President's Message

On behalf of the Somerset County 4-H Association I would like to thank everyone for making this an extraordinary year in 4-H. We have had strong attendance at all events, a significant increase in public presentations, a terrific leaders roundtable discussion, an increase in wreath sales and an unbelievable ad sale. New volunteers have stepped forward to chair major committees and seven new clubs have started. Clubs are making a positive impact with their innovative community service projects. The 4-H Association's new "BIG" committee is enthusiastically working on events to insure the future funding of important building repair projects. It's exciting to be moving forward with such momentum. It's this cooperation and support that makes our program so outstanding.

I feel privileged to work with the youth and volunteers of Somerset County 4-H. I'm certain this will be a very successful fair and hope families will continue to spread the word about the value of 4-H. Thank you to the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Park Commission and all our Fair sponsors and participants. Congratulations to Somerset County 4-H members on their achievements through out the year and thanks to such supportive leaders and parents.

Rich Norz

Rich Norz

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.

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.
IT'S FAIR TIME

Parents...
Please support the efforts of your children as they prepare for the fair. This is their big day! It is a time for them to exhibit their accomplishments with pride. We have an old saying around here, "4-H is a family affair, and in 4-H, you're part of the family." Share the 4-H experience with your child. Please consider assisting your child's club leader or helping with other tasks at the fair. Read this newsletter for ideas or call your leader or the 4-H office. If you

2006 4-H Fair Exhibitor Guide
This document was mailed earlier in the year. It is important to review the yellow pages in the front. Review your division guidelines, and any Open Divisions in which you are interested.

- All 4-H members are welcome to participate in any Open Division.
- Most Open Division entries are judged prior to the Fair.
- Check the listing for each division in the Exhibitor's Guide for details and if pre-registration is required.
- Prep members may participate non-competitively and will receive 4-H Fair participation ribbons.

Yearbook and Catalog
Catalogs will be available at the 4-H Center mid August. Please be sure your advertisers get one. Say thanks to Robin Brygier, Sarah Hochreiter, Sandy Clare, Cheryl McLaughlin, Joe Bakes, Pauline Kodack, Joanna Lieuallen and Dawn Hribik for a terrific 2006 Edition of the Yearbook and Catalog.

Ad Sales
Congratulations to everyone that sold ads. This turned out to be a record breaking year! Over $43,000 in ads were sold, proving once again that working together can make the best better!

Yearbook & Catalog T-shirts
4-H members (or volunteers) with $50 or more in ad sales receive a special edition 4-H Fair T-shirt for their efforts. Pick up shirts at the 4-H Center, 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Monday, July 25 or Wednesday, August 10.

Event Permission Forms
- Each member who plans to participate in the fair must complete two Event Permission Forms.
- Give both copies to your leader.
- Leaders will keep one copy in the tent and put one in an envelope to be stored in the information tent for use by the rescue squad only. If there is an accident on the fairgrounds, we will have all the necessary emergency information to recognize allergies or health conditions and to contact parents.

Please cooperate in this attempt to keep all 4-H members as safe as possible. If your family needs more forms, they are available at the 4-H Center day and evening, or can be downloaded from the website: http://somerset.rcr.rutgers.edu.

Fair Supplies
Fair supplies will be available at the 4-H Center starting the first week of August. These include:
- Exhibitor tags/cards, livestock exhibit cards
- Exhibitor buttons for 4-H members
- Danish ribbons for classes. Rosettes, trophies and medallions for outstanding work
- Green participation ribbons
- Non-competitive club ribbons
- Leader ribbons to be worn as identification
- Division Banners for tents
- Judges food tickets and identification ribbons
- Forms to report show results, awards, interesting stories (for Clover Tales and the Press Notebook in the Information Tent)
- “No Dogs Allowed” signs for inside tents

Parents...
Please support the efforts of your children as they prepare for the fair. This is their big day! It is a time for them to exhibit their accomplishments with pride. We have an old saying around here, "4-H is a family affair, and in 4-H, you're part of the family." Share the 4-H experience with your child. Please consider assisting your child's club leader or helping with other tasks at the fair. Read this newsletter for ideas or call your leader or the 4-H office. If you
• Event permission forms
• Labels for supplies to be stored in pole barn

Please return all leftover or borrowed supplies to the 4-H Center by Wednesday, August 23.

Press Releases
Do you have an interesting story about your project or other 4-H experience that would encourage other kids or adults to join or volunteer? Please complete the form in the Press Book and we will send your suggestion to the papers. There will be a PRESS BOOK in the information tent and we will be working with local newspapers to give them up to the minute news.
We can also use this as a vehicle to tell our story. We cannot guarantee they will print our stories, but the more information we make available, the more we can hope to spread the word!

Fair Improvement Grants
Due August 1
The 4-H Association will give divisions/tents monetary grants to make the fair better. Applications are available at the 4-H Center and on the website, somerset.rere.rutgers.edu/4hfair.

S4HL! Takes Over Our 4-H Stage!
Today's youth can become tomorrow's stars! Join us during one of the noon hours and show off your talent! Play a little ditty, sing the song that's in your heart, or dance your dreams away! The 4th annual S4HL! (Somerset 4-H Live!) show will be hosted by a surprise "house band" -- come & see which talented 4-H'ers take to our stage this year. Check out the description of the Open Division 14: Performing Arts in the 2006 Exhibitors' Guide. It’s not too late to register with the Entertainment Committee. Call Betty Sommerville (908-281-5238) or e-mail her at jls@mindpulse.com (put "4-H talent" in the subject line).

Herdsmen
• 4-H'ers who have completed 8th grade in the spring or older sleep overnight at the fair to make sure animals and exhibits are safe and secure.
• Herdsmen Supervisors are Debbie and Rich Norz, 4-H Assoc. Members, and Club Leaders.
• Herdsmen are people of character and pledge to uphold the six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.
• Return a completed application by JULY 15 to the 4-H Center. Late applications will not be accepted! Applications are available at the 4-H Center or online.
• Herdsmen applicants must attend one of two herdsmen orientation meetings, July 24 at 7:00 p.m. or August 8 at 7:00 p.m. If you have been a herdsman for the last 2 or more consecutive years, your parent or guardian does not need to attend. Members need permission and approval signatures from a parent, a leader and a 4-H Agent on the application.
• A breakfast will be provided, Wednesday through Saturday mornings from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. on the fair grounds.
• We also need adults to serve as herdsmen. They must complete the NJ 4-H Volunteer Overnight Agreement.

Volunteer Workforce Yellow Pages
The Fair is successful because of the many, many volunteers that assist, including you and your club. In addition to working within your division, plan to volunteer to help other areas. The electricians need lots of help, as do the food and commercial tent committees. You may help either setting up or cleaning up! Call the 4-H office or these teams directly to volunteer. If your club has been assigned a responsibility that you can NOT fulfill, please call the 4-H Office, 526-6644.
Lost Children
All lost children must be taken to the Information Tent. Managers and Park Rangers will proceed to locate parents from there. If a parent is missing a child, notify a Park Ranger and the workers in the Information Tent immediately! An information tent cell phone number will be available during fair time. Signs will be posted with this information and phone number.

Injuries or Illness
The Rescue Squad is on the fairgrounds at all times and available for any health emergency. They may be reached by radio from the Information Tent or by any Park Ranger, Fair Manager or Staff. An information tent cell phone number will be available during fair time. All injuries must be reported on an Incident Report form available in the Information Tent.

Fair Hours
The Fair is open to the public from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Therefore, all exhibits must be in place during those hours on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Exhibits must be ready by 10 a.m. on Wednesday and no one is to take down or remove exhibits until after 10 p.m. Friday.

Delayed Opening: If there is a weather alert, call the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644, 7 am – 8 am for further information. Listen to WCTC – 1450 AM and WMGQ 98.3 FM.

Early Closing: If it becomes necessary to close the fair early, an official announcement will be made over the PA system. An announcement for a meeting in the Food Tent will be made. Send ONE adult from your project area for information and procedures.

Parking
• Weather permitting, there will be parking on the fairgrounds. If there is inclement weather or other events beyond our control, which prohibit parking on the fairgrounds, additional shuttle buses from Raritan Valley Community College will be added as needed. THIS INCLUDES MONDAY AND TUESDAY EVENINGS BEFORE THE FAIR.
• Tuesday before the fair when everyone is unloading, please do not leave vehicles along the roads. Unload and move your vehicle to the parking lot. This will decrease the congestion and allow traffic to flow more freely.
• AVOID THE FUSS, ENJOY THE BUS

Rules and Procedures

• Buses will run between the fair grounds and Raritan Valley Community College from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. all 3 days of the fair.
• Handicapped parking will be available either on the grounds or at RVCC.
• On Fair Days, parking at the 4-H Center is ONLY for those visiting the offices or employees. If the Fair parking lots are closed, one pass to the 4-H Center lot will be issued per club. See Carol Ward
• DROP-OFF during fair hours The paved area off Horse Ring Road is the designated drop-off point. There is no parking there, but a sheriff’s officer will be on hand to radio for a golf cart if you need to have supplies dropped off. Please help load the golf cart/trailer and have someone available to help unload at the tent. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Germ Busting in the Animal Tents
• All divisions with petting areas need to instruct fair visitors to clean their hands before and after petting the animals and before eating.
• Each animal tent will be given two hand sanitizing stations and posters.
• All exhibitors need to clean and disinfect equipment prior to coming to the fair. This includes trailers.

Livestock and Horse Trailers
• Please plan to unload animals on Tuesday, take trailers home, and return on Friday evening after 10pm.
• One trailer per division will be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds in a designated area. This trailer will not be moved until Friday evening after 10 pm. See Carol Ward for permit. The Park Commission has requested any additional trailers be parked by the river provided the parking lot is open.
**Member Responsibilities**

- Complete projects and bring to the Fair. (Some projects are judged before the fair. Check Exhibitor's guide.)
- Get signatures and apply to be a herdsman on time.
- Design, set up and clean up club exhibit.
- Set up projects, displays, boards/stalls.
- Decorate tent area.
- Staff tent (with club leaders and parents.)
- Help set up & take down cinder blocks/planks in food tent. Volunteer where needed.
- Wipe tables in food tent – sign in at food tent committee booth and receive free food tickets.
- Raise and lower the flaps each day. On Friday night after the Fair, do not remove the flaps.
- Leave ideas for interesting stories in the "Press Book" in the Information Tent.
- Give your Event Permission Form to your leader. These are available to download on the website.

**Adult Responsibilities**

**4-H Parents & Guardians**

- Support the efforts of your child(ren).
- Assist club leaders with Fair responsibilities.
- Assist in other areas as needed by volunteering for jobs outside your division.
- Pick up Bumper Stickers in the 4-H Center lobby or the 4-H office to advertise the Fair.
- Sign Herdsman Applications.
- Complete health and permission forms.

**4-H Club Leaders**

- Discuss Exhibitor’s Guide with parents/members.
- Contact the 4-H Office if you need ideas for exhibit signs or posters.
- Determine and coordinate needs of club for Fair.
- Assign roles/responsibilities.

- Please collect the Event Permission Forms from your members. Put one set in a sealed, labeled envelope and leave them at the information booth before Wednesday at noon. They will only be used in an emergency which would require information for the rescue squad. Keep the other set in your tent.
- Keep phone numbers & emergency numbers of club members accessible at the Fair at all times.
- There will be a PRESS NOTEBOOK in the information tent. Appoint someone to keep this book up to date with results of all judging events for reporters from local newspapers and Clover Tales. Interesting story ideas are welcome too!
- Organize club effort to help in other parts of the Fair (See yellow pages).
- Sign Herdsman Applications.
- Assign parents or teens to Saturday, 2nd Shift at 10 a.m. Call the 4-H Office to sign up.

**Division Chairpersons**

- Are responsible for projects that make up that Division.
- Obtain exhibit information from club leaders.
- Work with club leaders, making note of changes for the 2006 Exhibitor’s Guide and give to the 4-H Office.
- Obtain judges and if there is no parking, notify judges as early as possible or make other arrangements.
- Appoint someone to report judging results in "Press Book" in the Information Tent.
- Submit division schedules to 4-H Office.
- Order ribbons ASAP. Pick them up at the Center before your show.

**Tent Superintendents**

- Oversee set-up and take-down.
- Design layout and designate electricity needs.
- Oversee the activities and schedule in the tent.

**County 4-H Staff & 4-H Fair Managers**

- Oversee general operations of the 4-H Fair. Feel free to call them with questions or concerns. See Directory for phone numbers.

*Thank you to all the members, parents and volunteers who contribute so much time and energy to making the 4-H Fair a success.*
**Fair Set Up**

The Fair Managers will move supplies to the fairgrounds very early Saturday morning. Everything in the pole barn that has a division label on it will be placed in the appropriate tent. Horse club members will help at the pole barn at **6 am** and Dairy club members at **8 am**.

After tents are secure and electricians have completed wiring, 4-H clubs are permitted to set up fencing, exhibit boards, etc. Club exhibits must be set up by Tuesday evening before the Fair. Any leftover supplies should be placed on a pallet and shrink wrapped to go back to the pole barn. Fair Managers will visit each tent on **Tuesday** evening to check for supplies to go back to the pole barn or dumpster. Please label these leftover supplies with the name of your division or as trash.

**How to Pack a Pallet**

- Position pallet on the ground so the tines of the forklift fit between the slats.
- Make sure top of the pile is flat enough to place another pallet on top. DO NOT build a pyramid.
- Shrink wrap VERY tightly, especially PVC pipe and wire cages.
- Do not allow anything to hang over the edges.
- Do not put rented tables (those labeled Miller Party Supply) on any pallet.
- If you have delicate items, do not put them on pallet. Please make other arrangements for their storage.
- Label clearly. Tent superintendents will receive labels in their tent packets. If you need more, please let the 4-H Office know ahead of time.
- If you have questions, ask a fair manager or forklift operator. They are willing to help you make the job go smoothly.

**Fair Clean Up**

SEE EXHIBITOR GUIDE FOR DETAILS

- Exhibits may be taken down after the Fair closes at 10:00 p.m., Friday night.
- Remove all new staples after taking down your display.
- Upon obtaining an electrician’s approval, each superintendent should assign members to help remove all items from tent, drop, roll and label electric wire and pack wire and bulbs in barrels.
- Rake or clean litter from tent areas.
- **Friday night, August 18 and/or Saturday morning, August 19**, all divisions will shrink wrap their pallets and label them. Shrink wrap and labels will be provided.
- Fair managers will be available from 6:00 a.m.–12 noon on Saturday after the Fair to help load the pole barn.
- There will be a forklift and flat bed truck to help bring items from the Fairgrounds to the pole barn.
- Divisions are expected to have a representative at the Fairgrounds to make sure the correct items are brought to the pole barn.
- Any items left on the Fairgrounds or at the 4-H Center after Saturday noon will be thrown away!

**2nd Shift on Saturday**

Each club should plan to send a few people for a second shift on Saturday after the fair. When the herdsmen and other helpers leave the fairgrounds around 9 or 10 a.m., the electricians and fair managers are left to continue the clean up on their own. Last year each club sent one or two well rested people at 10 a.m. Clean up went much faster, everyone was home by 1:00 and everyone felt supported and appreciated. Call the 4-H Office to sign up.
Food Tent News

Still Looking for a Place to Help?

Milkshake Booth
Help is needed from 4 to 10 PM all three nights of fair. No experience is necessary; we supply aprons. Bring a friend. Clubs can sign up to work together. Parents, this is an opportunity for you to get to know each other. The milkshake booth is sponsored by the Somerset County 4-H Association to help fund the fair. Call Nadine Powylan 908-722-6918 to volunteer.

The 4-H Association will sell baby back ribs supplied by a local restaurant. Clubs and individuals are encouraged to call to volunteer. No cooking involved!

Many Thanks...to Ruth Slovik for chairing this tent for so many years. Welcome new chairs, Lisa Darby and Rose Oldenburg. We appreciate your help!

How Sweet it is!

Do you want to make some "sweet" money for your 4-H club? Club parents and kids at least 16 years old can take a turn spinning cotton candy at the 4-H Fair. Cotton Candy has been an exclusive item of the Prep clubs but we would like to make a "sweet deal" and share the fun and profit with folks in other project areas. All you need to do is sign up for at least a 2 hour open time period one or more of the fair days and we will give your treasury 20% of what sales you take in during the time your club is spinning. Theresa Prenenski, the chief of operations, will give direction and tally the number of cones sold. Contact Val Kreutler, 4-H Prep Coordinator, at the 4-H office, for more information and to set up a time.

"Down on the Farm" Obstacle Course
How fast can your team do daily farm chores? Using strategy and team effort, teams will be asked to stack hay bales, dodge cow pies, and fill milk bottles. Each team, organized that day, will have 3 members of different ages. Look for details in the Show tent at the fair. The contest will be Wednesday afternoon in the show tent and is open to all 4-H’ers.

Presentations
All 4-H’ers are invited to give a public presentation in the prep tent. Preppers always enjoy seeing the "big kids" in action and for Preppers, this is a great place to gain experience. Call the 4-H Office, 526-6644 to schedule a time. Scheduling is flexible. All participants will receive a participation ribbon.

Operation SHOEBOX NJ at the 4-H Fair
Somerset County 4-H in partnership with The Reporter and community organizations and corporations will be collecting donations of personal items, and snacks to be packaged and shipped to our American forces overseas.

Please tell all your friends and families to bring items with them when they come to the fair in August. Boxes will be set up in the Information tent for the following items:

- Suntan lotion
- Bug spray/wipes/strips
- Lip balm
- Feminine products
- Ear swabs
- Wipes (travel size)
- Razors
- Toilet paper
- Eye drops
- Socks
- Laundry detergent
- Clotheslines/pins
- Spices
- Tea bags
- Coffee
- Small drink mixes
- Microwavable foods
- Snack food
- Cereal/protein bars
- Hard candy/gum
- Packets of hot chocolate
- Writing materials
- Batteries
- Calling cards
- Fleece blankets

ALL DONATED ITEMS MUST BE IN THEIR ORIGINAL PACKAGING.
And in Other News...

4-H Observatory Construction
Seeking Mason Bids

Construction of the foundation and sidewalk for the 4-H Observatory is expected to begin later this summer. Bids are now being considered. If you know a mason who would like to bid, please have them contact the 4-H Office, (908) 526-6644.

This will be the first publicly accessible observatory in Somerset County. It will house two large telescopes that allow 4-H members and the community to view the planets and deep sky objects right from our own "back yard". Included within the observatory will be a small computer area where objects viewed from the telescopes can be digitally imaged and enhanced. This process is common with observatories - especially in heavily lighted suburban areas.

Attention all 4-H Volunteers!

The 2006 Northeast Regional 4-H Volunteer Forum will be held in Long Branch, NJ, on October 12 - 15. New Jersey only gets to host this event once every 13 years, so this year will be extra special for all NJ 4-H Volunteers!

This Forum is guaranteed to boost your 4-H spirit as we boast about New Jersey New Visions. Come for the fun and lots of hands-on-learning opportunities. Scholarships are available from the Somerset County 4-H Association. Call the 4-H Office for registration form or you obtain the form on line: http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/nervf/

Dates Set for State 4-H Animal Shows

August is the time for 4-H members from throughout the state to showcase their project animals. Mark your calendars now for these culminating events.

Remember, you do not need to have an animal project to come to the shows. Everyone is welcome to attend and cheer on other 4-H members from your county.

State 4-H Rabbit & Small Animal Show
Date: Saturday, September 9
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Horse Park of NJ, Route 524, Allentown, NJ
Contact: Monmouth County 4-H Office
732-431-7265

State 4-H Dairy Show
Date: Monday, August 14
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Hunterdon County 4-H Fairgrounds
Contact: Carol Ward
ward@rcre.rutgers.edu or 908-526-6644

State 4-H Goat Show
Date: Thursday, August 24
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Hunterdon Co. 4-H & Agricultural Fairgrounds
Contact: Chad Ripberger
ripberger@rcre.rutgers.edu or 609-989-6833

State 4-H Championship Horse Show
Date: Friday, August 25-Sunday, August 27
Time: vary - check 4-H Web site for details: nj4h.rutgers.edu
Location: Horse Park of New Jersey
Contact: Carol Ward
ward@rcre.rutgers.edu or 908-526-6644

For more information about the shows contact your county 4-H Office or the New Jersey 4-H Website - www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/animalsci/index.html. On the Website just click on the appropriate animal species. The rules and entry forms for the show will be available on the Website.
HURRAY FOR...

State Horse Judging & Hippology Results

Congratulations to these participants:

Junior Division: Kristen Johnson
Kristen’s team placed 3rd in Hippology

Senior Division: Justin Dagnall
Justin’s team placed 2nd in Hippology, 4th in Performance class and was 9th Individual Halter class.

Monmouth County 4-H Small Animal Show

Congratulations to these rabbit winners:

Sarah MacCombie
Best Reserve - Belgian Hare

Melissa Race
Best of Breed - Mini Satin
Best of Breed - Satin
Best Reserve - Satin
Best Reserve - Californian
Best Reserve - Mini Lop
Best Reserve - Mini Rex
Best Reserve - Mix

Sarah Ongara
Best Reserve - Flemish Giant

Amy Williams
Best Reserve - Netherland Dwarf

2006 Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to this year’s scholarship winners:

Somerset County 4-H Association Scholarships: Jason Metting, Erin Posbergh, Shannon Zimmitti, Bryn Keck, April Anderson, Meredith Kollmer

James Rudowski Scholarship: Jason Metting

Joseph J. & Florence E. Klimas Scholarship: Caitlin O’Neill

Meredith Kollmer and Christine Sommero Win Scholarship

Meredith Kollmer and Christine Sommero are the recipients of a $1000 scholarship each from the Seeing Eye, Inc. Meredith raised 8 puppies and Christine raised 3 puppies through the 4-H K-9 Leaders Seeing Eye Dog Club. These puppies then go on to be trained as guide dogs for the blind. Guide dogs help the blind move with dignity and independence. Puppies raised in loving homes always make the best dog guides.

4-H State Presentations

On June 10, Rutgers University hosted the 2005 State 4-H Presentations Program. This event offers qualified 4-H members an advanced Public Speaking experience. Participants are encouraged to return from the contest and assist younger 4-H members in their county to develop their public presentation skills. To qualify for this State Event 4-H members must be in the 8th - 13th grade and have received an excellent rating in the County 4-H Public Presentation Contest.

Congratulations to these qualifying Somerset County 4-H’ers, who participated in the state contest: David Allison; Monica Bogado; Gwen Brown; Dan Brown; Justin Dagnall; Shilpa Deshpande; Jennie Frank; Elyse Geibel; Jes Hala; Ken Hayward; Julia Hill; Charlie Johnson; Bryn Keck; Charles Kennedy; Christi Kinney; Patti Linnel; Caitlyn Merrill; Andrea Ortu; Roxanne Rosinski; Sarah Rusk; Elise Schwer; Nathalie Schlosser; Kelly Steimle; Katie Winters; Shannon Zimmitti.

The Outstanding Plate Award Winner for Somerset County was: Gwen Brown
State 4-H Dog Show

Congratulations to these winners:

**Best in Show**
Wendy Franzyshen, Agility - Off Leash

**Obedience**
Pre-Novice B: Mollie Booker, 3rd place; Daniel Basile, 4th place
Intermediate Novice: Ashley Ward, 2nd place; Emma Boganski, 3rd place
Novice: Andrea Ortu, 2nd place; Alexa Berko, 3rd place
Graduate Novice: Nathalie Schlosser, 1st place

**Seeing Eye**
Puppies 6-9 months: Meghan Hartmann, 3rd place; Meredith Kollmer, 4th place
Puppies 10-12 months: Ryan Clare, 4th place; Will Engelking, 5th place
Puppies 13 months & up: Erica Devlin, 5th place

**Junior Showmanship**
Grades 4-6, Inexperienced: Casey Hennessy, 1st place; Carolyn Pirro, 4th place
Grades 4-6, Experienced: Melanie Boyea, 1st place; Kristen Obermeier, 2nd place; Emma Boganski, 3rd place; Kylie Berko, 4th place
Grades 7-9, Experienced: Alexa Berko, 3rd place; Sarah Martino, 4th place
Grades 10 & Up, Experienced: Nathalie Schlosser, 2nd place; Brittney O’Brien, 3rd place

**Agility**
Off Leash, Large: Elise Schwer, 1st place; Alexa Berko, 2nd place
Off Leash, Small: Patti Linnel, 4th place
Leash Optional, Large: Elise Schwer, 4th place
Leash Optional, Small: Kristin Obermeier, 3rd place; Amanda Weinstein, 4th place

Special recognition to these participants:
Julia Hill, Kathy Hill, Troy Tinley, Emily Diettmann, Sean Dietmann, Tana Ford, Trey Ford, Brian Franchuk, Katie Hamilton, Tom Hilbert, Aiyana Mastello, Christina O’Brien, Gabrielle Chaya, Sarah Fenwick, Elizabeth Frank, Jennifer Frank, Christopher Furmato, Abigail Hunnewell, Bryn Keck, Veronica Moditz, Shannon Zimmitti

WWW.4HisTOPS.ORG

The 4-H Association has announced a new link to the 4-H website. Go to www.4HisTOPS.org (notice there’s no hyphen in 4-H) and you will be right at the Somerset County 4-H website.

Thanks to Doug Farley for making this happen.

Association News

Beginning this year the 4-H Association will hold their annual meeting in September instead of in January.

Thanks to these officers for agreeing to serve another term:
Rich Norz - President
Joe Bakas - Vice President
Jim Wood - Treasurer
Jeanne Fasullo - Assistant Treasurer
Janet Kolb - Corresponding Secretary

Our thanks to Holly Eaton for the tremendous job she did as Recording Secretary for 2005 - 2006.

Welcome to new Recording Secretary… Caitlyn O’Neil

Congratulations…

To these members who did county presentations and were missed in last issue:

Amanda Crone
Katie Fenyar
Colleen Ferry
**4-H Volunteer Highlights**

**Sarah Lynn Hochreiter**

**RESIDENCE:** “Somerville”

**FAMILY:** “Rescue sled dog, Chilly; 3 horses, Que Pasa Chief, Cody Kat and Sojourner.”

**OCCUPATION:** “Regional Manager”

**HOBBIES/SPARE TIME ACTIVITIES:** “Horseback riding, training, playing piano, music, reading”

**FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN 4-H…** “Six years ago with Stablemates Horse Club”

**INVOLVEMENT IN 4-H AND COMMUNITY TODAY:** “Co-leader of Stablemates, yearbook committee, Association member.”

**MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AS A VOLUNTEER…** “Staying overnight at the fairgrounds with the club members and telling ghost stories.”

**FAVORITE ASPECT OF VOLUNTEERING…** “Seeing the progress the club members have made over the years with their horses.”

**PEOPLE DON’T KNOW THAT…** “As tall as I am, I hate playing basketball!”

**IF I HAD MORE TIME I WOULD…** “Travel more, read more.”

**Robin Brygier**

**RESIDENCE:** “Bridgewater”

**FAMILY:** “daughters, Kelly and Jessi; son Brandon”

**OCCUPATION:** “Office manager for Datatek Applications, Inc.”

**HOBBIES/SPARE TIME ACTIVITIES:** “Crafts, reading and snowmobiling.”

**FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN 4-H…** “I was in the cooking and sewing club as a kid. My oldest daughter joined Stablemates 5 years ago. I became a leader of Stablemates 3 years ago.”

**INVOLVEMENT IN 4-H AND COMMUNITY TODAY…** “Pitching in and helping when I can with the clubs my daughters have joined - Exchange, Stablemates, Wags & Whiskers, Garden Gnomes and new Centre Dairy. I am on the yearbook committee and will be joining the Association in the fall.”

**MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AS A VOLUNTEER…** “Nights at the 4-H fair. Seeing all the kids from all different clubs running around after working and showing all day, relaxed and having a really good time.”

**FAVORITE ASPECT OF VOLUNTEERING…** “Helping to do things that help the kids get the most out of 4-H. These are the memories they will have for the rest of their lives.”

**IF I HAD MORE TIME I WOULD…** “Adopt more animals.”
Dear 4-H Prepper,

School is out and it’s almost time for the 4-H FAIR! Did you save all the things you made for your club’s exhibit? Did you do a journal? There are a lot of jobs to do so be sure that your parents help your club leader get things ready.

If you just finished 3rd grade, look for a letter in the mail about the prep graduation on Thursday, August 17 in the prep tent. Don’t forget to let me know if you will be attending.

Mrs. Kreutler

4-H Program Coordinator

Yakety – Yak

News from Mrs. Brochinsky about The Mad Scientists:

“Josh Miller’s family arranged for our club to have a tour of Petco in Raritan. The children enjoyed learning about different kinds of pets and even getting to touch or hold a few. Petco employees, Jen and Laura did a wonderful job explaining about each kind of animal and how to care for them. Thanks to Kate Ferguson’s family for suggesting this field trip.

At another meeting, Sarah Bijaczyk and her mom led the group in a variety of Earth Day recycling activities. The children made their own paper while having fun scooping up the ‘sludge’. They also created shrinky dinks from recycled plastic and made storage containers out of 2 liter soda bottles.”
More Yakety-Yak!

Minutes from The Exploding Stars:

The meeting was called to order by James and seconded by Gavin and Ashay. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gavin. The 4-H Pledge and motto was led by Ashay. Attendance was taken by Gavin. Members in attendance were Gavin, Ashay and Hemang.

The VanSkivers demonstrated that Air has Mass! We created a homemade hovercraft, developed rocket sleds, and played air soccer.

Camp was Damp!!

The Somerset County 4-H Family Camp Weekend at LG Cook June 2-4 was super even though it was rainy and wet! The weather sure didn't stop kids, though, from hiking, fishing, boating, dissecting owl pellets, making sailboats and painting bags, trying archery, watching a puppet show, country line dancing, making s'mores around the campfire, and marching at night with decorated torches. Even the Seeing Eye dogs had a great time!

Many, many thanks to all the moms and dads and the special folks who made things happen. Mr. VanSkiver led a great hike. The puppetry club and Mrs. Sommerville performed the puppet show. Mrs. Graham was in charge of crafts and Mr. Graham and Mr. Brochinsky prepared the torches. Maggie and Brian came up and led archery and songs. Sam from Doubletree prepared all the great meals and Joe helped him. Mrs. Ward showed how to dissect an owl pellet and Mrs. Frank supervised the camp cleanup. Camp certainly was a wonderful and memorable "Family Affair". Look for our exhibit and photos in the Prep Tent at the Fair.
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<td>State Day Entries</td>
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<td>Horse Show</td>
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July 1 - Annual 5 Camp Firebreak Week

Grades 1-6 Summer Adventure Weeks July 17 - 21

Grades 4-6 Summer Adventure Weeks July 10 - 14

- July 30 - Annual 5 Camp Firebreak Week
- Grades 4-6 Summer Adventure Weeks July 17 - 21
- Grades 1-6 Summer Adventure Weeks July 10 - 14
- State Day Entries
- Horse Show
- Office Closed
- Independence Day
- Senior Camp Firebreak Week
- Grades 4-6 Summer Adventure Weeks July 17 - 21
- Grades 1-6 Summer Adventure Weeks July 10 - 14
- State Day Entries
- Horse Show
- Office Closed
- Independence Day
- Senior Camp Firebreak Week
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<td>4-H Fair Managers Meeting (Lay-out Tents)</td>
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<td>OPEN CLASSES: Arts &amp; Crafts, Creative Arts, Photography, Woodworking, &amp; Needlecraft – Drop Off</td>
<td>Herdsman Orientation (7 p.m.)</td>
<td>Open Division Judging (evening)</td>
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<td>Community Service Teen Volunteers (10 a.m.)</td>
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<td>State 4-H Dairy Show (Hunterdon County)</td>
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<td>State 4-H Goat Show (Hunterdon County) (Check-in starts at 8 a.m.)</td>
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<td>Deadline for September/October 4-H Newsletter</td>
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<td>State 4-H Horse Show August 25 – 26 - 27</td>
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Mighty Cavits & Rodents  
by Kira Whitney

The club did a great job of collecting ad sales. They had their picture taken for the yearbook. In April, Prep member, Todd Gallagher, did a presentation on his guinea pigs, Kirby and Pepper. Then the club made guinea pig treats. In May, the club discussed the upcoming pet fair and community service events. Other subjects discussed were member presentations, dues, record books and the Awards Dinner. Forms were handed out to those members who want to be herdsmen for the fair. The club is also planning a picnic August 12. In June, presentations were given by members Tori Parsons, Sarah Stamets and Timmy Garb. Then the leaders did presentations, Judy Burlew on Homeopathic Medications, Laurie Hazen on Animal Health at the Fair, and Bob Petroski on Showmanship.

Wooly Ones  
by Erin Posbergh

The club did fabulous presentations. They attended the Hunterdon County Fitting and Showmanship Workshop. Members are awaiting the fair!

Midland Photography Club  
by Anne Parsons

Midland Photography students submitted their photos to the 4th National 4-H Calendar Photography Contest. In order to enter a photograph, it had to have been previously exhibited at a 4-H Fair. Although none made it to the final round, it was a good experience to enter in a national contest. The Photographers were: Steven Lingel, Jesse Engesser, Matthew Huang, James Henry, Patrick Frawley. Then on May 1, the club went to the Printmaking Council of NJ.

They learned how to make a pinhole camera out of a Pringles potato chip can by spraying the inside with black paint and the lid covered with black tape. A small hole in the bottom of the can became the camera lens. Photo paper was inserted on the inside of the can which acted as film. The hole was kept covered with fingers until ready to “shoot”. In the darkroom, a negative was developed as any negative would be. The following members made cameras, took pictures and developed them on this trip: Jesse Engesser, Joe Garvey, Steven Lingel, Matthew Sartori, James Henry and Kerry Pacifico.

Wattles & Snood  
by Steve Fenyar

The Wattles & Snood Poultry club had a pool party meeting on Friday, June 16. The party was held at a member family home. The major focus of the party was a get together to plan for the upcoming Fair, get their t-shirts designed and most of all to have fun! Swimming, great food, t-shirt decorating, fair preparation and 4-H club fun was enjoyed by all.

Congratulations Seniors!

David Allison, April Anderson, Michelle Arena, Dale Artffitch, Jessica Aulisio, Matt Batzer, Sarah Bielicky, Brenton Biggs, Angelina Bruno-Metzger, Kelly Brygier, Jessica Chen, Steven Chiang, Christopher Chu, Ryan Clare, Bridget Connolly, Emily Davidson, Matthew Digan, Caroline Egan, Jacob Forktus, Stacy Green, Sarah Gumbine, Helen Horn-Mitchem, Eric Hsia, Pauline Huang, Grace Kao, Abdullah Kenana, Peter King, Jayson Kolb, Meredith Kollmer, Robert Kosaka, Rajesh Kumar, Shelly Kung, Joseph Kwiatek, Vanessa Lavoie, Veronica Lazarte, Daniel Lent, Albert Liao, Esther Liu, Buck-Sun Low, Andrew Lubas, Jennifer Lyons, Sarah Mac-Combie, Chelsea Maciborski, Danielle Marcine, Jackie May, James McMahon, Jason Metting, Jason Nicoletti, Rebecca Olmsted, Meredith Olson, Erin Posbergh, Andrew Purzycki, Matt Puskas, Jake Quick, Kathleen Smith, Christine Sommero, Garret Spork, Thomas Spork, Margaret Studwell, Tiffany Tai, Eleni Tzovios, Dominick Valenzano, John Wu, Michelle Ziminski, Shannon Zimmitti
BIG 4-H Rummage Sale
Set up- September 12-14
Sale- September 15-16

To sign-up for 2-hour shifts, contact Kim Miholics at miholicsksk@patmedia.net or 908-359-4934

Adult and Teen Volunteer Opportunities:

Publicity- before the sale- distribute flyers, hang posters
Refreshments for Pre-Sale- Thursday evening- Donate or serve. Chair needed
Food Concession- Friday and Saturday 9am-3pm. - Clubs welcome to volunteer for one or both days. All proceeds will go to BIG fund. Several clubs can work together. Management team needed
Bake Sale- Friday and Saturday 9am-3pm - Donate or sell baked goods. Management team needed.
Set Up- Tues and Wed- accept, sort, clean, price donations- 9am-8pm (2 hr shifts)
Set Up- Thursday- accept, sort, clean, price donations-9am-4pm (2 hr shifts)
Pre-sale for Donors and Volunteers- cashiers, helpers to move items- 6pm-9pm
Sale- Friday and Saturday 8am-3pm- cashiers, movers, general help, parking attendants (2 hr shifts)
Clean-up- Saturday 3pm-7pm

If you have eBay experience and would like to help maximize profits, volunteer to list and sell the more valuable items for the BIG fund.

Donations
(Paper and plastic grocery bags will be needed)

Items Accepted
Gently used clothing
Bedding, linens, fabric
Books, videos, DVDs, CDs
Collectibles
House wares
Toys
Jewelry
Infant goods
Furniture that is easily moved

Items NOT Accepted
Car tires, rims
Baby furniture and car seats not up to safety code
Encyclopedias, magazines
Upholstered furniture, mattresses, built in furniture
Computers without hard drives and with chips older than Pentium or equivalent
B/W computer monitors, computer monitors smaller than 14”, dot matrix printers, large and heavy copiers
Air conditioners; air purifiers/vaporizers; humidifiers; large & older models and all built-in microwave ovens
Framed pictures with broken glass, unframed mirrors, loose glass
Halogen lamps without safety guards
Large appliances
Sinks, toilets, toilet seats, tubs
Storm doors, screen doors, windows, and window screens
Venetian blinds or shades; drapes/curtains with foam rubber, fiber glass, or rubber backs
Wall-to-wall carpeting, rugs without binding
No Hazardous waste, nothing flammable
A message to all 4-H Families from the 4-H Association Building Initiative Committee:

Build, Invest and Grow

In the 1960’s, the dream of a meeting place for 4-H’ers was conceived and the first Somerset County building fund was established. The 4-H Association and 4-H members, leaders and families successfully worked together and raised enough money to purchase the property. Then, in 1973, ground was broken and the Somerset County 4-H Center was constructed.

Now our 4-H Center needs major repairs. We need a new roof and the parking lot needs repaving. We are beginning a BIG push for BIG money and are again trusting that we can “Make the Best Better” by working together in a BIG way!

The first BIG event coming up is:

The BIG 4-H Rummage Sale

Ted Blum 4-H Center
Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16
9am-3pm
- Drop off: Tuesday, September 12 through Thursday, September 14
- Pre-sale: The evening of Thursday, September 14
  (open only to donors and volunteers)

There are two ways to help-
- **Donate:** Start decluttering NOW and save your best treasures for the sale.
  
  *See the reverse side for list of acceptable items*

- **Volunteer:** Help will be needed to accept, sort, clean, and price donations during drop off times. Cashiers, movers, and kitchen help will be needed during the pre-sale and sale. And of course, help is always needed to clean up.

A BIG thanks for donating and volunteering!

May 2006
Dated Material