4-H is TOPS!
Alphabet for Life

Accept differences, Be kind, Count your blessings, Dream, Express thanks, Forgive, Give freely, Hug, Imagine more, Jettison anger, Keep confidence, Love truly, Master something, Nurture hope, Open your mind, Pack lightly, Quell rumors, Rejoice in little things, Seek wisdom, Touch hearts, Understand, Value truth, Win graciously, Xeriscape, Y earn for peace, Z ealously support a worthy cause.

Author unknown

Thanks to all our 4-H volunteers for consistently bringing this alphabet for life to our youth.

To Make the Best Better,

Lisa Rothenburger
County 4-H Agent

Carol 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.

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

Important Dates for State 4-H Animal Events!

- **March 3** – State 4-H Horse Bowl, Burlington County
- **March 17** – Circuit 4-H Dog Show, Somerset County
- **March 24** – State Dairy/Beef/Equine Symposium, Cook College
- **March 31** – State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl, Monmouth County
- **April 28** – State 4-H Dog Show, Cook College
- **May 5-6** – State 4-H Horse Judging and Hippology, Hunterdon and Somerset Counties

Please contact Carol Ward about any of the above events.

Last Chance for '07 Yearbook and Catalog

Don't be left out! Have your memories in the yearbook. The volunteer committee that puts this 100-page book together is asking for your help! Please contribute the following:

**By March 1**
- The exact name of your club
- The list of leaders and members that are currently active in your club.
  Please double check the spelling

**By March 31 (even better if they come in earlier)**
- Up to 6 photos of your club. These can be group shots or action shots (CD's, email, hardcopy, however you want to get them here)
- They can have captions but no names
- Please send these to navatto@co.somerset.nj.us

If you have historic photos that you would like to contribute to this 60th Fair commemorative volume, we can scan them in.

This book is also used as a promotional piece for the program, showing off 4-H'ers in a very positive way. It is given out free at the fair and other events.

4-H Science-sational Day April 14

Brochures for this fun day have been mailed. Register by **March 30**.

1st-6th graders can participate in hands-on science workshops that include our most popular panning for gems, flying kites, making butter, snakes and lizards, and by request: a chance to be a surgeon. The cost is $20.00 per child and parents can attend for no additional cost. Call the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644, for more information and a registration form.

Registration forms are also available on our website: [www.4HisTops.org](http://www.4HisTops.org)
**The Importance of Record Books**

Why complete a record book? A project is a subject or topic that you learn about in 4-H. A record book is simply a way for you to keep track of what you have learned in your project.

- Learn how to organize yourself
- Learn how to set reasonable goals for yourself
- Appreciate what you've learned this year from the goals you reached
- Recognize what things you learned in your 4-H project
- Explain what you’ve learned
- Keep track of costs of your project
- Gather information needed to apply for awards and scholarships
- Complete applications and resumes for jobs and college
- Meet requirements to participate in some county, state, or national 4-H events

Projects with official record books are: Goat, Dog, Herpetology, Horse, Model Horse, Rabbit, Small Animal, Dairy and Sheep.

If your project does not have an official record book, then you should be using the general-purpose record book titled, “My 4-H Record Book”.

Why else are record books important?
Because it helps the 4-H department to measure growth and impact in Life Skill Development, Character Education, and Volunteer Development.

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**Kohl's Scholarships**

Leaders are encouraged to nominate club members for the Kohl's "Kids Who Care" scholarships by March 15. Two winners from each store will receive $50 gift cards, 170 Regional winners will receive $1000 and 10 National winners will receive $5000 and a grant of $1000 to the charity of their choice. Please visit [www.kohls corporation.com](http://www.kohls corporation.com) to download rules and the nomination form.
Project Learning Tree  Project Wild

April 18, 2007  May 1, 2007

Project Learning Tree is an award winning environmental education program designed for teachers and youth leaders. Discover over 175 hands-on activities that help teach science, math, language arts, social studies and other subjects like animals and habitats.

Project Wild is an interdisciplinary environmental program available to teachers and youth leaders. Learn over 175 activities that help teach all core standard subjects. Activities presented take students from awareness to action and emphasize student interaction with the natural environmental and conservation using the outdoors as a classroom.

Call the 4-H Office to register: 908-526-6644.

Welcome!

To Lisa Darby, our new 4-H Prep Coordinator. Lisa comes to us with experience in special education and early childhood education as well as having been a 4-H volunteer for many years.

Peggy Doyle, is the new RCE Business Manager. She comes to us from the Roads and Bridges department. We are glad to have her organizational experience and county knowledge.

Saturday Enrichment Activities at The Children's Museum

The Children's Museum of Somerset County is offering weekly interactive enrichment programs for children age 3-9 and their families from 9-12 every Saturday morning. Through educational exhibits and programs, it inspires every child's natural curiosity and creativity, and nurtures a love of learning.

Upcoming Programs:
March 10  Telephones & Text Messaging
March 17  Experiment!
March 24  Robots
March 31  The Weather
April 7  International Games
April 14  Rainforest
April 21  Earth Day Celebration
April 28  Oceans

All programs run from 9 AM to Noon. A $3/ per child donation to cover materials for those who can afford it is appreciated. The Children's Museum is located in Room 210 of The PeopleCare Center, 120 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater. If you would like to contact them for more information, please call 908-595-0001 or e-mail info@kidsmuseumnj.org.

3-Day Camp Questionnaire

In 2007, we are hoping to offer a 3-day camp on June 26-27-28, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm for 1st - 6th graders. We will not be offering the July SAW or WOW camp programs this year.

Before we begin planning, we would like to find out if families would be interested in this kind of program. Please take a minute to complete the questions below and return this page to either Maryann, our 4-H Center Night Manager, or to our 4-H Office.

We appreciate your time and help. Thank you.

1. I have a child(ren) in grades 1 - 6. List grades ____________________________

2. Would you be interested in sending them to a 3-day camp, June 26-27-28, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm?  □ Yes  □ No

3. We estimate the cost to be $150. Would you send your child for this amount?  □ Yes  □ No

Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

1. I have a child(ren) in grades 1 - 6. List grades ____________________________

2. Would you be interested in sending them to a 3-day camp, June 26-27-28, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm?  □ Yes  □ No

3. We estimate the cost to be $150. Would you send your child for this amount?  □ Yes  □ No

Comments: ____________________________________________________________
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Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________
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______________________________________________
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3. We estimate the cost to be $150. Would you send your child for this amount?  □ Yes  □ No

Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________
National & Global Youth Service Day, April 20 - 22

Mission of Youth Service America is a national resource center that partners with thousands of organizations committed to increasing the quality and quantity of volunteer opportunities for young people, ages 5-25, to serve locally, nationally, and globally. Founded in 1986, YSA's mission is to expand the impact of the youth service movement with communities, schools, corporations, and governments. YSA envisions a global culture of engaged youth who are committed to a lifetime of service, learning, leadership, and achievement.

The 19th annual National & Global Youth Service Day events take place on April 20 - 22. 4-H Clubs are encouraged to participate in this event.

Complete details are available on their website. They offer Planning Tool Kits to help project planners identify their projects, recruit volunteers and generate media interest and funds; posters to use to recruit volunteers and decorate project sites; and a curriculum guide to help club members develop project management skills.

Youth Service America also offers grants to help your club plan and implement certain service projects such as Disney Minnie Grants for younger children, Capitol One Fund for projects involving low-income housing and Lion in the House Grants for projects on pediatric cancer.

For complete information and to register your volunteer project, please go to their website at: http://www.YSA.org/

You can also contact Christina Wessell Batcheler at 202-296-2992, ext. 128.

Extension Living Well Week

Extension Living Well Week, March 11 - 17, 2007 encourages everyone to improve their health and well-being by taking advantage of the educational opportunities offered by Family and Community Health Sciences. Extension Living Well Week encourages each of us to find ways to be more active, eat better, or make other healthy decisions. Suggestions include eating more vegetables and fruit, eating together as a family, drinking less soda and eating fewer high fat or high sugar snack foods. Research shows that over time even small changes add up to better health. What will you and your family do to be healthier?

The Family and Community Health Sciences' Living Well Conference will be on May 2, 9:00 am - 2:30 pm and includes lunch. The program features speakers on the health benefits of mushrooms and the importance of sharing your family health history. The Bridgewater Roxies will entertain after lunch. Call 908-526-6295 for more information or visit our website: www.somerset.rce.rutgers.edu. Registration required.

Leaders Roundtable Discussion

March 26, 7:30 pm

All Club leaders are invited to meet with members of the 4-H Staff and the 4-H Association and discuss topics of your choice. Do you have questions about the Yearbook and Catalog, how to run a club meeting, how to get parents involved, where to find resources or field trips? Experienced leaders are encouraged to attend and share your experiences. This is not a meeting with a specific agenda. It is a chance for leaders to get to know one another and share information. Join the fun with pizza hosted by the 4-H Association.
Scholarships Available

♦ **4-H Association Scholarship** – 12th and 13th grade 4-H’ers can apply for $1000 scholarship. Deadline April 1.

♦ **Edward Rosania and William Staats and Peter Smith Memorial Scholarship** – 4-H High School Graduate majoring in agriculture-$500. Deadline Aug 1. Contact 4-H Office.

♦ **Benjamin C. Blackburn Scholarship** – $5000 Scholarship for students majoring in horticulture, botany, landscape architect or a related field. Deadline must be received by Scholarship Committee, located in Morristown by April 17.

♦ **Jim Rudowski Memorial Scholarship** – Any 4-H High School Senior interested in a career in Science can apply for $500 scholarship. Deadline April 1.

♦ **Joseph J. & Florence E. Klimas Scholarship** – Any Somerset Co. 4-H Alumni, who is a Junior or Senior in college, majoring in Education can apply for $1000 scholarship. Deadline April 1.

Outstanding 4-H’er

Applications Due June 1

If you will complete your junior or senior year in high school this year, then you may want to apply to be an Outstanding 4-H’er. You will need to complete the application and ask one adult volunteer to write a recommendation letter for you.

Applications will be available in April and will be due June 1. Contact the 4-H office or visit our website for an application or more information.

To be considered an Outstanding 4-H'er a 4-H member should be truly deserving of the award by excelling in the following areas. They should not receive the award based only on the fact that they are the right age and have been in the program for a certain period of time.

1. Participation in Club
2. Participation in County Events
3. Participation in State Events
4. Participation in National Events
5. Demonstration of Leadership Qualities
6. 4-H Community Service
7. 4-H Promotion
8. 4-H Achievement (personal goals, etc.)
9. Attitude
10. Example to others
11. Personal Growth
12. Contribution to Total Program

Safe Night, March 24

The Somerset County Youth Council is holding it’s annual Safe Night for teens on **Saturday, March 24th**, from 6:00 - 10:00 pm at the Somerville High School located at 222 Davenport Street in Somerville.

There will be basketball and volleyball games, as well as other games and a DJ for dancing. Admission fee is $5.00 and pre-registration is strongly recommended.

Please contact Sarah Murchinson at 908-704-6307 (daytime phone number) for more information on either volunteering or attending.
**Lindley G. Cook**

**Counselor Opportunities**

Become a camp counselor at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp in Stokes State Forest. Anyone sixteen or over may volunteer to be a counselor for one or more weeks this summer. **Our County Preference Week is July 30 - August 4,** but camp is open all summer. **Mandatory counselor training is available on-line.** Visit the Camp Web Site for more information. [http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/](http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/)

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**Senior Council**

*by Robby Slovik*

Upcoming events for Senior Council include:

**March 9-11:** North Jersey planning team at South Jersey Conference.

**March 11:** Somerville St. Patrick’s Day Parade

**March 24:** Somerset County Safe Night 6:00 - 10:00 pm

The Senior Council made cards for the veterans for Valentine’s Day.

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**Winter Camp 2007**

*By Robbie Slovik*

Winter Camp this year didn’t feel like “winter” camp with no snow and barely any ice on the giant lake. What were we going to do?

Much to our surprise, along with 2 other counties, we were able to occupy ourselves with several unique activities. With singing ice breaker games led by Brittny O’Brien, ultimate Frisbee games instructed by Jason Metting, a nature walk with Maggie Navatto and a SPORK leadership training taught by Jim Tavares, the camp director, we all had a great time. The weather was not that cold and with no precipitation of any sort, we had the luxury of freedom around the camp to do as we pleased.

Campers this year were Rob Slovik, Kathleen Kerwin, Amanda Weinstein, David Allison, Ashley Miller, Dan Lang, Brittny O’Brien, Christina O’Brien, Jason Metting, Brianna Mulrooney, Grace Rosinski, Gabrielle Morgan, Nathalie Schlosser, Emily Rosenfeld, Jessica Brygier, Jesse Engesser, Willie Sommerville, John Garlipp, Joe Shreve.

Chaperones were Maggie Navatto, Brian Bakes, Caitlyn O’Neill, Betty Sommerville, Mark Allison and Lisa Rothenburger. The chaperones were great and all the teens say “thank you” for all you have done. See you next year!

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**National 4-H Congress Applications Due April 13**

National 4-H Congress is a unique leadership opportunity for 4-H members from all 50 states. The event focuses on leadership, youth empowerment, community service, career development, and cultural diversity. The event brings over 1200 4-H members to Atlanta over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. The planning committee takes advantage of Atlanta’s standing as an international city and exposes delegates to as many venues in the city as possible including the Centennial Olympic Park, the World of Coke-A Cola, CNN Center, Carter Presidential Library and the Martin Luther King Center. There are many outstanding workshops along with keynote addresses that round out the experience. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for 4-H members.

NJ sends approximately 25 4-H members and 3 adult advisors to the event each year. One to three delegates are nominated from each county and then final delegates are selected through a state interview process. The cost of the event is approximately $800, of which part is paid by the Somerset County 4-H Association, and includes air transportation, registration, lodging, and most meals. Local and state scholarships are available.

All interested 4-H members must be in the 10-12 grade at the time applications are due (April 13). Complete an application and go through a county and state selection process. Participants can only attend this event one time during their 4-H career. Applications are available at the 4-H Office or online at: [http://www.national4-hcongress.com/](http://www.national4-hcongress.com/)
Club Audit Forms Due!!!

New Jersey 4-H policy states that all club volunteers and members should receive an accurate club treasury report monthly. In addition, the 4-H office is to be appraised of club fund raising activities and receive an annual audit of the account. To date, we have only received a few audit forms for the year 2006. We would ask that the other clubs have their treasuries audited ASAP. The club audits were due to the 4-H office December 31. These forms can be downloaded from www.4HisTops.org Click on publications, then click on NJ 4-H club treasury audit form (#4H247).

Thank you to those clubs who have sent in their forms on time: Sheepfold, 4-H Cattleman’s Club, Twirling Clovers, 4-H Garden Gnomes, People Pick-Me-Ups.

Club Camp Weekend
April 13 - 15

Everyone loves 4-H Camp! Here is your club’s opportunity to spend time at L.G. Cook Camp. Deadline to reserve is March 31. The cost is $33.00 per person and includes meals. Members will need to complete a 4-H event permission form and adults will need to complete a 4-H overnight agreement form. If a club leader is unable to attend, a parent volunteer may help. Call volunteer leader Sue Posbergh for more details (908-304-6506) or email her at: ksec@att.net

Presentations: March 27, 28, 29, 2007

Evenings
Registration 6:30
Presentations 7:00

Wednesday afternoon
Registration 3:30
Presentations 4:00

♦ You may be judged or not.
♦ You decide how long it should be. (3-5 minutes for younger members, 5-8 minutes for older members and 8-15 for teens)

You choose the method.

A demonstration teaches through showing and explaining with actual supplies, tools, etc and ends with a finished product for the audience to touch or taste.

An illustrated talk tells about something or how something is done and must include visuals. Flip charts, posters, slides, etc are used.

What is your favorite topic? How would you like to present it? You have many choices.

♦ You may present as an individual or as a team.

A formal speech is written by the member or a noted individual and should stimulate thought or present a point of view. It is given from memory with brief notes. There are no visuals.

A performance incorporates drama, dance, instrumental or vocal music, puppetry, clowning, etc. The presenter introduces the art, performs and ends with a few comments.

Remember that every presentation needs an introduction, body and summary.

Registration forms, due March 19, are available from leaders and the 4-H Office. You may make copies of the form in this newsletter.
How to score well at presentations-

- Practice, practice, practice. You will be more relaxed and confident.
- Cooking demonstrations have a different set of rules!!! Call for information.
- DO NOT READ. Work from an outline or brief notes. Make eye contact with the audience.
- Take a breath before you begin.
- Introduce yourself, name, age, club, number of presentations.
- Have an introduction or opening to the presentation- why are you telling this? why do people need to know this?
- The body of your presentation will contain major points, as well as stories, explanations and definitions of new words. If you are demonstrating a skill, you must talk as you work.
- Have a summary- what are the important points you made? What should people do with this information?
- Posters must be BIG AND BOLD. Can you read it across the room? Have more posters with less info on each.
- Do not bring animals or other props that you don’t actively USE in your presentation.
- State where you got your information and ask for questions.
- Pause for your applause.
- Time limits are: 3-5 minutes for grades 1-4 or first timers, 5-8 minutes for grades 5-7 or younger with experience, 8-15 minutes for grades 8-13.
- Dress nicely or appropriately. No brand name labels across your shirt.

**Power Point Presentations**

You may use PowerPoint, but remember, this is a visual aid and should be used in place of posters. It should not contain your entire speech.

For more information, call the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644.

Have Your Story Featured in the 2009 National 4-H Calendar

National 4-H Supply Service wants to know about “How Someone in 4-H Has Inspired Me” and why it was meaningful. Your story could be used in the 2009 National 4-H Calendar. If your submission is chosen, you will receive a $10 gift certificate towards your next purchase of merchandise from the 4-H Source Book! The submission deadline is April 30, 2007. Please e-mail, fax or mail your stories to:

Maria Cascioli  
National 4-H Supply Service  
6931 Arlington Road, Suite #T-400  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
mcascioli@fourhcouncil.edu

Sheep News

*by Pauline Kodack*

**It’s Twins!** The Sheep Clubs are proud to announce the birth of twins, a little ewe (girl) and a little ram (boy) on February 16. All are doing well. The happy mother is Cosmo, owned by Cathy/Dawn Christy of the Sheepfold Club and the proud daddy is Black Tie, owned by Margaret Bruno-Metzger of the Woolly Ones Club.
Mounted Drill Team

“Kick-Off” Meeting 2007

All horse club members are invited to participate in the 4-H Mounted Drill Team. Our ‘kick-off” meeting will be held on Monday, April 23, 2007, at 7:00 pm in the Green Room. This is a quick, yet very important meeting to attend. Anyone even remotely interested should attend. Any questions or concerns, contact: Carol Maciborski, (732) 469-6295.

Wear Your Art On Your Jeans

Back by popular demand: Decorate Your Jeans Workshop - Friday, April 27, 7:30 pm.

Today’s clothing rage is decorated denim; jeans, jackets, vests, skirts. With a little creativity, you can create this look for much less and have your own original, one of a kind design. Start with a new garment or something you already own. You may sew or glue on patches, appliqués, laces or buttons, paint designs, embroider, attach grommets or studs, insert laces or fabric swatches. We will have an array of samples to stimulate your imagination. A variety of decorations and supplies will be available for your use. If you have a specific idea in mind, visit your local craft store to get your own materials. The options are endless!

You may exhibit your creations in the Needlecraft or Crafts Open Division which will be judged Thursday, August 9th at the 4-H Center and/or you may have garments judged before the Fashion Revue and model them in the show. You do not have to be a member of a Home Ec. club to participate.

Call the 4-H Office to register: 908-526-6644.

4-H Prep Craft Club Sends Package to Troops

by Paula Barrameda

In a late fall meeting, 4H Prep Craft Club member, Courtney Sunder, and her always-willing Grandma Joyce, brought in the idea and supplies to make a care package for the troops. In preparation, club members saved up toilet paper and paper towel rolls. The rolls were filled with candies and wrapped in beautiful paper and tied off at both ends. The enthusiasm was so great that even when the candies were gone, the girls continued to fill the rolls with special home made greeting cards/notes for the troops. Through Joyce, the club has received several very special thank you notes from the troops. Quotes Major Stosh Kowalski: “The men had a wonderful time unwrapping the gifts. They enjoyed the candy and the cards are hanging on the walls where the men are staying.”

It was such a pleasure to be able to spread some joy and a smile and have fun in the process. This craft was such a success the Club is going to try and do another similar project before the year is up.

Make Fleece Blankets for the Troops, May 3

It may be 100 degrees on the ground in Iraq, but when wounded soldiers are airlifted to hospitals, the temperatures in the planes and helicopters are freezing! These wounded soldiers need warmth.

On Thursday, May 3, at 7:00 pm, we will make fleece blankets for these men and women. Fabric Land has donated some fabric and will sell us additional fabric at half price.

Don’t worry if you don’t know how to sew! We have a no-sew pattern for those members.

Cost to attendees is $5.00 to pay for the fabric. Pre-registration is required. Please call Mrs. Razzano at the 4-H Office.
HURRAY FOR...

Administrative Professional Day

April 25 is Administrative Professional Day and a BIG thank you to our 4-H administrative professionals. They are great; always courteous, helpful, and organized. We really appreciate all they do, and hope you do too! Thank them for all they do next time you see them.

Mrs. RoseMary Fleming, Mrs. Marian Kaufman, Mrs. Georgeanne Valis and Ms. Jennifer Hodge.

Also thank you to the other RCE secretaries and office manager who help out and lend a hand to all of us, making us a true “cooperative” extension:

Mrs. Carolyn Morella, Mrs. Jennifer Arago, Ms. Peggy Doyle, (the new RCE business manager).

County 4-H Achievement Awards

These 4-H members received their medals after the deadline of the last issue of Clovertales. We congratulate them on their achievements:

Safety: Michelle Arena, Jesse Engesser, Brian Franchuk, Alex Franchuk, Conor Kelton, Chris Posbergh, Erin Posbergh, Joe Shreve, Ryan Shreve

Gardening: Michelle Arena, Alex Franchuk, Conor Kelton, Chris Posbergh, Erin Posbergh, Joe Shreve, Ryan Schreve

Wildlife and Fisheries: Michelle Arena, Alex Franchuk, Conor Kelton, Chris Posbergh, Erin Posbergh, Joe Shreve

Horse Project Achievement Awards

Junior English: Angela Patterson – Champion
Elizabeth Hobbie – Reserve

Senior English: Justin Dagnall – Champion
Kim Bergen – Reserve

Junior Western: Sara Rusk – Champion
Alyssa Brisebois – Reserve

Senior Western: Shilpa Deshpande – Champion
Chelsea Maciborski – Reserve

Speed Division: Chelsea Maciborski – Champion
Ashley Serridge – Reserve

George Daniels Memorial Award: Justin Dagnall

4-H Sportsmanship Awards: Gabriella Guzman
Ashley Thompson

Most Improved Rider Award: Ashley Thompson

Leadership Awards: James Hobbie, Shilpa Deshpande, Kim Bergen

Drill Team Certificates: Chelsea Maciborski, Jessica Aulisio, Justin Dagnall, Angela Patterson, Meghan Cummins, Neha Deshpande, Stephanie Christian, Vanessa LaVoie. Honorable Mention: Ashley Serridge

Outstanding Club Awards:
Sophie Carroll – Community Service
Jess Hala – Public Speaking

Cumberland County Dog Show Winners!

Congratulations to Amanda Weinstein and Kristin Obermeier of the Woof Dog Club who recently placed at the 6th Annual Cumberland County 4-H Dog Show:

Amanda Weinstein: 2nd Junior Show
2nd Intermediate Novice

Kristen Obermeier: 4th Junior Show
1st Intermediate Novice
**Somerset County Small Animal Show**

The Somerset County Small Animal Council held its annual open 4-H show on February 17. There were entries from as far away as New York state. There were a total of 281 animals entered; 151 rabbits, 90 cavis, 24 small animals and 16 prep entries.

**Winners from Somerset County 4-H included:**
- Best In Show Rabbit - Melissa Race
- Best Reserve In Show Cavy - Brooke Gallagher
- Best In Show Small Animal - Eric Kinney
- Best Reserve In Show Small Animal - Nicholas Suk

**Other winners were:**
- Sarah Stamets - BOB: English Angora; BROB: Dutch Rabbit; American Cavy and Rat
- Melissa Race - BOB: Satin, Flemish Giant, Californian; BROB: French Lop and Satin
- Sarah Ongaro - BOB: Mini Satin, French Angora; BROB: Flemish Giant
- Elise McKean - BOB Netherlands Dwarf

Tim Goetjen - BROB: Netherlands Dwarf
Brooke Gallagher - BOB: Lionhead, American Satin Cavy, Abyssinian; BROB: Lionhead
Caroline Merrill - BOB Crème D’Argent
Megan Kouril - BOB: Holland Lop
Kira Whitney - BOB: Cavy Sow and Litter, Crested Cavy; BROB: Crested Cavy
Amy Williams - BOB: Hamster
Eric Kinney - BOB: Chinchilla
Fiona McNamee - BOB: Rat
Nicholas Suk - BOB: Hedgehog
Ben Parker - BOB: Gerbil

Thank you to all who participated. You all have wonderful animals and you have all worked so hard. Thank you to all adult volunteers and the Small Animal Council for supporting the show.

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**4-H Volunteer Highlights**

*By Dawn Gallagher*

**Chris Giraldi**

**Residence:** Hillsborough

**Family:** Mom-Connie, Brothers-Charlie and Jimmy, Sister-Allison; Girlfriend-Kelly, Father-Mark

**Occupation:** Somerset County Sheriff’s Officer

**Hobbies/Spare Time Activities:** Racing, hunting, fishing, anything outdoors

**First became involved in 4-H…** As a member of the Go-Kart Club 14 years ago.

**Involvement in 4-H and community today…** A lot of volunteer and charity work. I am a leader of the Go-Kart Club, help to set up and take down the fair and am a member of the Association.

**Most memorable experience as a volunteer…** There are too many to think of. Any time I have made someone smile.

**Favorite aspect of volunteering…** Helping people out and working with people that have the same mindset as myself about helping others.

**People don’t know that…** I don’t think there is too much that people don’t know about me.

**If I had more time I would…** Have fun, race, hunt, fish, go on vacations.
4-H Summer Camp 2007
Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp, Stokes State Forest

A special place for kids to have fun, relax, learn life skills, make new friends and strengthen old friendships. 4-H Camp offers challenging and exciting programs, tailored to the campers’ individual interest and guided by experienced staff at all times. Activities include swimming, boating, arts & crafts, hiking, camping, nature & ecology, drama, riflery, archery and much, much more!

Register now! Summer Camp will run for 6 one-week sessions from July 2nd - August 11th. In the hope that Somerset County 4-H’ers will get to know each other better by attending camp at the same time, the Somerset County 4-H Preference Week is July 30 - August 4. The cost of a session of camp is $315 before April 1 and $325 after this date, which covers all food and activities. These are special discounts for registered 4-H members. Non-4-H Members please add $20.00. Registration information is available at the 4-H Office or the camp website—www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu. Just visit the “forms” page.

Somerset County 4-H Weekend Camp June 1-3

In the past, 4-H Prep Families spent a weekend at camp. Now everyone is invited! If you’ve ever been to camp, here’s your chance to relive those times spent boating, making crafts, singing around the campfire, eating in the dining hall and renewing old friendships. If you’ve never been before, join us and find out how much fun it is!

Somerset County 4-H Weekend Camp
June 1, 2, 3, 2007
Lindley G. Cook NJ 4-H Camp

Bring your family, your club, 4-H and Prep Alumni, or folks you would like to get involved...you’re bound to have a great time. You may come for the whole weekend or just on the big day—Saturday. Cost is $50 per person and includes EVERYTHING! Call or stop by the 4-H Office for a registration packet. Packets will also be available in the 4-H Center Lobby in March. Contact the 4-H Office, 526-6644 for more information.

Vesper Island Work Day...

...at LG Cook Camp. Saturday, April 21, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. As a memorial to former Somerset County 4-H Agent, Ted Blum, Vespers Island, a place for quiet reflection at camp, is being re-landscaped and new benches will be installed. The dedication is planned for June 3rd and to make it ready, help is needed shoveling, raking and bolting benches into place. All 4-H families, alumni and clubs welcome. Lunch is provided. Please call the 4-H Center to register by April 19.

Make a bench for Camp! These are the new benches that will be installed at Vespers Island. If your family or club would like to make one or more, camp will provide you with a kit and all you need to do is sand the wood and put it together. If you would like to do this, contact Barb Navatto at the 4-H Center soon, so they can be complete by the April 21st work day.

Open House
May 20, 2:30 - 5:00

Trying to decide if you want to go to camp? Come meet the Summer Camp Staff, take a tour and participate in a variety of activities. Free, rain or shine.
**Somerset County Park Commission Honors 4-H**

North Branch Park will be recognized as the official county fairgrounds when the Park Commission posts a sign to welcome visitors to the "Somerset County 4-H Fairgrounds at North Branch Park". This is exciting because although 4-H families tend to think of the park as our fairgrounds, this has never been official. Hopefully, the unveiling of the new sign will be part of the opening ceremony for the 60th Fair!

**Let's Celebrate!**

Imagine a Mardi Gras type parade at the Fair, Wednesday, 5-6 pm, winding through the tents and ending at the showmobile in time for the welcome ceremony. Everyone welcome! Banners and flags, drums and noisemakers will be provided, or you can create or bring your own. Clubs are welcome to build floats, dress up, etc. (no live animals, please). Fun prizes for the most enthusiastic or creative clubs.

**4-H Alumni Tent**

This was great fun at the 50th anniversary of the Fair. Thousands of photos and all kinds of memorabilia were on display. We can do it again with your help. If you are a 4-H alum or know someone who is, or if you are simply interested in the history of 4-H in Somerset County, please contact Barb Navatto at Navatto@co.somerset.nj.us and volunteer to help plan this tent.

**2007 Yearbook & Catalog Ad Sales**

You should have received your Ad Sales packet. If you did not, contact the 4-H office right away! Additional ad sales forms are available on the web at: [http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu/4h/adsales.html](http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu/4h/adsales.html)

Why do we sell ads? To raise money to support the fair, the building, and the program.

- Every club that sells $500 or more will receive 10% of their total ad sales for their club treasury
- The price for Friends is only $1.00
- Special message ads are 20.00

Remember:

- Every member with $50.00 or more in sales earns a special t-shirt
- 4-H'er should give all buyers of display ads a "thank you" supporter ribbon and a copy of the yearbook and catalog.
- American Express Gift Checks are presented to Top Selling Sales People
- 4-H Fair Food Tent Coupons are presented to Top Selling Families
- Deadline - April 27
- Every member and club is expected to help support the 4-H program to keep the fair free!
**Calling all 4-H Members...**

We Need Your Help!

We are updating the promotional 4-H COLORING & ACTIVITY BOOK. We need “doodle-type” artwork (coloring-book-style artwork - good, clean, graphic line drawings), maze & find-the-words activities and puzzles. The artwork and activities should represent your 4-H division and interests. We need all divisions represented.

Please submit your work on 8-1/2" x 11" unlined white paper. Include your name, grade & 4-H Club. The deadline for submissions is April 1, 2007.


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**Fifth Annual S4HL**

The “Somerset 4-H Live” (S4HL) noon hour at the 4-H Fair rocked! Our 2006 House Band, Jam Sandwich hosted three hours (one each day) of entertainment by many of Somerset County’s talented 4-H members.

This year it’s YOUR TURN to take to the Showmobile Main Stage! Details of the “Performing Arts” Open Division will be listed in your copy of the 2007 Exhibitor Guide. Check it out! And you can always contact the 4-H Office if you have any questions.

4-H...Today’s Youth...Tomorrow’s Stars!

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**Fair Planning Committees...**

...can always use additional help. The Food Tent, Commercial Tent, Fair Entertainment and Sponsorship require lots of planning, months in advance. Corporate volunteers are committing to help and will need scheduling. If you feel you can be of assistance, please call the 4-H Office. During the Fair, there will be lots of jobs in Milkshakes, Cotton Candy and other food tent booths.

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**It’s a Parade!**

Tell your community the 60th Fair is coming!

Every town has a parade and the goal of the 60th Fair Committee is to have 4-H represented in every one in Somerset County. The first one of the year is the St Patrick's Day Parade in Somerville on March 11th. If you would like to participate as a group or an individual, there are 4-H Clubs already registered and you can jump in with them. Call for more information.

Coming up next would be Memorial Day and Fourth of July Parades. There will be "60th Fair" banners and other paraphernalia available for your club to carry. If you want to know the location of the nearest parade, please call the 4-H Office. If you register to be in a parade, please let us know.
Mighty Cavits & Rodents
by Megan & Katie Kouril
The Club had its holiday party on January 19. Caitlyn Merrill gave a presentation on “How to Give a Good Presentation” and the Club discussed ideas for the display case they were decorating in February. The Club also planned for the Small Animal Show which was held on February 17 and well as what speakers they would like to have come throughout the year. The Club is planning to participate in the NJ Junior Breeder’s Symposium.

Wags ’n Whiskers
by Amy Miller
The Club held their holiday party on December 18. They had a great variety of food! The Club then divided into teams and played “Who Knows More about 4-H” Then with the assistance of Gwen Brown reading a favorite story, the Club played “Pass the Present”. Everyone enjoyed the gifts they received.

4-H Kitties
by Karen Ferguson
The cats and kids had a great holiday party. The Club did a cat craft by making catnip-stuffed socks for the cats in animal shelters as part of Operation Happy Sock. The Club also made personalized pet dishes for their cats and learned the different techniques for drawing cats. In January the Club participated in a cat show in Woodbridge. They were stewards at the cat show held in West Trenton on April 14. If members of other clubs are interested in working that show, please email the leader at kej23@cornell.edu. The Club will be exhibiting at the Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside on Sunday, May 6th. The Club will be selling pet care products and providing information and demonstrations on pet care.

Somerset Sentinels
by Megan Kouril
The Club discussed spring launchings and the possibility of getting in a launch before spring. The Club also talked about Science-Sational Day coming up in April. The Club spent most of the meeting building their rockets and will continue to do that at their next meeting. Year pins were handed out by their leader, Wesley Spears.

Woof Dog Club
by Kristen Obermeier
The Club had its new election of officers: Alexa Berko, President; Andrea Ort, Vice-President; Elise Schwer, Treasurer; Elizabeth Frank, Secretary; Kristen Obermeier, Corresponding Secretary; and Jackie LaCorte, Historian. Members Amanda Weinstein and Kristen Obermeier attended the 6th Annual Cumberland County 4-H Dog Show. Amanda placed 2nd in both Junior Show and Intermediate Novice and Kristen placed 4th in Junior Show and 1st in Intermediate Novice.

Happy Tails
by Megan Gardner
The club is off to a great start, welcoming several new members from Open House. The Club had a great wreath sale and many members decorated wreaths, having a great time and finishing in record time. The January meeting was spent working on a Rabbit Medical Kit. The Club discussed each item and it's importance. Many members planned to participate in the February Rabbit Show. As a group, the Club also worked on presentations being held in March.

Chinese Culture Club
by Alvin Chiang & Clarissa Chu
The 4H Chinese Culture Club held its annual Christmas party, which included snacks, games, prizes, and candy. The games included bingo, a gift grab bag, and a gingerbread house-making competition. This year even Santa showed up to give presents! The kids had lots of fun, and they really enjoyed setting the whole thing up. In January, the Club planned its annual Chinese New Year’s Party, held on February 10. It was a huge success, with traditional Chinese food served, and each class giving its own performance on stage.
Mighty Cavits & Rodents  
by Megan Kouril

At the Club’s February meeting, members discussed upcoming public presentations and community service opportunities. Ruthann Bell, licensed ARBA judge, talked to the club about being a judge and what animals are judged on. Ruthann brought in a Florida White and a Tan to demonstrate how those two breeds are judged. Later the Club set up for the small animal show.

4-H Junior Horse Council  
by Sandy Dagnall

The Somerset County 4-H Junior Horse Council put together a county horse bowl and pizza party. Even with the unexpected snow, they had a wonderful horse bowl with all three horse clubs represented. A fun time was had by all. The Council will hold another horse bowl in the winter of 2008.

Hoofbeats  
by Andrew McCamley

The Club continues with its volunteer efforts with members watching participant’s children for the Spin-A-Thon. The Hoofbeats Prep Club assisted the Club by collecting old sneakers that are being donated to a project run by Nike. These sneakers are recycled into synthetic turf. This collection is going on until April 10. Email kj.bergen@verizon.net for information. Other subjects included the upcoming tack sale, the 2007 4-H qualifying show schedule, the Fair and rules. Members discussed more ways to interact with other Horse Clubs and several members attended The Junior Council Horse Bull Night.

Just Kidding Goat Club  
by Deirdre Rosinski

After welcoming all the new “kids” into the Club, they Club is now looking forward to welcoming all the new kids into the barn. The babies are due in March and with any luck, members will be able to witness a birth or two. Also in March, some members will be attending hands-on workshops at Cook College. They hope to use stethoscopes to hear what’s going on inside of the animals. Meanwhile back at the barn, they will be busy de-budding, vaccinating and trimming goats for the fair.

Our Clowns Get Around  
by Betty Sommerville

The Clowning Around 4-H Club is busy! In March, they'll be helping out at the Prep Rally bringing laughing & dancing to Mexico to get lunchtime jumping! Also in March they'll visit The All 4-H Prep Club meeting sharing their spin on being "clowns" before they go to the Big Apple Circus joining up with other 4-H clubs at the St Patrick's Day Parade in Somerville, they'll help to get the clover out. Club Camp will definitely be another destination for their antics! Clown on!

Woolly Ones  
by Chris Posbergh

The Woolly Ones new officers are: President: Jack Egan, Vice President: Christy Hunt, Treasurer: Chris Posbergh, Secretary: Gina Callari, Historian: Desiree McLaughlin. In January, the club received recognition from the 4-H Association for being an Honor club. Discussions at recent meetings involved community service, fundraising and other activities for the upcoming year. Members are waiting for their project animals to start and/or finish lambing. Several Woolly Ones members will be presenting at County Demonstrations.

Four Leaf Clovers  
by Chris Posbergh

In January, Members attended the Science/Mechanical Science Achievement Night. Several members received county medals in the areas of Safety, Wildlife and Fisheries, and Gardening. In February, the Four Leaf Clovers made 6 types of fudge to donate to the Blood Donor Center at Somerset Medical Center. Members also went snow tubing at Blue Mountain. The Club is looking forward to archery shoots resuming in March and Club Camp in April.

Poultry Plus

Poultry Plus officers for this year include: President: Shanna Clifford, Vice President: Alexandra Wick and Treasurer: Chris Dunn-Meynell. Members have been discussing and deciding on community service activities at their recent meetings.
Dear 4-H Prepper,

Our New Year celebration was great! What a fun way to ring in the New Year. The evening was full of excitement. We had tasty food, our DJ Kyle Miholics lead the dancing and the Clowning Around Club entertained us with a skit.

This New year celebration was particularly special as we said “Good Bye” and “Happy Retirement” to Mrs. Kreutler. Although we are all sad to see Mrs. Kreutler leave, I’m sure that she is looking forward to some well-deserved relaxation.

With the retirement of our cotton candy coordinators, Ginger McGrath and Theresa Prenenski, we are looking for someone who can take over for these wonderful volunteers. Anyone interested in taking over the position of cotton candy chairperson, please contact me at the 4-H office on 908-526-6644 or email at darby@co.somerset.nj.us

I’m looking forward to meeting everyone and to get started on another exciting year of 4-H Prep.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Darby
4-H Program Coordinator

Thank you!

The 4-H Prep Clubs are full of so many terrific people. I would like to thank all of you who helped to make the prep New Year celebration so special. The Clowning Around Club: Leader Betty Sommerville and her clowns, Faith D’Ambrosio, John Garlipp, Pamela & William Gilligan, Ryan Shreve and Willie Sommerville. Kreutlers Kammandos: Chris Posbergh, Kelsey and Kyle Graham, Joe and Ryan Shreve and Hannah Kwiateck. Erin Posbergh for helping with the ice cream sundaes. Sue Posbergh and Andrea Kosaka for cooking and serving the delicious pig and all the club advisors, parents and young volunteers who helped with the clean-up!
Yakety-Yak

Chaps’N’Sprs Prep Club Reporter Kristen Johnson
Today the members learned about facial and leg markings on a horse. A worksheet was completed where a drawing was made to record every marking. Next month the club will make valentine cards for the veterans.

The 4-H Friends Prep Club
12/13/06 reported by Kate Corliss
Our club made dog, cat and gerbil treats. We talked about holidays and our dogs. We went to “Save” on Monday 12/11/06. What fun it was seeing all of the different animals. We made and sent Dale at “Save” a thank you card.

1/10/07 reported by Ali Dineen
The club meeting was held at Ali Dineen’s house. We talked about the winter survival of animals, hibernation and migration. Next we made outdoor animal treats and human treats. Trail mix... Yum!!! The topic for our next meeting will be Holistic Pet Treatments.

The Mad Scientists Prep Club
Harry Brochinsky reports that on 1/9/07, Elizabeth Frank from the Woof dog club came to show the kids how to train a dog. She brought two of her dogs, Molly and George. Christian, Cary, Joey, Alessio and Noni attended. Joey liked all the tricks! Next meeting the club will learn about static electricity.

The Giannobile family led some activities about static electricity at the meeting held on 1/23/07. The kids made Cheerios dance after combing their hair. Cassy liked sticking balloons to the wall. Noni liked bending water streams and Joey liked lighting a bulb with charge from his hair. The next meeting the Sidewinders Club will talk to them about reptiles.

The 4-H Top Club reported by Allison Conway
At the November meeting the club talked about dinosaurs. They made foot and skin prints with play-dough. Next they dug for Dinosaurs bones. Then each person covered a plastic dinosaur with clay. It was Fun! Our next topic will be Astronomy.
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Miniature Golf</td>
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<td>Miniature Golf</td>
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<td>Miniature Golf</td>
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<td>4:00 pm - 5:00 pm</td>
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<td>Miniature Golf</td>
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<td>6:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
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**March 2027**

- **Events**
- **Conference**
- **Competition**
- **Meeting**
- **Workshop**

**Important Dates**

- **4-H Association**
- **Scholarship**
- **Registration**

**Calendar Notes**

- **County Office**
- **Due in**
- **April**
- **2**

**Additional Information**

- **March 8th**
- **April**
- **Catalog**
- **Yearbook**

**Contact**

- **4-H Club**
- **Regional**
- **Advisor**
## April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>4-H Association, Prep &amp; Judging Scholarship Applications Due in 4-H Office</td>
<td>Passover</td>
<td>Arts Text Leaders Meeting (7:30 p.m.)</td>
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<td>Good Friday (Office Closed)</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
<td>4-H Fair Managers Meeting (7:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>Passover Begins</td>
<td>Building &amp; Grounds Meeting (7:30 p.m.)</td>
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<td>4-H Club Camp Weekend (Cook 4-H Camp) (April 13 – 14 – 15) 4-H Congress Applications Due</td>
<td>4-H Science-national Day (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.)</td>
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<td>Jr. Horse Council (7 p.m.)</td>
<td>Horse Project Advisory Committee (7:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>4-H Teacher Workshop “Project Learning Tree” (9 a.m. – 3 p.m.)</td>
<td>4-H Association Meeting (7:20 p.m.)</td>
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<td>4-H Camp Community Service Work Day</td>
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<td>National Volunteer Week April 22 – 28</td>
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<td>Administrative Professionals Day</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<td>YEARBOOK &amp; CATALOG AD SALE MONTHS MARCH &amp; APRIL</td>
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- All Livestock & Dairy Loan forms Due in County Office May 1
4-H Members are responsible to register directly with the 4-H Office. Please return to the 4-H Office (or the 4-H Center office in the evenings) by Monday, March 19, 2007.

I will participate in the Somerset County Presentation Program at the 4-H Center on:

_____ Tuesday, March 27 - 7 p.m.
_____ Wednesday, March 28 - 4 p.m.
_____ Wednesday, March 28 - 7 p.m.
_____ Thursday, March 29 - 7 p.m.

Name ___________________________ Grade _____ Phone __________________

Street ____________________________

City _______________________________ State _____ Zip ____________

4-H Club ____________________________

Presentation type:  _____ Demonstration  _____ Illustrated Talk
                   _____ Performing Arts  _____ Formal Speech

The topic of my talk or performance will be ________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

Check all that apply:

_____ I will need kitchen facilities.
   Be specific ________________________________

_____ I would like to borrow audiovisual equipment.
   Be specific ________________________________
   (due to limited supply, we may not be able to accommodate all requests)

_____ I will have a live animal. What type of animal? _______________________

_____ I will bring music.

_____ I need other special accommodations.
   Be specific ________________________________

_____ I have a partner. The name of my partner ____________________________

_____ I choose to have my presentation critiqued, but not judged.
Somerset County 4-H Association proudly hosts the
Friends of Anthony DeVergillo
Miniature Golf Outing
Sunday March 25, 2007
Shot Gun starts at 1:00 pm & 2:30 pm. Registration at 12:30 pm & 2:00 pm.
Branchburg Family Golf Center, Route 22, Branchburg, NJ
Play miniature golf, have a great time with your family and support a terrific kid!

Who is Anthony? Anthony and his family have been involved in the Somerset County 4-H Program for many years. He’s an 8th grade honor roll student at Bedminster School and enjoys swimming, racing slot cars, creating websites, playing video games, playing cards (especially Texas Hold’em), and reading.
Anthony was diagnosed with Duchene Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) when he was just three years old. DMD causes muscles to deteriorate and although DMD is the most common fatal genetic disorder to affect children, there is no cure. Sadly, most kids lose their battle with DMD in their late teens or early twenties.
While DMD steals his muscle function and independence, what remains strong is Anthony’s desire to learn, grow and have fun. At the 4-H Fair, Anthony can be found helping his dad, Tony, a volunteer Fair Manager, install electric wiring or selling pizza in the Food tent with his mom, Bev, for Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy. He gives his all and is an inspiration to all who meet him.
Anthony and his family have faced many challenges throughout the years. As he grows, Anthony often needs new and very costly medical equipment. The sole intent of this miniature golf outing is to raise money to give Anthony some of the equipment necessary for him to maintain his independence. With your support, we hope to make this event a truly successful one.  SC 4-H Association

Levels of Sponsorship

- Event Sponsor $1000.00
- Food Booth Sponsor $500.00
- Soda Cart Sponsor $250.00
- Hole Sponsor $100.00
- Door Prize Sponsor $50.00
- Donation $_____
- Foursome $40.00
- Individual Golfer $10.00

Golfer 1_________________________  Golfer 2_________________________
Golfer 3_________________________  Golfer 4_________________________

Circle preferred start time  1:00 PM  2:30 PM  Phone_____________________

Pre-Registration Required

Please return this sheet with total tax deductible payment by March 17, 2007
(sponsors should include a business card)
Please make checks payable to: “Somerset County 4-H Association”
310 Milltown Rd
Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Attention: Debbie Norz  Memo: Anthony DeVergillo