread holiday joy this year to those less fortunate by participating in Somerset County United Way’s 15th annual Gifts of the Season program. Sign up to purchase and collect gifts or volunteer to help prepare them for distribution in December. Also needed are donations of wrapping paper and ribbon or bows. To register your club to volunteer, call United Way at (908) 253-6511 or visit www.SomersetOnline.org

Other programs in which you may participate either as a club or an individual:

Gifts of the Season Gift Drive provides a holiday gift for a disadvantaged child, teen adult or senior. Many low-income families in our community will not be able to provide gifts for their loved ones this holiday season. For information contact Irene Natale (908) 253-6511 or Inatale@uwscty.org.

Wrapped in Love Winter Apparel Drive. Help share the warmth this winter by collecting NEW socks, gloves, hats, scarves, coats (or gently used coats) for those less fortunate. For information contact Yvette Choma (908) 253-6513 or ychoma@uwscty.org

Registration forms for both these programs are also available on-line.

National Family Volunteer Day

Sunday, November 13 • 1 to 4 pm
Ted Blum 4-H Center of Somerset County

This event is a great way to spend an afternoon together as a family helping others. Local nonprofit organizations will have a variety of volunteer projects, designed for all ages. Admission to this event is the donation of a NEW coat, hat, gloves, or socks to be distributed through our Wrapped in Love holiday program for underprivileged families. Cash donations will also be accepted but not required. Participate in a variety of projects:

• Make bows for the 4-H Association
• Make holiday greeting cards for hospitalized veterans
• Help to prepare a mailing for a local charity
• Make decorations for the Food Bank’s Thanksgiving dinner
• Shopping for a holiday gift for someone in need
• Creating a mural for the Gifts of the Season program

Advance registration is requested. Please register by November 7 at www.somersetonline.org or by calling Somerset County United Way at (908) 253-6513.

Hurricane Katrina Relief

In response to recent events as the result of Hurricane Katrina, 4-H’ers are pulling together to help out. Here are a few ways we can make a difference.

The Louisiana 4-H Extension office is accepting donations to help 4-H members and their families, evacuees at Grant Walker 4-H facilities and for the restoration of the Grant Walker facilities. Letters of encouragement can also be sent for 4-H members. For more information visit the website for the Louisiana 4-H Foundation’s relief efforts at: www.La4HFoundation.org.

Mississippi’s Extension service has begun its own efforts to provide relief for affected 4-H members and their families. Mississippi Operation 4-H Relief is asking for “Letters of Caring & Hope,” activity kits for families and youth, and monetary donations to help 4-H families and clubs with their financial needs. For more information visit the website for Mississippi Operation 4-H Relief at: http://msucares.com/4h_Youth/4hrelief/index.html

Military Mail

The holidays are just around the corner and your club can help cheer up the military men and women who are spending their holidays away from home. For more information contact “Friends of Our Troops” PO Box 65408, Fayetteville, NC 28306-5408 or visit their website at www.militarymail.org/
HURRAY FOR...
Proud to be a 4-H’er!

4-H members have been busy promoting 4-H around the county….

At the recent Branchburg Council meeting, these 4-H’ers attended and spoke to their audience about the many benefits of 4-H: Erin Posbergh, Shannon Zimitti, Brianna Mulrooney, Amy Miller, Kelsey Graham, Kyle Graham, Conor Kelton, Alex Franchuk, Brian Franchuk, Sally Gilligan, William Gilligan, Pamela Gilligan.

Mike Pappas has made arrangements for 4-H’ers to attend a Bridgewater Council meeting. If you and/or your club would like to represent 4-H, please let us know and we will choose a date that’s convenient for you.

On October 2, the Somerset County Environmental Center held the annual Lord Stirling 1700’s Festival. Somerset County 4-H Clubs, Poultry Plus and Woolly Ones Sheep Club, provided hands-on animal care and wool spinning demonstrations. Period costumes were worn by members and leaders and information on 4-H was shared with many visitors throughout the day.

At the recent Branchburg Country Fair, held on September 24 at White Oak Park, 4-H was represented by the Graham Family, Shannon Zimmitti, Jan Miller, Mike Pappas has made arrangements for 4-H’ers to attend a Bridgewater Council meeting. If you and/or your club would like to represent 4-H, please let us know and we will choose a date that’s convenient for you.

Open House a Huge Success!
The eighteenth annual “Join 4-H! Open House” was held at the 4-H Center on October 5, during National 4-H Week. Approximately 300 people came to learn more about 4-H and join 4-H clubs.

The following 4-H clubs were represented at the “Join 4-H” Open House to encourage new members to join: 4-H Horticulture Club, Broken Props Model Airplanes, 4-H Go-Kart Club, Somerset Trainmasters, Somerset Sentinels, 4-H Space & Astronomy Club, K-9 Leaders Seeing Eye Club, Wags & Whiskers, Woof, Poultry Plus, Wattles & Snood, Happy Tails, Pocket Pets Rescues, Radical Rodents, Branchburg Beef, Dairy & Livestock, 4-H Cattlemen’s Club, New Centre Dairy, Just Kidding, Sidewinders Club, Chaps & Spurs, Stablemates, Sheepfold, Woolly Ones, Clowning Around, Chinese Culture Club, 3 PIU 4-H Puppetry Club, 4-H Country Kickers, Twirling Cavers, 4-H Young Artistes’, Clover Outreach, 5th H Club, 4-H Junior Council, 4-H Senior Council, Promo Club, Badminton Club, 4 Leaf Clovers and 4-H Prep Craft Club.

A special thanks to Susan MacCombie and Kitty Mathews for serving the refreshments, and to Kathy & Joe Bakes for representing the 4-H Association.

State Dairy Show Results
Katherine Balliet - First Year Showmanship Grades 9-13
Ashley Tursky - Jersey Fall Senior Yearling Heifer
Matt Puskus - Holstein Produce of Dam
Holstein Junior Bred by Exhibitor
Holstein Winter Senior Heifer

And now everyone can show their 4-H Pride by displaying this 4-inch sticker on your car. Stop by the 4-H Office and get yours for free!!
Plan Now for Summer Camp

If you are thinking about going to camp this summer, a gift certificate to Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp makes a great holiday present. Located just off Route 206 in Sussex County, about 1½ hours from Bridgewater, this camp offers environmental, arts, and sports activities each week. The cost of a week is $315 until February 1, $325 until April 1 and $335 after April 1. There will be no “theme” weeks this year, but rather a variety of highlighted activities. Check the website for updates at: www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu. Members and friends may attend any one of the following weeks (not just during preference weeks).

Summer Camp Session One - July 3 - 8
Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties Preference Week

Summer Camp Session Two - July 10-15
Essex and Hudson Counties
Preference Week

Summer Camp Session Three - July 17-22
Union and Middlesex Counties Preference Week

Summer Camp Session Four - July 24-29
Cape May, Monmouth, Ocean and Hunterdon Counties Preference Week

Summer Camp Session Five - July 31 - August 5
Bergen, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Passaic and Somerset Counties Preference Week

Summer Camp Session Six - August 7 - 12
Atlantic, Burlington, Mercer and Salem Counties Preference Week

Summer Camp Reunion
December 28th - 30th 2005
Come to Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp for the Annual Summer Camp Reunion during the Winter Holiday Break. Campers & Counselors will lodge in heated cabins and enjoy weather-related activities such as; ice skating, hiking, survival, indoor & outdoor games, campfires & more. This will be an opportunity to celebrate the great times of summer camp while making new memories! Campers are invited to bring a friend to this event even if that friend did not attend summer camp. Space will be limited to 50 campers. Counselors from summer camp will also be there. Cost for this event is $100.00 (This fee includes 4 meals, lodging and all activities.)

4-H Senior Member Winter Camp
Register by January 13th
8-13th graders from Somerset County will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp January 27 - 29, 2006. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. Cost for participants is $30.00. If you are an adult and would like to chaperone, the cost is free. For more information contact Mrs. Beth Kavanaugh (439-3751).
Fair Facts
59th Anniversary, August 16-17-18, 2006

New Awards?
Is it time to change the style of our trophies and medallions? If you are interested in looking into this question, please join Barb Navatto, Dec 6 at 7:00 at the 4-H Center. Teens, parents, leaders; all welcome.

Exhibitor Guide
Division Chairs will be contacted soon to make changes for next year. All comments about the rules or procedures pertaining to your division should be addressed to your division chair now, so they can be incorporated into the 2006 4-H Fair Exhibitor Guide.

Fair Committees Accepting New Members
Parents, teens and leaders are all welcome to help on any of the Fair Committees. These include Yearbook and Catalog, Food Tent, Commercial Tents, Entertainment, Set-Up and Clean-Up, Parking and Traffic, Publicity, Sponsorships, Milkshake and other food booths. Together we CAN “make the best better”! Contact Barbara Navatto (908) 526-6644.

4-H Has a New Camera
Thanks to Mr. Jim Roselli of the Space and Astronomy Club and editor of the 2005 Yearbook and Catalog, we have a very simple to use, Canon Digital Camera. It will be available in the 4-H Office for all to borrow. We are hoping members and leaders will use it at all club functions and we can have a Yearbook and Catalog packed with quality photos. The better resolution, the larger the photos will be, so please use this camera and your club will be better represented in the 2006 book. Call the 4-H Office to reserve the camera now!

2006 Yearbook & Catalog
The Yearbook & Catalog committee has already started planning for the 2006 catalog. They are always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in working on the yearbook, please contact Valerie Kreutler at the 4-H Office.

Reminder: please remember to use the 4-H Yearbook and Catalog as a tool when searching for people, places and services.

Thanks
Thanks to STUFF, the Frisbee Club for building a food booth. This year it was borrowed by Habitat for Humanity and next year the Association will use it as the Rib booth. We appreciate their efforts!

Senior Council washed all the fair banners. This is a big job, but they do it cheerfully every year. Thank you Senior Council and advisors!
**4-H Volunteer Highlights**

**Spotlight on Janice Chaffiotte**

**RESIDENCE:** “Bridgewater”.

**FAMILY:** “Husband, Frank, 24 years, daughters Simone and Jordan”

**OCCUPATION:** “Homemaker; worked in a Mental Health Center before the children”

**HOBBIES/SPARE TIME ACTIVITIES:** “Instructor and personal trainer for 8 years, reading, exercise, needlework”

**FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN 4-H...** “my oldest daughter, Simone, saw the Twirling Clovers at our first 4-H Fair after moving to Bridgewater. Once we were in the program, she was interested in sewing clothes. My younger daughter became a prepper as soon as she was old enough.”

**INVolVEMENT IN 4-H AND COMMUNITY TODAY...** “Involved in Bridgewater-Raritan school system; in my daughter’s classes”

**MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AS A VOLUNTEER...** “The Fashion Show for the sewing clubs - they put a lot of work into them and the kids blossom.”

**FAVORITE ASPECT OF VOLUNTEERING...** “It’s important to me to feel I’m making a difference in people’s lives.”

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**The Great NJ 4-H Alumni Search**

The Great 4-H Alumni Search is on! From High Point to Cape May and Salem to Hackensack, we are looking for all 4-H alumni who grew up in New Jersey or who currently live in New Jersey. Our goal is to find 20,000 4-H alumni by the end of the year.

Help us reach our goal by telling us about yourself. Use either of the forms below. The printable form can be completed and mailed to the State 4-H Office or you can enter information on-line.

Complete the information and then tell a 4-H friend or family member. Help us find 4-H alumni so we can help you find out what is happening with 4-H in New Jersey! Visit [www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/alumnisearch/](http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/alumnisearch/) for these forms:  
- [Printable Alumni Form](http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/alumnisearch/) (202k PDF)
- [Online Form](http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/alumnisearch/)

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**Somerset County 4-H Alumni Search**

We are hoping to find 4-H Alumni who are willing to get involved in our program. If you would like to participate, please call Barbara Navatto at the 4-H Office. Plan ahead for the Alumni Basketball Game in March- look for details in the next Clovertales. Car decals available free at the 4-H Office.
Dear 4-H Prepper:

Welcome to all the new boys and girls who have joined 4-Prep clubs. A big welcome to the parents who have become advisors, too. You can meet some of them at our Prep Family Night when we celebrate the New Year...Saturday, January 7th, 2006. Every family coming should bring a covered dish meal, enough for their family plus one more family. Paper products, drinks and desserts will be provided. You will even be able to "make your own ice cream sundaes" too! There will be music and games and just a great time for all. Mark your calendars now!

Until we see you next year...happy holidays to you and your family from everyone at the 4-H office.

Mrs. Kreutler
4-H Program Assistant

Yakety - Yak

We have special journals for all 4-H Preppers at the office. They are green 3 ring binders with sheets inside for you to fill out. One section is about you and your family, another about your club, and another about what you did and learned during the year. You can record things you did, get autographs of people you met, and even put Clovertales in the pockets. At the end of the year, in August at the 4-H Fair, you can exhibit your completed journal and we will give you a special ribbon. If you do not have a notebook, ask your club leader to get one for you.
It’s time for fun and interesting activities for you to do... with other preppers too!

Mark your calendars...

**PREP FAMILY NEW YEAR’S PARTY**

Saturday, January 7, 2006
5-8 pm
4-H Center
Covered dish supper
Entertainment
Singing
Confetti, streamers, noisemakers!

**4-H PREP RALLY**

“Puppets with Pizzazz”
Saturday, March 4, 2006
9 am - 2 pm
Make puppets, make a stage
Learn sound effects, write a puppet show
See a puppet show!

Remember...4-H Fair will be August 16-17-18 next year. Prep has it’s own tent. Check our Prep Pages for further details about the Fair as well as 4-H Camp in future issues.
4-H Cattleman’s Club  
by Joshua Bruss

Under “old business” the club discussed the Fair and Record Books. Members participated in Open House and are selling wreaths. The club took a trip to Springfield Meats packing plant and learned more about different cuts of beef. They have one new member and are electing new officers. One of the new official positions will be Club Photographer held by Joshua Bruss. Photographic Assistants will be Case Vogelaar and John Gilliam.

Mighty Cavits & Rodents  
by Caitlyn & Shannon Merrill

The September meeting opened with the introduction of new members as well as returning members, leaders and officers. Money in the treasury was discussed and dues determined. The club began planning their new year by filling out their forms. Topics to be covered in the coming year include showmanship workshops, breeds & types of small animals, ear tattooing and pet toys.

The club then covered projects, which included wreath orders, awards dinner, meetings, shows, Christmas party and community service. The meeting ended with plans to elect new officers.

People Pick-Me-Ups  
by Kandace Alpaugh

The club’s September meeting opened by welcoming new members. The club discussed their “Huggable Heroes” award and the publicity they received. Their monetary award was donated equally to St. Hubert’s Animal Shelter, the 4-H Progran and Cornell Medical Research. They are planning a display in January that will include the award. Under new business the club covered topics: trying to do more visitations, forming a website, communicating through email and writing thank you notes. The club welcomed observer, Jim Thompson, an aspiring leader. The club is always welcome to new members and their pets.

Midland Photography Club  
by Anne Parsons

Under the direction of Craig Phillips, the club members used the Cyanotype process on cotton fabric, creating individual squares that were then sewn into a quilt which was displayed in the Arts Tent at this year’s 4-H Fair. The club also had a booth, which depicted the activities of both the Photography Club and the Horticulture students. The clubs are open to all students at Midland School. Club members meet every Monday to improve their camera skills with SLR and digital cameras. They have already welcomed new members Kerry Pacifico, Joseph Garvey and Matthew Sartori. Their first field trip will be photographing sites along the South Branch of the Raritan River in Branchburg.

Sidewinders Club  
by Lee & Dave Hammell

The Herpetology Club, Sidewinders, has kicked off its new year and elected new officers: Scott Hammell, President; Stephen Osinski, Vice President; Brian Zelkovsky, Secretary; and Paul Rasmussen Treasurer. A very special thanks to Sam Callahan, Scott Hammell, April Anderson and Paul Rasmussen, former club officers for another great year. The Sidewinders Club meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month at 7:30 pm.

Bring on the Clowns… & the Dancers & the Puppets!  
by Betty Sommerville

Another 4-H year begins and several of the clowns from Clowning Around 4-H Club already went to paint faces at the Midland School Ice Cream Social in September. We’re looking forward to what our new members from 4-H Open House will bring to our lively mix of clowns What larks! We meet in the Lounge on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

After their "inspiring", as well as perspiring, dancing at the Fair, 4-H Country Kickers will be amazing the audience at the Arts Achievement Dinner in October. Old & new members are lining up to learn more fancy footwork for next year’s Somerset 4-H Live! We meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays in the Lounge and the 2nd & 4th Fridays in the Gym.

The Practically Prepared Pretty Unpredictable (3P 1U) 4-H Puppetry Club is expecting to further expand its membership and horizons to include the Garden State Puppetry Guild's Puppetry Potpourri during the
8th National Day of Puppetry and potential parades. Puppets are everywhere, especially in Willie & Betty Sommersville's living room on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays. Contact Betty at 334-6045 and/or 281-5238 for any of these clubs & join in the fun!

Senior Council
by Brenda Esler

The Senior Council held their monthly meeting on Thursday, October 6th and elected the following new club officers: President, James Metting; Vice President, Sarah MacCombie; Recording Secretary, Brianna Mulrooney, Corresponding Secretary, Brittney O'Brien, Treasurer, Matt Batzer, Reporter, Robby Slovik.

4-H Kitties
by Kate Ferguson

The Somerset County 4-H Cat Club has formed with members from Hillsborough and Somerset. The club has picked the name 4-H Kitties. They will meet approximately twice a month at member homes. They created their first poster for Open House. Upcoming programs and activities include a field trip to Petco and a drive for the local animal shelter.

Voorhees Astronomy Club
by Teri Bellows

The club meets Wednesdays, at 2:30 pm. They have scheduled a Star Party for Monday, November 7, 6:00 pm. There will be different lab stations and activities will be rotated. Training was held on September 20. The club is also planning a trip to the Hayden Planetarium on November 8. The club is working on creating a scrapbook to illustrate what they accomplish throughout the year.

The Young Artistes'
by Jennifer Hodge

The 4-H Young Artistes’ Club will be collecting new unwrapped toys for the New Jersey Toys-For-Tots. They will accept these toys until the beginning of December. Please contact Jennifer Hodge at the 4-H Office or please call 732-302-0578. April Anderson is coordinating another project with club members, making holiday cards to give to the local children’s hospital over the upcoming holidays. The club did this last year and had a lot of fun.

Wags & Whiskers
by Emily Diettmann

The club had its elections and officers will be Nathalie Schlosser, President and Gwen Brown, Vice President. Eight members from the club participated in Dog Ownership Day. At the next meeting the club will set up various committees.

The Woolly Ones
by Erin Posbergh

The Woolly Ones sheep club met on Oct. 18th. They discussed the 1770's Festival, Open House, and the club trip to the Haunted Hayride. Officers were elected. They are: Caraline Egan-President; Jack Egan- Vice President; Margaret Bruno-Metzger - Treasurer; Chris Posbergh- Recording Secretary; Gina Callari- Corresponding Secretary; Desiree McLaughlin-Historian; Erin Posbergh- Reporter; and Christy Hunt- Sgt. At Arms. The club is excited about attending the Livestock Dinner on Nov. 5. On Nov. 26, they will be decorating wreaths and on Nov. 27, they will have a tree at the Lord Sterling Festival of Trees!

Hoof Beats
by JoAnne VanNuys

Hoof Beats is off to a great start now meeting at the 4-H Center. They meet the 3rd Wednesdays. of every month. They have big plans for this year and look forward to learning as much as possible! You don’t have to have your own horse to be in 4-H so they welcome new members to visit one of their meetings. Danielle Marcine, club president, recently attended AQHA Congress in Ohio and was a Finalist in Halter. She competed with 348 youth and over 8500 exhibitors!

4-H Horticulture Club
by Debbie Norz

There is a new horticulture club starting. If you are interested in joining and want more information please email norzhillfarm@msn.com and in the subject put Horticulture Club. Someone will get back to you with more information.
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ATTENTION

6th, 7th, and 8th grade students invited to explore career choices at...

2006 SOMERSET 4-H “CAREERS & COUNTY GOVERNMENT” DAY

The Somerset County 4-H Youth Development Program and the Board of Chosen Freeholders are once again teaming up to sponsor this special career program for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders on Tuesday, February 7.

Since County Government performs many different functions, there are many types of careers represented by it. Therefore, youth don’t have to be interested in a government job to take part. Participants will be matched with a County Division that matches a career interest. The students will then spend the day “shadowing” a high-level Division official to learn about that career type.

The program is open to both Somerset County 4-H members and non-members who are county residents. Preference will be given to students who have not participated before. There is no charge.

Application forms are available from the 4-H Office of Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension of Somerset County beginning November. Call 908-526-6644, or visit us online at somerset.rcre.rutgers.edu or complete the form below and mail it to the 4-H Office.

Please mail to: 4-H Office – Government Careers Day
310 Milltown Road
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-3587

Name:__________________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________________

City:________________________State:_________Zip Code:______________

Grade:__________School:__________________________________________
Dated Material