Today's 4-H Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders

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Success - Dedicated to all 4-H Members
by Alyssa Varsalone-Basile of New Centre Dairy

Intelligence and selflessness, courage and sacrifice are some of the ingredients that we need to do what's right.

Talent and endurance, patience and control are some of the other things that we need to play a champion’s role.

Sometimes when we travel down our road to our dreams, every obstacle may be in our way and uphill it seems to lean.

Every time we pass our troubles, another stares us in the face. We begin to grow tired and we start to lose our faith.

However, you must just think of the feeling you long to embrace.
That sought after light at the end of the tunnel, after all the dilemmas you have faced.

This feeling is accomplishment that is forever true.
Because the person who accomplished it was the brave and eager you.

With help from others and a daring mind, all our boundaries are endless.
Success is always an option when our ambition is relentless.

So even though your path is twisted with hurdles, doubts and fears,
as long as you press on with valor, victory will always be near.

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.
Welcome to the 2005-2006 4-H year! As we finish recognizing our 4-H member’s achievements for the past year, it is time to look forward to the new 4-H year.

This year, besides working on your regular 4-H projects, we are asking members and clubs to have a special focus on the fourth “H”- health. So what does this mean? It can mean setting goals for yourself to eat healthier and get more exercise. Your family may want to set some goals as well. How about eating more meals together?

In your 4-H clubs, this may mean you do a brief “Get Moving - Get Healthy” activity at each of your club meetings. Have you thought about how healthy the snacks are at your meetings? Could you eat healthier snacks? Plan a community service project that gets the whole club moving like a road clean-up, Relay for Life, or the 4-H Camp Community Service Days. Maybe your club could plan an action-oriented event for physical activity?

1. How much time should you spend each day doing sports or other types of physical activity?

2. Do you know how many grains or breads you should eat each day?

3. Do you know how many dairy products you should eat each day?

4. What does 3 ounces of meat look like?

5. Do you know what ½ cup of pasta looks like?

6. What does a 1 cup of broccoli look like?

If you had a hard time answering some of these questions, then maybe it is time for you to “Get Moving - Get Healthy with New Jersey 4-H!”

Be sure to watch for the Get Moving - Get Healthy with New Jersey 4-H!” information in the newsletter or go to www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/getmoving.

Family ASTRO Leader Training - January 28
Register by January 9

If you are interested in learning to lead family astronomy events on a variety of subjects, then this workshop is for you! Family ASTRO is about making science fun for the whole family! This all day training is open to adults and teens. Contact Lisa Rothenburger at rothenburger@rce.rutgers.edu or 908-526-6644.

Eat Smart - Keeping Kids Healthy - February 15
Register by February 1

This workshop provides an overview of the current child obesity epidemic and other nutrition related child health issues. This all day training program is open to all educators and leaders/parents. Contact Family Healthy & Consumer Sciences at 908-526-6295 to register.

Project Wild - March 15
Register by March 1

This workshop is a great way for leaders, teachers, and parents to discover more than 175 hands-on activities about wildlife, habitats, domestic animals, survival and conservation of resources. Call the 4-H office at 908-526-6644 to register.
**Food ‘N Fun Luncheon**  
Register by January 20

Choose a theme, plan a menu and come prepared for a party! Plan to participate in the Food ‘N Fun Luncheon, **January 28**. This covered dish luncheon is open to **ALL 4-H CLUBS**. Contact Mrs. Razzano for more details at 908-526-6644 or razzano@co.somerset.nj.us

**Table Setting Contest**  
Register by January 20

Plan a menu and set the table. Held on the same day as the Food ‘N Fun Luncheon (January 28). It’s open to **ALL 4-H CLUBS**.

**4-H Science-sational Day**  
April 1

Tell your Friends & Family!

Learn about a variety of science topics! Look for the Science-sational Day information in your mailbox! This fun filled day for youth grades 1-6 will be held Saturday, April 1st.

**New Dates! 4-H Camp July 31 – August 5**

The Lindley G. Cook, 4-H Camp in Stokes State Forest, NJ, is open six weeks starting the beginning of July. 4-H members and non-members are welcome to sign up for any week. However, in order to continue the tradition of camping with other members from your county, county preference weeks have been designated. **Somerset County 4-H members are encouraged to attend July 31 - August 5.** Campers will meet teen counselors from the county and can look to them for guidance and support as they grow in 4-H. A limited number of scholarships are available. Call the 4-H office at 908-526-6644 for more information.

**Presentation Judges Needed - March 21-22-23**

You have helped and watched your child or club members do many presentations. You know when they are doing a good job and you know how they can improve their presentations. 4-H needs you to pass along this expertise! 4-H Presentations are **March 21, 22, 23**. Please call the 4-H Office at 908-526-6644 to volunteer. Training will be provided.

**What To Do In Case of Inclement Weather**

If your club meets at the 4-H Center and you are a club leader, please contact the 4-H office before 4:30 at 908-526-6644 or the building manager between 7-10 pm at 908-526-8242, to let her know if you will cancel your meeting that night. You are also responsible for contacting your club members to let them know you will cancel. If you are a 4-H member in doubt, contact your 4-H club leader.

**New Jersey Junior Breeder & Young Farmer Symposium**  
March 11 at Cook College

Focusing on Careers in the agricultural industry and hands-on sessions for Dairy, Equine, Beef, Swine, Dairy Goats, Meat Goats, Rabbits and Poultry.

Information and registration: call 609-292-2888 or E-mail Lynn.Mathews@ag.state.nj.us
If your club has a website....

If your 4-H club has a website, the site should follow the RCE/4-H policies. The site must include:

- The RCE of Somerset County logo, with a link back to the RCE of Somerset County home page.
- The RCE indicia
- The Rutgers logo
- Official 4-H Clover
- A “last modified” date
- The phone number, email and address of the Somerset County 4-H office (personal phone numbers or addresses or emails are not allowed).

The site should NOT include:

- Full names of youth
- Pictures of youth without a signed parental form

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Rothenburger or Carol Ward at the 4-H office.

And speaking of websites...

these municipalities have added links to 4-H: Hillsborough Township, No. Plainfield and Somerville. We are already linked to Branchburg and Bridgewater Townships, Basking Ridge and Bernardsville.

Summer Day Camp Coordinator

Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension is looking to fill a temporary position beginning in the spring and lasting through the 4-H Fair. This position would facilitate and plan all efforts for the Summer Day Camp program we hold during the weeks of July 10 - 14 and July 17 - 21.

You need to have experience in the field of education, working with youth of all ages and planning and coordinating activities. You would be working out of the office on Milltown Road.

For more information and a detailed description of the position, please visit our website at http://somerset.rcre.rutgers.edu/ or contact the 4-H office at 908-526-6644 to ask for a hard copy.

National 4-H Council Seeks Photos for 2008 4-H Calendar

Do you have a state or county fair award-winning photo from 2001-2006? Submit it to National 4-H Council’s annual 4-H photo contest by March 1, 2006.

Thirteen photos will be selected for the 2008 4-H Calendar. Winning photos will be gallery-mounted and framed and engraved with the photographer’s name displayed at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD from September 2006 to December 2006 and on the web at www.4-hmall.org. Winners will be notified in May 2006. Submissions will only be considered for the 2008 4-H Calendar if they have received another award and include the following information and criteria:

1. Full name and age of person submitting photograph.
2. Affiliation with 4-H.
3. Complete return address (for both UPS delivery and USPS First Class Mail).
4. Telephone number.
5. List of county, state, 4-H, or other awards that submitted photographs have received.
6. A 25-word or less description of the photo from the photographer, including a title.
7. Photo submissions should be 8" x 10", in color, and in a horizontal format. Vertical shots accepted only if they can be cropped to fit the horizontal format of the calendar.
8. Please do not submit digital photos printed on a home printer, color photocopies, or low resolution digital prints. The submitted print must have been printed or developed at a photo processing store.

Please submit photos to:

2008 4-H Calendar
National 4-H Supply Service
7100 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Do you have a state or county fair award-winning photo from 2001-2006? Submit it to National 4-H Council’s annual 4-H photo contest by March 1, 2006.
Today’s 4-H Youth, Tomorrow’s Leaders: We would like to thank all the volunteers and members who helped to choose the 4-H theme for 2006.

New Association Officers

Association News: Congratulations to 2006 Officers Rich Norz, President; Joe Bakes, Vice President; Jim Wood, Treasurer; Jeane Fasullo, Assistant Treasurer; Holly Eaton, Recording Secretary and Janet Kolb, Corresponding Secretary.

Thanks to Sue MacCombie for a great job in 2005 as Corresponding Secretary.

New for Honor Clubs

Beginning in 2006, the Somerset County 4-H Association would like to recognize Honor clubs that go above and beyond the state requirements. Clubs that complete all the state requirements plus have 70% of its members sell at least one business card ad and one wreath, will receive a special reward from the Association. Look for details later this year.

New Date

Science Achievement Award Night - January 6, 2006, 7 - 9 pm. Please RSVP the 4-H Center at 908-526-6644 if you will be attending.

New Theme

New Clubs

4-H Horticulture Club: Meets in Hillsborough every 3rd Monday.

4-H Science Club: Meets in Hillsborough either Wednesdays or Thursdays. Club has been doing some chemistry experimentation.

4-H Kitties: Meets on Mondays in the Hillsborough and Somerset area. The club has a prep division and members need to own a cat.

Nature Seekers: This is a home-school club, meeting Fridays, during the day, in Hopewell. Trips have included Valley Forge, PA and Washington’s Crossing State Park.

Exploding Stars Prep Club: A new science club for children grades 1-3. This club meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at the 4-H Center for a new experience. Create exploding test tubes, build penny bridges and let egg-shells show you how strong domes are in architecture.

Please call the 4-H office at 908-526-6644 for details.

New... 

Junior Council: Meets every 3rd Thursday at the 4-H Center, Junior Council is a club exclusively for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, primarily focusing on leadership, citizenship and life skills. They do a lot of community service but are NEVER boring!

Northeast Leaders Forum - SAVE THE DATE... OCTOBER 12-15, 2006, Ocean Place Resort & Spa One Ocean Boulevard, Long Branch. This will be an opportunity to meet leaders from other states and share a motivational weekend of workshops, tours and fun activities.

Club Camp Weekend: New dates are April 7-8-9, the first full weekend in April! Also new great price, $33.00, with meals included! Check out our Camp Connection for more information.
The National Garden Club Scholarships Available

The National Garden Club (NGC), Inc. is proud of its scholarship program, which offers financial aid to students and promotes study in agriculture education, horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, botany, biology, plant pathology or science, forestry, agronomy, environmental concerns, economics, environmental conservation, city (rural and urban) planning, wildlife science, habitat or forest systems ecology, land management, and allied subjects.


Teen Scene

4-H Senior Member Winter Camp Register by January 13
Winter camp is a fun get away for teens to play in the snow and meet 4-H’ers from other clubs and counties. 4-H’ers in grades 8-13 from Somerset, Warren and Cumberland Counties will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp January 27 - 29. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. For more information contact Beth Kavanaugh (908-439-3718).

Alumni Basketball Game
Saturday March 18th 7:00
At the 4-H Center
Last year the Alumni team was victorious. This year Senior Council and Woof Dog Club are teaming up to challenge them. All teens are welcome. Please contact all the Alumni you know and start practicing! Come just for fun!

The National Garden Club Scholarships Available

Financial Help for College
Applications are being sent, and acceptance letters are coming soon-but how will you pay for college? The Somerset County 4-H Association is offering 5 - $1000 scholarships to 4-H’ers for college, vo-tech, etc. Applications will be available soon. Call the 4-H office and check our website: someset.rcrc.rutgers.edu

Citizenship Washington Focus
Applications due March 7
Join 4-H’ers from other states in Washington, DC for a weeklong educational experience to learn more about government and citizenship. 4-H’ers in grades 9-12 can apply. The trip to Washington, DC is July 9-15. To find out about this event go to www.4hcwf.org. Call the 4-H office for an application. Late applications will not be accepted.

National 4-H Congress
Applications due April 3
Each year more than 1000 4-H’ers from the US participate in National 4-H Youth Congress. This educational event focuses on social and cultural programs, leadership development and workforce preparedness. Youth grades 9-12 may apply. This event is held in Atlanta, GA, November 24-28. It’s a highlight of a 4-H career. Call the 4-H office for an application. Their website is www.national4-hcongress.com. Late applications will not be accepted.
Apply to be a Citizenship Washington Focus Program Assistant

Applications available on the web!

Are you between the ages of 18 & 23? Are you looking for summer employment? Are you interested in government, political science or youth development? Well, then we have the perfect opportunity for you! Apply today to become a program assistant (PA) for the Citizenship Washington Focus program at National 4-H Council in Chevy Chase, MD. Positions begin in May 2006 and run through July 2006.

As a PA you will lead groups of today’s youth into the Washington, DC, metropolitan area and teach them about our nation’s history and culture. While on campus, you will greet groups, familiarize them with campus, lead discussions and facilitate workshops. All of these activities occur after a rigorous 4-week training period where you will learn more than you ever dreamed possible about our nation’s capitol and working with youth. During the training period you will also receive your tour guide license upon successful completion of all the requirements of the DCRA.

The hours of a PA are long, but we reward our staff with free room and board in Warren Hall, the intern house on campus. You also receive a weekly stipend, better than most Washington, DC interns. Applicants must have excellent communication, leadership and public-speaking skills. Experience in 4-H is not required.

To receive complete application materials, visit our web site at http://www.cwf.n4h.org/pa.html. Please send completed application along with cover letter and resume to: Lita Haarer, National 4-H Council, 7100 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Questions should be directed to Lita Haarer at (301) 961-2898. Deadline is Jan. 27, 2006. Don’t delay, apply today!

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. The program promises to be a huge success with 132 students registered to participate.

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 full, but if you would like to be put on a waiting list, please call the 4-H office at 908-526-6644.

Young & Talented

In December, Angelina Bruno-Metzger, a member of the Woolly Ones Sheep Club, was chosen to have a one-act play she had written, performed on Broadway. The play entitled “So You Think You Know Me”, was based on her own life and writings in her diary. Angelina who also directed her play, is part of the Our Time Theatre Company. Hers was one of 4 plays chosen. She spent several days in New York City working with the professionals who performed her play.

In addition to this play, she has also directed several school productions and was nominated for a Paper Mill Rising Star student achievement award last spring for stage managing “Bye Bye Birdie” at her school.

“I love directing,” Angelina says. “It’s more creating and gives you a whole new freedom.”

However, Angelina plans to pursue a career in journalism and international affairs.
Help Plan Summer Day Camp

We are looking for teens, 8th grade and higher to help us plan for the 2006 Summer Adventure Weeks Day Camp. If you are interested in learning more, and possibly being a counselor or counselor-in-training, please contact Lisa Rothenburger at Rothenburger@rcrc.rutgers.edu, by Friday, January 20, 2006.

First meeting will be January 31, 7:00 pm.

WHAT SUITS ME BEST

Next spring, plan to become a savvy shopper and learn what suits you best! 4-H is planning a series of workshops for youth in 7th grade or older to be held at the malls! You will learn where to buy clothing, how to look for quality, to examine the style & color of garments and to learn what looks best on you. Then, you will have the opportunity to put it all together and create a look for yourself.

These workshops will be held on Wednesday evenings, April 19, 26, May 3, and 10. Details as to time and place will be available in the spring. Space is limited; call Lucille Razzano at 908-526-6644 to reserve a spot.

All 4-H members who complete the series of workshops will have the opportunity to model an ensemble they have purchased in the 4-H Fashion Revue, June 13, 2006.

National 4-H Congress Report

This year’s Congress, held at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta, Georgia, was attended by Bryn Keck, Jason Metting, Erin Posbergh and Shannon Zimmitti. Bryn and Erin were kind enough to share their experiences with us.

Somerset County had the most delegates, with 4, and there were a total of 17 delegates from New Jersey. Our delegates had the opportunity to meet 1200 4-H’ers from 46 other states, Washington, DC and Puerto Rico.

The conference focused on communications skills, including the role of society, as well as the expectation of society when it comes to communications. For Bryn, one of the highlights of the trip was the many inspirational speakers that they had, including Diedre Downs, the current Miss America. Bryn also enjoyed meeting all the different people and having the opportunity to attend workshops as well as to work on community service projects.

Erin was impressed with the many workshop choices. With such topics as swing dancing, baking, personal safety and careful driving, just to name a few, delegates were never bored!

All 4-H’ers participated in several different community service projects, which included setting up Christmas trees throughout Atlanta, known as their “Festival of Trees”, which raises over a million dollars for the local children’s hospital, and working in the inner city schools with special education students.

During “fun” time, the 4-H’ers got to visit the Atlanta Braves Stadium, the Coca-Cola Factory, and many historic sites honoring both the Civil War and Civil Rights. In the evening delegates got together to enjoy dancing and entertainment and great food. They were treated one night to an “International Dinner” where foods were served from all over the world.

The National 4-H Congress offers many unique and worthwhile experiences. Bryn says it was “worth the trip and would recommend it to any 4-H’er”.

Applications for 2006 National 4-H Congress will be available in the spring. Watch your Clovertales for details.
In November, the key leader for each club should have received a computer printout of what we have in our database for your club. If you have not reviewed it yet, please do so. If you are the Key Leader and you have not received it, please call our office (908-526-6644). This database is used for all of our mail lists. Young people are not registered members until we receive their application and have it in our computer. They will not be able to participate in the fair, will not receive Clovertales or any other mailing. They will not be eligible for any State or National 4-H Event or for any county recognition, award or scholarship, unless they are registered 4-H members. Please verify your membership with us. If you have the form, but have not yet returned it, please fax it back to us at 908-704-1821.

Club Financial Reports – due January 30

Be sure to send in your Club Financial Reports!

In September, Club Leaders should have received financial reporting forms. If you are a new club leader, or have misplaced your forms, please call the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644, to receive an additional form. Because you are using the 4-H name and emblem you are obligated to report any money collected throughout the year.

Public Presentations - March 21-22-23

All members should plan to participate in public presentations held at the 4-H Center. You may do a demonstration, give an illustrated talk, performance or formal speech.

Presentations help you to find out more about your favorite subject, allow you to entertain or teach others, practice speaking skills and learn from the judge’s critique. Most of all they are easy and fun!

Even a Blue Ribbon presentation might need a little improvement. For tips on how to make yours even better, plan to attend one of two workshops that will be offered at the 4-H Center on January 24th, 7 pm, and January 26th at 4 pm.

To Prepare for Public Presentations

Come to the Presentation Workshops on January 24, 7 pm, or January 26, 4 pm. Both workshops will be held at the 4-H Center. To register, call the 4-H Office by January 20.

- Invite the 4-H Staff to your club meeting for an informal workshop.
- Call Barbara Navatto at the 4-H Office for individual help.
- Give a presentation for your club and ask the other members for helpful comments.

Remember the Veterans!

February 14, 2006

The veterans hospitalized in VA facilities would be thrilled if you mailed them Valentines this February. This is a great club project. Mail your cards or pictures to the Lyons Medical Hospital, 151 Knollerost Rd., Lyons, NJ 07939.

Need to Reach the 4-H Center at Night?

The 4-H Center Night Manager is

Maryann DelGigante
Phone: 908-526-8242
7-10 pm Monday - Friday.
Hurrah for...
NJ 4-H Honor Clubs

Congratulations to these Clubs who qualified this year for Honor Club:

- New Center Dairy
- Sidewinders Herpetology Club
- Woolly Ones Sheep Club
- People Pick-Me-Ups
- Stablemates
- 4-H Cattleman’s Club
- Wags & Whiskers

Does your club and its members have what it takes to be a NJ 4-H Honor Club?

There are many different kinds of 4-H clubs. They meet different times and have different projects and interests. However, there are some things that all 4-H clubs should have in common. The following are expectations for 4-H clubs and members. If your club meets all of these requirements, your club qualifies to be a NJ 4-H Honor Club. Have your club leader or president complete a form and return it to the 4-H office and your club will receive a NJ 4-H Honor Club certificate (and possibly other recognition through Clovertales, achievement ceremonies, etc.)

Your club should:

- Meet regularly (at least once a month) for nine or more months of the year.
- Elect officers to run meetings.
- Hold at least one business meeting a month for nine or more months of the year.
- Participate in at least one approved 4-H project.
- Have an approved club constitution.
- Have at least one registered adult 4-H leader, appointed and trained by county 4-H staff.
- Conduct at least one community service project.
- Have at least five registered club members.
- Exhibit/demonstrate at the County 4-H Fair.

At least 70% of your club’s members should:

- Attend at least 70% of club meetings.
- Do a public presentation at the club or county level at least once a year.
- Complete a record book, if your project requires one.
- Sell at least one business card ad and one wreath (new for 2006)

County 4-H Achievement Awards

Achievement: Tyanna Truong, Jake Quick, Samantha Schurick, Erin Posbergh, Justin Dagnell, Elyse Geibe, Jill Campbell, Kelly Janisch, Bryn Keck, Sarah Lamont, Nick Asch, Kyle Savares; Agriculture: A.J. Stahoski, Citizenship: Andrea Ortu, Erin Posbergh, Jason Metting, Clothing & Textiles: Shannon Merrill; Community Service: Caitlyn Merril, Sarah MacCombie, Kathleen Kerwin, Brianna Mulrooney, Shannon Zimmitti, Natalie Schlosser, Desiree McLaughlin, Angelina Bruno, Chris Posbergh, Benny Przewozny, Michelle Arena, Kelly Brygier, Chelsea Maciborski, Jamelah Searchwell, Shomar Searchwell, Alex Burman, Sarah Bieliecky; Dairy: Ashley Turkskey; Dairy Foods: Lindsay Gandolfe, Meghan Behr; Dog Care: Bryn Keck, Shannon Zimmitti, Brian Franchuck, Ashley Ward; Goat: Lauren Darabant, Caitlyn Merrill, Kaitlyn Darabant; Horse: Elyse Geibel; Lamp of Knowledge: Brian Rowe; Leadership: Christi Kinney, Brianna Mulrooney, Shannon Zimmitti, Matt Batzer, Andrea Ortu, Brittney O’Brien, Stacey Kodack, Jill Campbell; Outdoor Ed/Rec: Michelle Arena, Erin Posbergh, Chris Posbergh; Performing Arts: Helen Horn-Mitchem; Personal Development: Christopher Furmato, Emma Boganski, Kirsten Obermeier, Kelly Fitzsimmons, Lisa Magulak, Elise Schwer, Melanie Boyea, Damel Dietman, Gwen Brown, Chelsea Anderson, Bridget Connolly, Sarah Rusk, Angelina Bruno-Metzger, Bryn Keck, Mitchell Stern; Photography, Alma Hasanovic; Poultry, Katie Fenyar, Christopher Walsh, Brian Kleszyk, Emma Courtney, Amy Cruser, Mitchell Korman, Shana Clifford; Public Speaking, David Allison, Sam Callahan, Sophia Chen, Justin Dagnell, Elyse Geibel, Julia Hill, Charlie Johnson, Christi Kinney, Irene Ning, Chris Puskas, Robby Slovik; Rabbits, Kandice Alpaugh; Reporting, Ashley Miller, Veronica Irizarry, Rachel Cowan; Sheep, Jack Egan; Visual Arts, Gabrielle Chaya
4-H Volunteer Highlights

Stephan Fenyar

Residence: Hillsborough
Family: Wife Susan, Son Jason and Daughter Katie
Occupation: Controller
Hobbies/Spare Time Activities: Time with family, watching my kids activities, sailing, bicycle riding, hiking
First became involved in 4-H... as a co-leader with WOOF Club.

Involvement in 4-H and community today... leader of Wattles & Snood.

Most memorable experience as a volunteer... Being awaken each morning of the fair by the sounds of the roosters and ducks.
Favorite aspect of volunteering... Working with the 4-H members, watching them grow and learn and being part of a great organization.
People don't know that...I enjoy baking different types of bread.
If I had more time I would....Sail and hike more

Anita Haley

Residence: Bridgewater
Family: Husband, cat and 4 turtles
Occupation: Science Teacher RVCC
Hobbies/Spare Time Activities: Swimming every week and loves to read and garden
First became involved in 4-H...7 years ago when she saw an ad which stated there was a need for a leader.

Involvement in 4-H and community today...co-leader with Tom Mazer of the People Pick-Me-Ups.

Most memorable experience as a volunteer...The monthly visits to Bridgeway Nursing Home. “We have become close to the residents and we look forward to seeing them”. The club also won an award from Build A Bear (featured in 2006 National Calendar for January)
Favorite aspect of volunteering...Love people, like working with youth. I have a lot to give to people.
People don’t know that....I still take college classes. Currently enrolled in Patent Law and Environmental Law. That’s where my heart is.
If I had more time I would....Volunteer more and educate myself more. I would continue my growth. It’s important.

National Family Volunteer Day

Somerset County United Way's 2005 National Family Volunteer Day was a success! The event confirmed that a great way to introduce children to the concept of community service is to spend an afternoon together as a family helping others. More than 315 individuals helped with 20 projects throughout the day at the Somerset County 4-H Center.

Somerset County United Way was pleased to coordinate this year's National Family Volunteer Day with support from our caring community partner, Ethicon, Inc.

Somerset Hills YMCA Volunteer Recognition Award

The 4-H recipients of the 2005 Somerset Hills YMCA Volunteer Recognition Award are the members of the 4-H Fair Entertainment Committee. The YMCA hosts this event to give organizations the opportunity to honor their volunteers and share the community's spirit of volunteerism. Betty Sommerville is the Chair of this committee. Kim Miholics, Kyle Miholics, Chan Leung and Linda Au all help to bring quality entertainment to our Fair. They work all year long, searching for acts, publicizing the Fair and working out the logistics to bring the many forms of entertainment to the Prep Tent, Clover Theater, and the Showmobile. They are also members of the association and work with clubs. We certainly appreciate all they do.
Have you always wanted to go to attend Club Camp, but it was always held during the last weekend in April? You are in luck! In 2006, it will be held during the first full weekend in April – April 7, 8, and 9th. Another big change for 2006 – meals are included with the cost – which is only $33.00 per person. This camp weekend offers the opportunity for 4-H’ers, parents and leaders to interact outside of their regular meetings. Activities may include hiking, fishing, archery as well as just hanging out together. Club camp is held at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp in Branchville, Sussex County. Registration forms and information packets will be available at the 4-H Office. This is a great chance to spend time together. Contact Sue Posbergh at 908-304-6435 or ksec@att.net for more information.

Here are some details:

Check in time: After 5:00 PM  
Friday, April 7
Check out time: Before 2:00 PM  
Sunday, April 9

A 4-H Event Permission Form or a 4-H Adult Overnight Agreement/Release Form needs to be completed for each participant. Please request these forms from the 4-H office and return completed forms by March 31.

4-H Summer Camp

The Lindley G. Cook, 4-H Camp is located off Route 206 in Stokes State Forest in Branchville, NJ. Camp is open to all youth who have completed third grade through tenth grade. Camp weeks begin July 3 and continue through August. The Somerset County Preference week is July 31 - August 5. All of the sessions begin Monday morning with check in at 10:00 a.m. Check out is Saturday morning with a special closing ceremony for parents.

Enroll early to ensure your first choice of dates and activities. Registration forms are available at the 4-H Center or online at www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu on the "forms" page and should be sent directly to Lindley G. Cook, 4-H Camp. You will then receive a parent's packet and a class description list. Return these to camp ASAP so you get the classes you want.

The camp fee for one week is $315 until February 1, $325 until April 1 and $335 after April 1. Other discounts are available for 4-H members and families. Bring a friend and you both receive a discount! Some scholarships are available through the Somerset County 4-H Office. Please call our office (908) 526-6644 to inquire about scholarships.

Camp Events

Call 973-948-3550
Or go to: www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu

For more information

• Open House, May 21, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
• Volunteer Staff Training, April 8
• Volunteer Word Days April 1 & 22
Family Camp June 2-4

Were you a 4-H Prep Family? Did you love going to the Camp weekend in June? Do you miss all the fun? Do you wish you had been able to go? Well, don’t fret…. ALL Somerset County 4-H Families are invited for a special Weekend at the Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp in Sussex County…June 2-4, 2006.

There will be time for fishing, boating, swimming, arts and crafts, hikes, games, great food in the dining hall and lots of fun and songs around the campfire. Cost is $50. per person. Camp scholarship funds are available. Please inquire at the 4-H office for an application.

There will be brochures and information on registration available at the 4-H Center by May. Take time out of your busy days to enjoy time away and with your family…that’s what memories are made of!

Get out and explore the wonders of nature at Family Camp June 2-4, 2006!

Grades 1 - 3:

For the Birds….Get up close and personal to see how birds live in the wild. Make bird houses and feeders to begin making your own backyard bird sanctuary!

Mystery Bus Ride…Enjoy a scenic drive to an unusual agricultural business and farm. Explore the riches of this beautiful region including a nature hike.

Kool Foods From Near & Far…Tickle your taste buds; excite them with a new flavor.

Fossils & Farming…dig fossils at Poricy Park and make ice cream the old fashion way at historic Longstreet Farm.

Bugs, Slugs & Other Critters…Travel to Honey Hollow Environmental Center and look for bugs, slugs and other critters under logs, in the streams and in the fields.

Grades 4 - 6: Join us for an exciting “Week of Wonders” (WOW!). Touch and see the icky, the slimy and the out of this world! Visit Insectopolis, come face to face with a snake, find your own fossil and travel to the stars.
Exhibitor Guide

Thank you to all division chairs for attending to the exhibitors guide. It will be ready by the end of February and will contain new dates and some rule changes. All members, parents and leaders can prepare for the Fair by reading their division as well as the policy pages in the front.

2006 Yearbook and Catalog

All adult volunteers, parents and 4-H’ers can contribute to the 2006 Yearbook and Catalog by providing photos of club activities. All clubs should plan now to submit a club photo for their project page. Traditional photos as well as digital are welcomed. There is a digital camera available at the 4-H office for all to use. The front cover will be chosen from photos submitted this year.

All 4-H’ers are encouraged to submit a design for the back cover. Your design should include the 2006 theme, Today’s 4-H Youth, Tomorrow’s Leaders. Designs should be submitted on 8 ½ x 11 paper by April 30th. On the back, write your name, club and phone number.
Happy Tails  
by Amanda Cronce

In September Colleen Ferry, Amanda Cronce, Katie Fenyar, and Rachel Spinrad went to the Museum of Agriculture to give people information about rabbits. Colleen, Amanda, and Katie also brought their rabbits to the museum for everyone to pet. In October, the 2005-2006 officers were elected: Katie Fenyar, President; Colleen Ferry, Vice President; Amanda Cronce, Secretary; Claire Pasquale, Treasurer; and Maegan Ferry, Photo Coordinator. The club is glad to see all returning members and also welcomes two new members: Megan and Jennifer. The Happy Tails club members were pleased to sell 26 wreaths, a great number for Happy Tails’s second year as a club. Also, on January 20, there will be a holiday party for all rabbit clubs that the club will be attending. The club wishes everyone a hoppy New Year and a hoppy Valentine’s Day!

Midland Photography Club  
by Anne Parsons

In October the club elected these officers: Jesse Engesser, President; Wesley Fleming, Vice President; Matthew Sartori, Treasurer; Kerry Pacifico, Recording Secretary; Steven Lingel, Corresponding Secretary; Jonathan Calabrese and James Henry, Club News Photographers; and Joseph Garvey, Pledge Leader. The club is determining whether or not they would like to change their name.

4-H Cattleman’s Club  
by Jessica Gilliam

The club’s meeting was called to order by it’s new president, Cody Gerlach. The Open House was very successful for the club as it gained three new members. It has been a great start for the new year. Most of the club was planning to attend the achievement dinner. For the educational time during the meeting the members played a game called “Name That Part on the Cow”.

Mighty Cavi’s & Rodents  
by Kira Whitney

The club discussed topics that included Record Books, Clovertales, first aid kits for rabbits and cavies, and their current wreath orders. They also collected dues. At their next meeting they are going to be learning about “Who & What to Breed”.

Sidewinders  
by Katherine Pirro

In October, as a community project, the Sidewinders made brownies for the SHIP organization. SHIP is a homeless shelter in Somerville. They also placed a box in the 4-H Center lobby where they asked other clubs to donate canned goods and other grocery items to help this cause through November/December. The club welcomed new members Dan Brown, Dan Herman, Dan Philipscheck, Chris Felice, Devin Shields, Margeaux Bull, Vince Strick, Nathan Roharback and Tagwa Brookins. In November, the club did presentations for a home school group that went over well. The audience was very eager and attentive and asked a lot of questions about reptiles. For our new members, this was their first presentation and they were off to a great start! The club also visited the Bronx Zoo, where they got the backstage tour of the reptile house. They got to see animals not normally viewed by the public. They visited the reptile nursery also. The club had a great time.
Dear 4-H Prepper,

Happy New Year to you and your family! I hope to see everyone at the New Year’s Party on January 7th.

The theme for 2006 is “Today’s 4-H Youth...Tomorrow’s Leaders.” You and all our 4-H’ers are the hope for the future. You may be just a kid now but when you grow up, you will be one of the productive adults who will make decisions affecting people for years to come. This sure seems like a very big responsibility, doesn’t it? That’s why it’s important to learn all that you can, never be afraid to accept responsibilities, and always be caring kids. Do that now and I’m sure our future will be in good hands.

We have planned a special day in March called the Prep Rally just for you guys. Read all about it below and be sure to plan on coming!! See you there.

Mrs. Kreutler
4-H Program Assistant

**Prep Rally**

“Puppets with Pizazz” Saturday, March 4, 2006 at the 4-H Center 9am - 3pm

What kinds of puppets can you name? I bet you know about hand puppets, but did you know there are other kinds of puppets? Did you know that you can make a stage using a doorway or a couple of chairs? At this year’s Rally you’ll see how puppeteers work different kinds of puppets and you can have lots of fun making your own puppets, stages, and scenery. Then, at our 4-H Fair, you can show young fairgoers how to make a puppet and even put on a show!

This special day is for all 4-H Prep members. There is no cost but you will need to register so we know how many kids to expect. You’ll get a flyer in the mail with more information about coming to the rally. Just have your parents return the form to the 4-H Office by the date indicated. All that you’ll need to bring that day is a bag lunch and be ready for a great time!
Yakety-Yak

News from the MAD SCIENTISTS meeting Oct. 19th: The Brochinsky family presented Electricity to club members Matt, Sarah, Costa, Cassy, Noni, and Cary. They experimented with conductors and insulators, talked about electrical safety and completed a packet about safety. On Nov. 9th the subject of the meeting was friction, presented by the Brochinsky family. Sarah, Cary, Costa, Josh, Noi, AJ, Cassy, Allyson and Matt made “sleds” using different types of materials, and then tested them to see how many pennies were needed to make each sled move. Some of them took a lot of pennies. On Nov. 16th the Broken Props Model Airplane club came to talk about their club and how model airplanes work. The Mad Scientists asked lots of questions and are looking forward to seeing the planes in action in the spring!

The TRIANGLE TIGERS from Triangle Elementary School in Hillsborough met on November 2. Their leader’s name is Debi Vitale. “Miss Mary Ann showed us what sticks to magnets and what doesn’t.”

The 4-H FRIENDS meeting Oct 9th meeting by Renee Christensen: “We learned about gerbils and their babies and how to care for them”.

Oct 20th by Ali Toolan: “We learned about dogs at our meeting”.

Dec. 4th meeting by Jonathan Garaffa “Today me, Kyle, Alison, Rohan, Renee, Ian and Amy made Christmas wreaths that we are going to sell to people”.

THE EXPLODING STARS is a new science prep club. Members are Gavin, Lily, Megan, Nicole, Olivia, and Tim. True to the club name, Olivia and Patti provided an exploding test tube experiment. Using a test tube of vinegar, a baking soda and toilet paper bullet, and a stopper, club members were able to shoot for the stars with the carbon dioxide generated. Observers reported that bubbles formed looking like “volcanoes” and that vinegar and baking soda “were not best friends”.

Club members had a smashing good time with Gavin and David’s eggshells and hammers while learning about the important role domes play in architecture. Amazingly 3 heavy computer reference books were supported by only 4 eggshell halves. Members assembled a giant fluorescent dome by using only kitchen straws and tape. They also designed simple paper bridges using a few strips of paper and some careful folding. Using pennies for mass, members were able to demonstrate that the bridges held considerably more weight when folded and overlapped for better strength.
January 21 & 22, 2006
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
4-H Center
310 Milltown Road

ANNUAL 4-H WINTER TRAIN SHOW

Sponsored by:
the 4-H Trainmasters and the Raritan Valley HiRailers

Featuring demonstrations and hands-on activities as well as the ever-growing and every-improving O-Scale trains and layout.

Admission
$3.00 Adult
$1.00 Children under 12

Concessions available all day.
Door Prizes
26th Annual Doll & Teddy Bear Show

Somerset County 4-H Exchange
Doll & Teddy Bear Show
Antique - Handmade - Modern

Saturday
FEBRUARY 25, 2006
10 am - 3:30 pm

4-H Center
310 Milltown Road
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Admission:
$3.50
mention this ad
$3.00

Appraiser:
$5.00
Elizabeth Pierce
(available all day)

Lunch Counter  Free Parking

Doll competition :: 28 categories
submit entry by 10:30 AM :: $2.00 per entry

For Information: (609) 466-8005
Day of Show: (908) 526-8242
Nominate Your Volunteer for 4-H Volunteer Highlights

Each year twelve 4-H Volunteers are recognized for their involvement in the 4-H program. Selection of these individuals is based on nominations by 4-H members. The volunteers are acknowledged in Clovertales and this achievement is displayed at the 4-H Center. They are also recognized at the 4-H Fair.

Nomination forms are due in the 4-H Office no later than March 1 of each year.

Name of 4-H Volunteer Being Nominated ________________________________

Please list below the reasons why you nominate this person for 4-H Volunteer Highlights:

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Submitted by ________________________________ Phone Number ______________

Club Name __________________________________ Date in 4-H Office ___________