Dear Members, Leaders and Parents:

With more than a half dozen new clubs off and running, our very own astronaut visit, the biggest most successful Science-sational Day, the largest group of participants for presentations ever, and an outstanding basket auction, 2008 is turning out to be a banner year. And that was only the warm up...

Coming up is our annual Family Camp, our hugely successful TOPS camp and of course the Somerset County 4-H Fair! As we enter our busy show and Fair season, we ask all our volunteers to take the following “4-H Volunteer Pledge”, courtesy of Laura Bovitz, Middlesex County 4-H Agent.

I pledge my head to give children the information I can, to help them see things clearly and make wise decisions.

I pledge my heart to encourage and support children no matter whether they have successes or disappointments.

I pledge my hands to help children’s groups; if I can not be a leader, I can help in many equally important ways.

I pledge my health to keep children strong and well for a better world through 4-H, for children’s groups, our community, our country and our world.

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 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 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.

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4-H Volunteer Pledge

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Somerset County 4-H CLOVERTALES

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Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.
County Fashion Revue at the 4-H Fair

All 4-H members are invited to attend this lively fashion show scheduled for Thursday, August 14 on the Showmobile at the Fair. Come see the “super models of the future” model their very own creations. Contact Lucille Razzano for more information.

**Judging** – Wednesday, June 4, 7:00 pm or Saturday, June 7, 12:00 - 1:30 pm, at 4-H Center

**Fashion Revue** – Thursday, August 14, at the Showmobile. Time and details to follow.

Leaders May Nominate Outstanding 4-H’ers - Applications Due June 2

Members in 11th or 12th grade should be encouraged to apply to be a Somerset County Outstanding 4-H’er. If you feel a member of your club has proven themselves outstanding in the areas of leadership, personal growth, participation, achievement, attitude and contribution to the total program, you may write a reference for them and help them to complete the application. **Applications are available online at** http://www.4HisTOPS.org, in Maryann's Evening Office or the 4-H Office. **Due date is June 2** and recipients will be honored at the July 16 4-H Association Meeting and again at the Fair.

Outstanding Service to 4-H Recommendations Sought by June 6

Each year at the Somerset County 4-H Fair, individuals, groups, and businesses are recognized for their support of 4-H. This award is for the support of the 4-H program year-round. If you have suggestions, please contact the 4-H office to submit a nomination. Give us the name and short justification of why this individual, family, business, or group deserves this award. **Due by June 6.** Send your nomination to any 4-H staff person.

Important Dates

- Outstanding 4-H’er Form Due June 2
- Clothing Judging June 4 & 7
- Outstanding Service to 4-H June 6
- State Presentations June 7
- Herdsman's Applications July 11
- Fashion Revue at the Fair August 14

Astronaut Mike Fincke Visits 4-H

Astronaut Mike Fincke visited the Somerset County, NJ, 4-H Center on the evening of Feb 21st and narrated a video of his 6 month stay aboard the International Space Station in 2004. Over 400 people from the public attended. After the presentation and question and answer period, Mike graciously stayed to sign photographs for over a hour and a half.

He is scheduled to fly again into space in October 2008 as Commander of the International Space Station Expedition 18.
**Alumni Newsletter for Fair**

Holly Dunbar is a former Horse Club member and is now on the 4-H Association. She has a career in communications and credits 4-H with giving her experiences in this field long before she went to college. One of the ways Holly contributes to Somerset County 4-H is to edit an annual 4-H Alumni Newsletter that is distributed to Fair visitors and Alumni.

Many Somerset County 4-H parents and leaders are 4-H Alumni. Would you help us gather information for this newsletter by answering a few questions? These are the things Holly would like to know:

♦ Did you attend 4-H camp? If so, can you briefly describe a favorite memory from your days at camp?
♦ What do you consider to be the highlight of your days as a 4-H’er?
♦ What was the most important lesson that you learned from your 4-H experience?

Please send these responses to Barbara Navatto at navatto@co.somerset.nj.us and Barbara will forward them to Holly. Be sure to include your name, what county you were a 4-H member in, the name and project area of your club.

**BIG Basket Bonanza a Brilliant Benefit**

On March 3rd the 4-H Association held their first basket auction. It was a terrific success with over 200 generous guests attending. 4-H Senior Council, not only helped with set up and refreshments, but entertained as well. They danced to the country tunes provided by volunteer DJ, Kyle Miholics. Steve Miholics was instrumental in providing behind the scenes support. Thank you again to all the volunteers and clubs that were mentioned in the March/April Clovertales.

Many thanks again to Holly Dunbar, Joe and Kathy Bakes, Erin Szakacs, Annette Smutko, Cathy Schlosser, Kim Miholics and Betty Sommerville for taking leadership roles. This event raised over $8,000 for the 4-H Association Fund for 4-H Center Improvements.

**Save the Date!**

The Northeast Regional Volunteer Forum will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, New Hampshire, October 23-26, 2008.

Workshops include: Decorating Trends, Flower Arranging, Aerospace, Friendship Quilts, Shooting Sports, Planning Project Meetings and Getting Oriented with GPS.

Highlights and activities include: Action Exhibits, Public Speaking, Fashion Show, Pumpkin Carving, 4-H Talent Revue and tours to American Stonehenge, Anheuser Busch Brewery, Castle in the Clouds, Hiking & Kayaking in a State Park, a Luncheon Cruise, Keasarge Indian Museum and a trip to the Keene Pumpkin Festival.

Cost is approximately $325 and includes meals, activities, tours and workshops. Hotel reservations need to be booked separately. For more information, please visit their website at:

http://extension.unh.edu/4H/4HVol/08NEVF.htm

**Mark These Show Dates...**

**Dog:**
- June 14 Ocean County Circuit Show
- June 28 Middlesex County Circuit Show

**Dairy:**
- August 26 State Dairy Show in Sussex County

**Goat:**
- August 21 State Goat Show in Hunterdon County

**Equine:**
- May 3 & 4 State Horse Judging & Hippology, Salem County
- May 31 Somerset Teen Horse Council Gymkhana
- June 29 Somerset County 4-H Qualifying Show
- July 13 Somerset County 4-H Qualifying Show
- August 16 Equestrian of the Year in Monmouth Co.
- August 22-24 State Horse Show at Horse Park of NJ

**I remember...**
Important Reminder for Everyone

Our 4-H Administrative staff is here to help with your 4-H questions. However, our office is only open 8:30 - 4:30 weekdays.

If you need to reach us after 4:30, you may leave any paperwork or questions for us with the building night manager, MaryAnn Del Gigante. Mrs. Del Gigante is in the 4-H Center from 7- 10 PM each weeknight and can be reached at 908-526-8242. If you need to reach any of us at a time that our office is not open, you may contact any of us by using our e-mail addresses which are posted in the front of every issue of Clovertales.

Audit Forms Needed!

Those clubs which have an EIN number and a bank account need to send in your year end Audit forms by May 10th so we can file the Electronic 990-postcard required for you to maintain that EIN number. We must file this information by May 15th or you will lose your EIN number and Charter status.

If your club does not have an EIN and does not have any treasury funds, you need not do anything (we know who you are). The rest of you need to complete the form attached and send it back to us ASAP. The forms were due December 30th, 2007. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Support Our Troops

Here is a chance for your 4-H Club to help our troops by adopting a unit overseas. You will be able to correspond with servicemen or women and ship them useful and fun items and letters every 3 months. The boxes usually measure about 24"x24"x15" and your club can fill it with items from an approved list which will be provided.

Scheduled mailings happen every 3 months and your boxes will be shipped by Operation Jersey Cares to your assigned unit. You do not have to pay for shipping.

For more information, contact RoseMary Fleming in the 4-H Office at 908-526-6644 or fleming@co.somerset.nj.us.

Operation DVD

Another way for patriotic Americans to support our troops is to participate in Operation DVD. Over 14,000 young people have helped already. Donate your new and used DVD's to be shipped to our fighting men and women overseas. This program continues the tradition started by Bob Hope, to provide entertainment for our troops.

An Operation DVD collection box has been placed in the lobby of the 4-H Center. Operation Jersey Cares will send the DVD's to the troops overseas. Collecting DVD's for this program would be a great community service.
Members who are in 11th or 12th grade this year, should apply to be a Somerset County Outstanding 4-H’er. You will need to complete an application and have a written reference from an adult 4-H volunteer.

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

Applications are available online http://www.4HisTops.org or in Maryann’s office at night, or in the 4-H office during the day. Due date is June 2 and recipients will be honored at the July 16 Association Meeting and again at the Fair.

Unpaid Summer Internship positions will be available at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office this year, for high school and college students. Please contact Carol Ward or Barbara Navatto at the 4-H Office. 908-526-6644.

If you are in high school and are interested in being a herdsman at the 4-H Fair, you MUST fill out an application and attend an orientation. Look for more information in Fair Facts.

Become a camp counselor at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp in Stokes State Forest. Anyone sixteen or older may volunteer to be a counselor for one or more weeks this summer. Our County Preference Week is July 28 - August 2, but camp is open all summer. Mandatory counselor training is available on-line. Visit the Camp Website for more information: http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/
North Jersey Teen Conference

On April 11, 65 teens from 10 different counties gathered at the Days Inn in Bridgewater for the North Jersey Teen Conference, a weekend event planned by 4-H teens and adults. The Somerset County 4-H planning team included Dan Lang, Amanda Weinstein, Wendy Franzyschen, Robby Slovik, and Shannon Zimmitti.

Somerset County 4-H had the second largest delegation of attendees at NJTC with 13 teens! These included Wendy Franzyschen, Amanda Weinstein, Katherine Pirro, Laruen Yutko, Angie Philipsheck, Maryann Bower, Katie Kouril, Jessica Hodge, Justin Dagnell, Ryan Clare, Joey Shreve, Andrew Hunter, and Dan Lang.

This year’s NJTC theme was “Set Yourself for the Future”. Workshops and activities focused on both meanings of SET; “science, engineering, and technology”, as well as “getting prepared for the future”. Two community service projects were part of the event – a food drive at registration, and a penny collection during the Amazing Race. The food and money collected went to local shelters.

After Friday night introductions and dinner, teens were divided into teams for the Amazing Race. Members of each team had to race to a different station within the hotel and solve a science problem or riddle. Afterwards, everyone gathered back together for “True Colors”. In, “True Colors” each person evaluates their own personalities to learn a little more about themselves.

Participants are also able to learn more about their friends and schoolmates – giving them a better understanding of why people act the way they do.

Saturday teens each attended two workshops taught by either teens or adults. Workshop choices included making quilts for needy babies, making healthy food and fitness choices, growing your own pizza ingredients (such as tomatoes), influencing and impacting lives in a positive format, and learning to create public service announcements. Somerset County’s own Dan Lang taught a workshop on Go-Karts! After lunch it was off to the Bridgewater Sports Arena for an afternoon of ice-skating and laser tag.

Arriving back at the hotel, teens had free time to mix and mingle before dressing for the highlight of the weekend, a Saturday night dinner-dance. The ballroom was decorated to perfection, the food delicious and the music simply great, with an awesome DJ keeping everyone entertained with games, fun and of course, a broad range of music.

Sunday morning teens were treated to a very motivational talk given by Ariel Shivers. Then awards were given to those who helped plan the conference and a slide show, created by teens, featuring the highlights of the conference was viewed. As goodbyes were said, teens realized they all had new friends in other counties and next year can’t come too soon for the next annual NJTC.

National 4-H Conference

The 78th National 4-H Conference, held in Chevy Chase, MD, at the National 4-H Headquarters, was more than I ever could have imagined it to be. With over 500 youth from 49 states, Canada and Puerto Rico, there was always people to meet and things to do and my fellow delegates and I partook in many activities.

This year’s theme was Green Aid, helping us all learn more about our environment and ways to prepare for a better future. During our 5-day stay, we were all very active in workshops and roundtable meetings, trying to discuss the direction of 4-H and finding ways to improve it for members and our states. Our schedule allowed us a Capitol Hill day to meet and discuss 4-H with our respective congressmen and senators. Unfortunately, none was available for NJ that day. We also met with the Secretary of Agriculture during an assembly provided by the USDA to all the delegations. This was interesting because we were able to learn more about the roles agriculture plays in today’s world.

The entire trip was such an experience. I learned so many new things and met so many wonderful people from such interesting places. Being one of only 6 people chosen from NJ to represent my state in a national conference was such an honor and I’m really happy to bring my knowledge back to the community.
Plan Your Club’s Fair Exhibit

Now is the time to start planning your club’s exhibit. What would be fun for a visitor to do at your exhibit in your 4-H tent? Pick a committee to dream up an exciting display to attract visitors and to show others what you have learned!

Remember the 2008 theme…4-H is TOPS!

Foods Judging – August 2

Any 4-H member who would like to have Breads, Cake Decorating or Dairy Foods judged should bring these items between 9:00 and 11:00 am on August 2. These are Open Divisions and rules are listed in the 2008 Exhibitor Guide.

Foods and Nutrition Project members may also have their food and nutrition units judged at this time.

Food ‘n Fun Luncheon

The gym was hopping with fun-filled parties on March 8 for the annual Food ‘n Fun Luncheon. The Hook ‘em and Cook ‘em Club held a party with “A Night at the Movies” theme. Decorations and food were movie based, including tuna sandwiches cut in the shape of whales for the movie “Jaws.”


Every member scored big with a blue ribbon! For all the clubs that did not attend…YOU DON’T KNOW THE FUN YOU ARE MISSING!

Club Camp Weekend

By Chris Posbergh

During the weekend of April 11-13, twenty members and adults attended Club Camp weekend at L.G. Cook 4-H Camp in Sussex County, NJ.

Members attending were: Jesse Engesser, John Garlipp, Pamela Gilligan, Sally Gilligan, William Gilligan, Zach Larson, Jessie Maze, Chris Posbergh, Ryan Shreve, Willie Sommerville, Brenna Van Skiver and Gavin Van Skiver. These members represented the following clubs: Country Kickers, Pretty Cool 4-H Puppetry Club, Four Leaf Clovers, Exploding Stars, Clowning Around, Midland Photography, Wags & Whiskers and the Woolly Ones.

Friday night, campers arrived and settled in. On Saturday, the campers were treated to a puppet show given by the Pretty Cool 4-H Puppetry Club. The evening ended with a campfire, ghost stories and s’mores.

Camps were able to participate in frisbee, fishing, cooking, hiking, team building, ping pong, card readings, crafts, games, country line dancing and just hanging out and EATING! In addition, a few of the campers worked on a labyrinth to be used at this year’s fair. If you don’t know what a labyrinth is, be sure to come walk this “meditation tool” in the Arts tent!

4-H Center Showcase

Show off! Your club can display its projects, achievements, or anything else in the 4-H Center display showcase. Sign up for a month—just call the 4-H Office.
Hurray for the 4-H members who participated in Public Presentations! They are:

Sunny Aggarwal
Zayn Aldabagh
Davide Alexis
Jennifer Amorese
Christine Arcoleo
Tom Armstrong
Tanasia Barbagallo
Alyssa Basile
Daniel Basile
Dominic Basile
Allison Becker
Julie Bergen
Michele Bergen
Elizabeth Bergen
Lexi Berko
Kylie Berko
Sarah Bijaczyk
Alyssa Blumberg
Emma Boganski
Peyton Bond
Myranda Bond
Mollie Booker
Melanie Boyea
Nicole Brefcileh
Evon Brochinsky
Cary Brochinsky
Joshua Bruss
Caleb Bruss
Levi Bruss
Jessi Brygier
Elizabeth Burger
Hillary Cadra
Gina Callari
Kylen Carmody
Emma Carmody
Jessica Casterline
Joey Cermenaro
Stephanie Christian
Sarah Clark
Ainsley Clark
James Clelland
Shannon Clifford
Robert Courel
Taylor Cox
Bedhy Czehai
Justin Dagnall
Sarah Dagnall
Hannah Davelman
Laura Davidson
Alessandra DelPrincipe
Megan DeMichele
Matthew DePierro
Samantha DePierro
Neha Deshpande
Jonah DiCorcia
Emily Diettmann
Michael Duan
Stephanie Duffy
Kimberly Duffy
Ben Dunham
Deanna Farber
Francesca Fazio
Sarah Fenwick
Enca Franchino
Elizabeth Frank
Jennie Frank
Wendy Franzyshen
Tiffany Freuler
Christopher Furmato
David Furmato
Todd Gallagher
Brooke Gallagher
Ashley Gallagher
Bryce Gerlach
Cody Gerlach
Emily Gerlach
Tim Goetjen
Kelsey Graham
Erica Gyimesi
Tom Hilbert
Liz Hbbie
Jessica Hodge
Paula Hoffman
Joe Hoffman
Charlie Hoffman
Nicole Hoffman
Alex Hunt
Joshua Jiang
Charlie Johnson
Luke Johnson
Taylor Johnson
Brian Keber
Christy Kinny
Michael Kinny
Megan Kouril
Hannah Kwiatek
Jackie LaCorte
Daniel Lang
Sarah Lerch
Noah Lerch
Kelly Liston
Lisa Magulak
Danny Maher
Kristin Maher
Joseph Martinelli
Brenna Massey
Stephanie Mattei
Trevor Mazzaglia
Jenna McBride
Hannah McCray
Shannon McCray
Elizabeth McGrath
Elise McVean
Sara Memoli
Shannon Merrill
Caroline Merrill
Josh Miller
Amy Miller
Emily Milz
Veronica Moditz
Allie Mostello
Jill Newbold
Juliana Nienart
Jason Ning
Jessica Nunn
Kristin Obermeier
Chelsea Obermeier
David Oborne
Christina O’Brien
Kristin Ofeldt
Andrea Ortu
Emily Ousouljoglov
Amy Rose Padula
Isha Pandya
Katheryn Papalski
Christine Papaski
Ben Parker
Sarah Parr
Christopher
Pawlikowski
Stephanie Perlitz
Daniel Peterson
Angela Philipscheck
Danny Philipscheck
Kristi Philipscheck
Nicole Phillips
Katherine Pirro
Carolyn Pirro
Juliana Pirro
Chris Posbergh
Genny Puglisi
Andrew Puntillo
Matt Ramachandran
Lars Rasmussen
Paul Rasmussen
Melissa Ribaudo
Colleen Ridder
Emma Rooss
Roxanne Rosinski
Grace Rosinski
Noah Rothenburger
Max Schisler
Nathalie Schlosser
Jonathan Schramm
Elise Schwer
Joey Shreve
Mellissa Smutko
Mary Ellen Sousa
Alanna Staffin
AJ Stahoski
Sarah Stamets
Kelly Steimle
Matthew Theil
Ashley Thompson
Sharon Toth
Tanay Trivedi
Tyana Truong
Jadelyn Truong
Kali Vaporakis
Karise Vaporakis
Jennifer Versfelt
Case Vogelaar
Jay Vogelaar
Ashley Ward
Emily Ward
Chance Weinberg
Terin Weinberg
Amanda Weinstein
Alyson Weiss
Scott Weiss
Laura Williams
Paul Yanoso
Chris Yanoso
Lauren Yutko
With record breaking numbers of 210 participants, this year’s 4-H Science-sational Day was truly Science-sational!! There were 14 workshops featured covering a broad range of science subjects which included our always popular Panning for Gems, Snakes & Lizards, Try It-Fly It, Surgeons in Training and Star Labs. And new this year were workshops on trees, plants, seashore animals, ice cream, healthy eating, bees, and the chance to build towers out of straws and and explore the world of CSI!


Special thanks to all the members of the Sidewinders Club who came with their pets.

Thanks to these Assistants who helped the day run smoothly: Georgeanne Valis, Garrick Horner, Eric Werrlein, Alexa Werrlein, Ceili Werrlein, Michael Werrlein, Jessica Hodge, Rose Cromwell, Rodney Myers, Purusottam Mookerjee, Lisa Darby, Brittney O’Brien, Beth Kavanaugh and Mike Pappas. Thanks to our Teen Helpers: Patty Lin, Rachel Lin, Clarissa Chu, Amanda Weinstein, Dhilati Oza, Jennifer Chen, Victoria Hung, Caroline Pirro and Ajeet Mohan.

Many thanks also to Debbie Norz and the Exchange Club for providing lunches and Sam Chen and the Chinese Culture Club for assisting with clean up after the event.
Thank You to All the Presentation Judges!

Thank you to all the presentation judges for their hard work and dedication. Their efforts make the presentation环节更加精彩。

Wags & Whiskers Dog Show

The Wags & Whiskers dog club hosted their annual dog show on March 15 at the 4-H Center. Over 100 4-H'ers and their dogs attended, some coming from as far as Ocean County. Somerset County was well represented at the show, and the results for Somerset County members are as follows:

**Obedience**
- **Beginner B**
  - 3rd place: Ben Dunham
  - 4th place: Carly Price
- **Pre-Novice B**
  - 1st place: Sharon Toth
  - 2nd place: Elise Schwer
  - 3rd place: Jill Newbold
  - 4th place: Amy-Rose Padula
- **Intermediate Novice**
  - 2nd place: Kelsey Graham
  - 3rd place: Emma Boganski
- **Novice**
  - 2nd place: Kristin Obermeier.

Somerset County 4-H’ers would like to congratulate Andrea Ortu for competing in the highest level in obedience. Although she did not achieve a qualifying score, Andrea did exceptionally well at her level.

**Junior Showmanship**
- **Beginner Junior**
  - 2nd place: Sarah Stamets
  - 3rd place: Amy Miller
- **Beginner Senior**
  - 2nd place: Becky Czekaj
  - 3rd place: Jackie Lacorte
  - 4th place: Joey Shreve

**Novice Junior**
- 1st place: Allie Mostello
- 2nd place: Kylie Berko
- 3rd place: Colleen Ridder
- 4th place: Dan Basile

**Novice Senior**
- 2nd place: Sharon Toth
- 3rd place: Brian Franchuk

**Advanced Senior**
- 1st place: Nathalie Schlosser
- 2nd place: Lexi Berko
- 3rd place: Amanda Weinstein

**Open Senior**
- 1st place: Wendy Franzyschen
- 2nd place: Elise Schwer
- 3rd place: Andrea Ortu
- 4th place: Emily Diettmann

Nathalie Schlosser was the Best Advanced Handler and Wendy Franzyschen was the Best Novice Handler. Congratulations to all.

The Club thanks the 4-H alumnus that came to help and support the members: Katherine Balliet for judging grooming; Caitlin O’Neill for judging beginner obedience; and Brittnie O’Brien for helping to judge the prep class. Special thanks goes to Gingersnaps 4-H Club for selling goodies during the show. The Club also collected donations for the Somerset County Animal Shelter.

The State 4-H Dog Show was held on Saturday, April 26, at the Rutgers Cook Campus. Somerset County was represented by Wags & Whiskers, Woof, and Seeing Eye Club members.

Reported by Ashley Ward
State 4-H Equine Arts Show

Congratulations to these winners!

**Junior Division Photos**

*Horses & Equestrians*
3rd place Angela Malaiko

*Just Horses*
3rd place Ashley Thompson

*Close Ups*
1st place Kylie Dickinson
3rd place Kylie Dickinson

*Color Miscellaneous*
2nd place Kylie Dickinson
3rd place Angela Malaiko

*Black & White*
1st place Kylie Dickenson
2nd place Kylie Dickinson

*Color Flat Work*
1st place Angela Malaiko

*Black & White Flat Work*
1st place Angela Malaiko
2nd place Angela Malaiko
3rd place Ashley Thompson

**Junior Scrapbooks**
1st place Nicole Malaiko

**Junior Other Crafts**
2nd place Elizabeth Bergen
3rd place Michele Bergen

**Needlework/Sewing**
2nd place Elizabeth Bergen
3rd place Michele Bergen

Congratulations to these participants: Astrid Albert and Samantha Eristavi.

2008 New Jersey Horse Bowl

Congratulations to these Somerset County Winners!

**Senior Team Placement:**
4th place Salem/Somerset: Victoria Fanslau, Sammi Koenig and Justin Dagnall

**Senior Team Individuals:**
3rd place Justin Dagnall

**Junior Team Placement:**
3rd place Somerset: Kristen Johnson, Isha Pandya, Neha Sikka, Ashley Thompson

**Junior Team Individuals:**
3rd place Kristin Johnson
7th place Ashley Thompson

NJ 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl

Congratulations to the 4-H Dairy Club members who participated in the March 15th NJ State Dairy Quiz Bowl, held at the Burlington County Extension Office. The junior participants were Joe Martinelli, Alanna Steffin, Danny Philipsheck and Kristie Philipsheck. The senior participants were Tom Armstrong, Jessie Brygier and Angie Philipsheck.

Results of Dairy Clip Off

*Congratulations!*

**Senior Division**
2nd Place - Jessica Brygier & Jenn Frank
3rd Place - Christina & Brittney O’Brien
4th Place - Emily Milz & Angie Philipsheck
5th Place - Joe Martinelli & Tom Armstrong

**Junior Division**
1st Place - Danny Philipsheck & Alex Hunt
2nd Place - Elizabeth Frank & Lizzy McGrath

**Beginner Division**
1st Place - Kristi Philipsheck, Alanna Steffan & Mary Ellen Sousa
Lisa S. Rothenburger Honored for Contributions

Lisa Rothenburger, Somerset County 4-H Agent, was honored, Friday, March 14, by the Commission on the Status of Women for her outstanding contributions in the field of business/management. Since 1997, Lisa has been co-coordinating our 4-H Youth Development Program in Somerset County, which is the largest 4-H program in NJ. Our program services over 7000 youth and adults annually.

“It’s such an honor to be recognized by the county. I do what I do because I enjoy it,” she says. “I have the most wonderful co-workers in the world and about 200 volunteers who are also doing this. I’m very proud to be part of this organization. What the volunteers are giving back to the kids and the kids themselves are incredible. They are the role models you want your kids to be looking at. The character of all these people – That’s what gives me my pleasure”.

Barbara Navatto Wins Award for Excellence

Barbara Navatto, 4-H Program Coordinator received the 2008 Rutgers Cooperative Extension Award for Excellence for a Staff person. All who know and work with her will agree, Barb is an outstanding member of the Somerset County 4-H team. She has an exceptional ability to get people from a wide variety of backgrounds, organizations, and qualifications to work together toward a common goal. Barb was presented this award by Dr. Karyn Malinowski, Director of Rutgers Cooperative Extension, during a ceremony April 24th on the campus of Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. Most of us know Barb as the coordinator of the Somerset County 4-H Fair and the Somerset County 4-H Public Presentations program. Congratulations Barb!

Chan Leung Receives Award

On April 24th Chan Leung received the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Award of Excellence for Volunteers. Chan has been involved in the Somerset County 4-H Program since 2000 as a parent, then in 2002 as a club leader and since has joined the county 4-H Association, the State 4-H Association and the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station Board of Managers. He has gone beyond the club role and become a 4-H youth advocate on the county and state level. For three years he has provided testimony about 4-H, RCE and the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station at the state legislative budget committee hearings. In addition he has arranged for four Somerset County 4-H teens to testify on behalf of 4-H. In 2006, he planned and coordinated a 4-H Rally at the State House in support of the budget. He spearheaded a Somerset County Committee to coordinate a letter writing campaign to support the NJAES budget. He helped deliver over 600 postcards from 4-H’ers to the Governor’s office. Chan is a tireless volunteer who really understands how important the 4-H program is to helping young people grow and mature into contributing adults. We are proud of Chan and congratulate him on his efforts.

Kudos to Sheepfold...

The Club participated in 2 sciences fairs at area schools in April. Students were excited to see lambs, chicks and duckling and information was handed out about our 4-H program.

Somerset County Horse Clubs Gymkhana

Sunday, May 31
9:00 am Start
North Branch Park, Bridgewater
(4-H Fairgrounds)

Just for Fun! -- Open to All!
Join Us for a Fun Day of Games
$10.00 donation per horse & rider
$5.00 for all foot games

For Information call: 908-284-0437
Calling all Somerset County 4-H families! Do you remember all the fun you had at Prep Camp, Club Camp, or Winter Camp? Were you a camp counselor or attended summer camp at L.G. Cook? Well, here’s your chance to come back and relive those times boating, making crafts, singing around the campfire and renewing old friendships...and we can’t forget all that good food! Somerset County 4-H Family camp is open to all Somerset County 4-H members and their families.

June 13, 14, 15, 2008
Lindley G. Cook NJ 4-H Camp

Cost is $55 per person and includes EVERYTHING! You can come for the whole weekend or just Saturday. But by all means...plan on coming. Call or stop in at the 4-H Office for a registration packet. They are also available in the 4-H Center lobby. Your packet will be in the mail to you as soon as we get the request. You can contact Mrs. Lisa Darby at 908-526-6644 or email her at darby@co.somerset.nj.us for more information.

4-H TOPS Camp

June 23 - 27, 2008  8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Totally Outrageous Program for Summer

Totally Outrageous Programs - Totally Outrageous Games
Totally Outrageous Snacks - Totally Outrageous Crafts
Totally Outrageous Fun!

Explore the world of science, arts and nature with such programs as Snakes & Scales and Turtletales, Olympic games and a chance to learn magic with a real Magician! Design your own backpack and make your own pen pot, snack on bagel faces, ice cream sundaes, trail mix and fruit kabobs. Most of all: make friends, have fun!!!

Many exciting activities are planned for this year’s Summer Day Camp Program! Any boy or girl completing grades 1-6 may enroll even if he or she is not in 4-H. The cost is $200.

Forms also are available on line at: http://www.4HisTops.org.
4-H Summer Camp 2008
Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp, Stokes State Forest

Located 1½ hours from the Somerville Circle, 4-H Camp is one of the most beautiful places in NJ. Nestled on 108 acres of state forest there is an 8 acre lake with swimming and boating, a large dining hall with terrific food, 11 cabins that can house up to 16 campers each, a craft hall with many activities and, most important, a caring, well trained and experienced counselor staff. 4-H Camp has everything boys and girls in grades 3-10 could want to do for a week, including crafts, dances, camp fires, fishing, swimming, hikes, shooting sports, and lots of other kids for company.

Register now! Summer camp will run for six one-week sessions, Monday -Saturday, from July 7-August 15. In the hope that Somerset County 4-H’ers will get to know one another better by attending camp at the same time, the Somerset County 4-H Preference Week is July 28 - August 2.

The camp schedule is packed with fun & exciting activities from dawn to dusk. Campers wake each day at 7:00 am and are busy until “Lights Out” at about 10:00 pm. On the website there is a sample Daily Schedule, a week in Review, as well as Activity (Class) Descriptions to give you an idea of some of the activities available. You will also be able to view photos of the buildings and activities and download a detailed packing list.

Programs and Activities Offered: Swimming, canoeing and kayaking, riflery, archery, rope courses, team building, volleyball, ping pong, leadership, counselor-in-training, drama, camp newspaper, arts & crafts, batik/tie-dye, ceramics/pottery, drawing/painting, woodworking, backpacking, nature/environment/water study, camping/camp fires, fishing, hiking, survival skills, and many more!

To register for camp you may download and fill out the Summer Camp Registration Form on the website www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu or call the 4-H Office and we will print one for you. Registration is $355. Full payment is due at the time of registration. Fees cover the cost of housing, food and all activities during a session. This is a special discount for registered 4-H members. Discounts also available for multiple family members.

More information can be found on the camp website; www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu

Camp has a new home...on the web that is. Besides all the great information located on the website, camp has an additional online home, one that provides the most up to date information on programming and other happenings at camp. That new home is the official blog for camp and it can be found at http://nj4hcamp.blogspot.com

The camp blog will be replacing Chronicles, the quarterly newsletter that was housed on the website, and will enable camp to provide frequent updates as well as weekly recaps of the summer program (and you can even "subscribe" and be notified when new blogs have been posted). The new blog will also give a spot to talk about upcoming events and so much more. So don't delay, check it out now! ...and tell a couple of friends about it.

Camp Open House
May 18, 10:00 - 2:00
Trying to decide if you want to go to camp? Come and meet the Summer Camp Staff, take a tour and participate in a variety of activities. Free, rain or shine. Open to the whole family!! Please call to schedule a tour: 973-948-3550.
We're on the look out for a House Band to host our 6th annual noon time S4HL! (Somerset 4-H Live!) on the Showmobile. If any individual of your band is a member of 4-H...your band is eligible! Just send us a demo (CD or cassette) of your best songs ASAP. Better yet...give us the location of your next gig and our teen members will show up to hear you play live!

Again, we're looking to load the noon hours with 4-H performers! Besides the House Band, we're also in search of other talented 4-H'ers in prep or standard clubs. It's easy to be eligible! If you didn't already perform at the County Presentations in March/April, a quick audition at the 4-H Center is all we need. For inspiration, check out the description of the Open Division 14: Performing Arts in the 2008 Exhibitors' Guide.

All talented 4-H'ers should contact Betty Sommerville (908-281-5238, cell 908-635-1951) or the 4-H Office by May 16. Let's celebrate our super Fair in style!

4-H Fair Herdsmen

All project areas are encouraged to send teens to sleep overnight on the fairgrounds. Their job is to make sure everything; animals, exhibits, and equipment, is safe and secure for the night and that the grounds are clean. Rich and Debbie Norz are the Herdsmen Supervisors and Pauline Kodak makes a great breakfast each day. (food suggestions welcomed) A Bridgewater police officer is also present all night.

4-H members, grade 8 and older may apply. Applications are available at the 4-H Office/4-H Center and are due back by Friday, July 11. Members need permission and approval signatures from parents, a 4-H Leader, a 4-H Agent, and approval from a Herdsmen Supervisor. Late applications will not be accepted. Everyone selected to be a herdsman must attend one of two Herdsmen Orientation Meetings at 7:00 p.m. on either Monday, July 28 or Tuesday, August 5. Adults may also serve as herdsmen. They must complete the NJ 4-H Volunteer Overnight Agreement.

Fair Improvement Grants Available

The 4-H Association is happy to announce that clubs, divisions or tents seeking funds to make the fair safer, more educational or fun are invited to complete a grant application. If your group received funds under this program last year, but have a new idea or would like continued funding for a successful program, you are welcome to apply again. Requests over $500 will be subject to review. Applications will be available at the 4-H Center and on the website after May 1. Deadline August 1st 2008.
Fair Planning Meeting
May 28, 2008, 7:30 pm 4-H Center
Get the whole scoop and have your suggestions heard. Fair Managers will discuss the following topics:

♦ Traffic & Parking
♦ Security & Safety
♦ Fair Manager Awards
♦ Club Responsibilities & Yellow Pages
♦ Supplies/ribbons available at the 4-H Center
♦ Planning & Prep prior to Fair
♦ Activities & Opportunities during the Fair
♦ Packing Up, Friday
♦ 2nd Shift Clean-Up, Saturday morning
♦ Food, Commercial & Entertainment Committees
♦ Publicity & Sponsorships
♦ Maps & Schedules
♦ Inclement Weather Procedures
♦ Service to 4-H Awards

Member in Good Standing Requirements
All 4-H members are expected to meet the following standards each year to be eligible to compete at the Somerset County 4-H Fair and any state 4-H event. In addition, you must meet these requirements to be eligible for county pins. These are the minimum requirements. Your club or division may have additional requirements (check Fair Exhibitor Guide).

- Attend at least 70 percent of regular club meetings.
- Complete a 4-H project, doing one’s own work with minimal assistance from parents or others.
- Give a community, club or county 4-H public presentation.
- Complete a project record book.
- Must have been a registered 4-H project member by January 1.

Volunteers Supporting Volunteers
Several years ago, the 4-H Association established a Volunteer Oasis Committee. This committee provides meals and water for the Fair Managers, electricians and other volunteers that are on the fairgrounds the entire week before the Fair, wiring tents, etc. This eliminates having to take time out to go home or pick up food. This year, they are looking for clubs or individuals who would like to help by cooking or providing a meal, part of a meal, or snack. If you or your club is interested in helping, please contact Tina Pirro at 732-906-2027 or kmpirro@msn.com.

Ad Sales
Thank you to all that purchased and sold ads. 4-H’ers who sold ads - remember to take a copy of the Yearbook & Catalog to your ad customers as well as green supporter ribbons, available at the 4-H Center.
Open Divisions are Fun for Everyone!

New for 2008—Veggie Creations!

Create a creature or a scene using at least 3 types of vegetables, fruit, seeds or beans. This is a contest, sponsored by the Family and Community Health Sciences of RCE and will be held in the Board of Agriculture Tent at 11:00AM on Wednesday of the Fair. You must bring all your own supplies and a plan and make your creation in 45 minutes.

Other open divisions include:

- Creative Writing
- Dairy Foods Demonstrations
- Bread Baking Contest
- A Fiber Division for Sheep, Alpaca, Rabbits, Dog and Goat Club members
- Horticulture/Agriculture
- Woodworking
- Crafts
- Creative Arts
- Needlecraft
- Photography

See the 2008 Somerset County 4-H Fair Exhibitor Guide for all rules and requirements; some projects require preregistration or judging prior to the Fair. In many cases, school projects are welcome.

How Sweet It Is!

Once again, the Prep Division will oversee the cotton candy tent at the 4-H Fair. As always, we need your help. Please register to spin cotton candy by calling Lisa Darby at (908) 526-6644 between 8:30am and 3:00pm Monday - Friday at the 4-H office. Our volunteers are very important to us and we always appreciate all of your help. Remember, everyone that spins will receive a free Cotton Candy tee shirt.

4-H Fair Welcome Parade

This was quite a sensation last year! Most divisions were represented and everyone had a great time! All clubs and/or divisions, should start planning to participate on Wednesday of the Fair, before the Welcome Ceremony in the evening. The parade will gather at the dog tent and meander thru the Fairgrounds to the Showmobile. Crazy hats, costumes, banners, noisemakers, instruments, etc are all welcome. (no live animals). Join in the celebration as we kick off the 2008 4-H Fair! More details in the July/August issue of Clovertales.
Pawsabilities Dog Club
by Margie Duprey

The new Pawsabilities Dog Club is gaining experience as they welcome guests to their midst. The Pirro Family came to visit in February, teaching members how to run meetings and demonstrating a training session with their dog, Jet. The club also had photos taken by 4-H photographer, Abner Mathews, so they will be appearing in the new 2008 Yearbook & Catalog! Members held up pictures of their dogs for Abner’s photos. Members are making themselves scrapbooks with their dog pictures. In March Britney O’Brien attended to help explain officer duties. Newly elected officials are: Michelle Pannone, President; Jeff Weinburg, Vice-President; Dhilli Oza, Treasurer; Stacey Schaffer, Secretary; TJ Rasmusson, Corresponding Secretary; Catherine Destafano, Historian.

Chinese Culture Club
by Ching Chu

The Club was invited to do a presentation to teens attending the South Jersey Teen Conference on March 1. Like the North Jersey Teen Conference, SJTC aims at providing an opportunity for youth to develop knowledge and life skills through a variety of 4-H project areas such as cultural diversity, environmental awareness, cultural crafts, etc. 15 teens attended the workshop presented by assistant club leader, Sam Chen. Sam introduced the culture of Taiwan by using film, songs and games. Particularly, he drew a similarity between the US and Taiwan from the perspective of immigration. The Chinese Culture Club is always glad to have the opportunity to participate in community service by promoting multi-culture awareness and interactions in the communities.

4-H Cattlemans Club
by Cody Gerlach

The Club had a good meeting with discussions on upcoming presentations, followed by several members doing their club presentations. Rules for the steer sale at the fair were talked about as well as the changes to the round robin. Current fundraiser possibilities include: car wash, ad sales, and a bake sale at a tractor supply company.

People Pick-Me-Up
by Sarah Bijaczyk

Club elections were held with the following results: Carolyn Rubenfeld, President; Colleen Ridder and Katie Merritt, Co-Vice Presidents; Allie Mahon, Secretary; Sarah Bijaczyk, Journalist. The Club visited Bridgeway Care Facility in March and is planning a visit to Lyons Veterans Hospital in May.

4-H Senior Council
by Wendy Franzyshen

The Club discussed the February STAC meeting from correspondence supplied by Wendy Franzyshen and Amanda Weinstein. The Club is making a donation to the MS Bike Tour that member, Kaitlyn Zimmitti will be participating in. Members also made plans to march in the upcoming St. Patrick’s Day Parade and worked on ice breakers they lead for the April 5 Somerset County Safe Night. On April 20, the Club cleaned their adopted road, Station Road, in North Branch. Veterans from the Lyons Hospital sent a thank you for the Valentine cards they received and the Kansas 4-H also sent a thank you for the donation sent to them to help them get back on track with their own 4-H program. The Club is voting on sweatshirts and whether or not to sell popcorn at the fair this year.

The Midland Photography Club
by Midland Photography Club

The Midland Photography Club meets Thursdays at 11:40. The Midland advisors are Karen Hrank and Anne Parsons. In addition to taking pictures on the grounds at Midland School during all seasons, members also take pictures at assemblies and sporting events. Some of these pictures are published in
the yearbook and school publications. Members even made a calendar to give their families. This year at least three field trips are planned. The first was a tour of the Printmaking Council of NJ in North Branch. Members learned how prints are made using large presses. They also toured the darkroom and viewed the current art show. The trip to Clinton, NJ was planned to compose their photographs while on location. Members took pictures of the Red Mill, Stone Mill, historic bridge and downtown Clinton. Thursdays are spent in the Computer Lab, where members learn to edit pictures to make originals more interesting. Each member chooses one photograph to mat, frame and hang in the Midland Gallery. In May they will enter work in the Somerset County Teen Arts festival at Raritan Valley College. They also look forward to the Somerset County 4-H Fair in August. They will set up their club booth and enter their work in the Photography exhibit. Patrick, David, Julia, Ryan, Jesse Q., Jesse E., E.J., and Joe are compiling the year’s work for a Photo Story CD and also a 2007-2008 photo album.

**Sizzling Sidewinders**  
*by Karise Vaporakis*

The Sidewinders Club is happy to welcome new members to the club. Good Luck in the coming year! In February, the Club attended a presentation workshop along with Radical Rodents. Everyone had a great time and learned a lot about how to do a presentation and how to make cool posters. The Sidewinders presented at Science-sational Day on April 5th. They ran a workshop called Frogs, Lizards, Snakes, oh my! It was especially cool since their pets go right along with the theme this year of Dragons and Dreams.

**Badminton Club**  
*by Dhilati Oza*

The Badminton Club elected officers for the year: Travis Biely, president; Jason Ning, Vice President; Dhilati Oza, Secretary; and Pavan Ramanathan, treasurer. This year has been a blast playing badminton with each and every member of the Club. Everyone from leaders to members helps each other out with advice to improve the overall game. The Club is off to a great start this year!

**Mighty Cavits & Rodents**  
*by Megan Kouril*

At the last meeting, the Club discussed results of recent shows they had participated in as well as Forest Fest. Fair ideas were discussed and the possibility of a club trip. Members looked over final t-shirt designs. Marvelous presentations were done by Kira Whitney, Kalen Whitney, Allie Mahon, Carolyn Rubinfeld, Brian Rubinfeld and Sarah Ongaro. The Club will be having a mandatory fair meeting on May 29th, 2008, to go over fair requirements and rules.

**Go-Kart Club**  
*by Daniel Peterson*

The Club’s first fun-runs were held in April. Members have been invited to parade their go-karts around the warming track at the Patriot’s Ballpark on June 5, NASCAR night. Members had already participated in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade with 12 karts and no breakdowns! New t-shirts have been ordered in safety green with black lettering. Members gave presentations on The History of Formula Racing, How to Change Oil, Tire Types and Go-Kart Check Before Going Out on the Track. Three members also gave presentations during county presentations. The Club is ready to distribute the Fair rules.

**Wattles & Snood**  
*by Kali Vaporakis*

At their April meeting, the Club discussed chick orders and asked for volunteers to raise chicks to be sold at the Fair. Members viewed a presentation on how to raise chicks and finalized plans for a camping trip on May 30 - June 1. A yearbook ad design was voted on and created. A leadership pin was presented to Veronica Irrizarry, last year’s president, and Rachel Cowan received her year pin.
Dear 4-H Preppers,

On Saturday March 1, 2008 we held our annual Prep Rally. The day started with hands on activities. Then we blasted off to “Discover Our Amazing Sky” with workshops on mini pop rockets, our super solar system, comets and star lab. During lunch everyone got to sample space ice cream and had an opportunity to make their own alien. We had a lot of fun while learning so many new things.

Thank you to our workshop presenters; Theresa Moody from RVCC Planetarium, Jason & Jimmy Metting, 4-H alumni from the space and astronomy club, James Thomson, leader Exploding Stars prep club, Harry Brochinsky, leader Prep Chef club, and all the teens from the Voorhees High School Space and Astronomy club.

We certainly can’t forget all the teens and adults that helped to make the day run smoothly; Wendy Franzyschen, Amanda Weinstein, Jenny and Elizabeth Frank, Carolyn Pirro, Kelsey and Kyle Graham, Chris Posbergh, Dan Basile, Dave VanSkiver, Michael Ricketts, Joan Conway, Mike Pappas, Lisa Weinstock, Tina Pirro, Debbie Norz, Debbie Johnson, Lisa Rothenburger and RoseMary Fleming.

Happy spring!

Lisa Darby  
4-H Prep Coordinator

Reminder

The registration packets have been mailed out for Family Camp which will be held Friday June 13th thru Sunday June 15, 2008. If you haven’t received one, they are available at the 4-H office or by calling (908) 526-6644.

If you would like to share what your Prep Club is doing, please send a note to Lisa Darby at the 4-H Office or email darby@co.somerset.nj.us and it will be the next issue of Clovertales.
Yakety - Yak

The Prep Chefs

February 26, 2008: The Prep Chefs made vegetable soup and English muffin pizza. The chefs learned how to use peelers and chopping tools. Poboni said it was hard work. Rita and Erin identified lots of cooking gadgets. The group was led by Chip, Charlotte and their mom and dad.

March 11, 2008: The Sasse family taught the group to make 8 different kinds of Cheesecakes either with chocolate or graham cracker crust. The filling was made, put in the crust and baked for 20 minutes. The club then talked about what kind of food they would like to be. Paboni wants to be pasta; Sami and Chip, cookies; Juliana a mango; Mariana an apple pie; Evan salt and vinegar chips; Francesca candy; Charlotte a cupcake; and Rita wants to be liver so no one eats her. Juliana, Mariana, Francesca, Rita, Charlotte and Evan liked smooching the crackers, Chip, Paboni and Sami liked using the mixer.

March 25, 2008: Colin Reese and his mom Pam led the group in making Cheese Straws. Charlotte, Francesca & Marianna did a great job using the hand mixer. Juliana & Sami enjoyed rolling the dough. Erin said she likes eating at the meetings and Rita said that this club is cool. Chip agreed that the club is "greasy" which means it is fun & cool. Paboni said it's fun & messy. Evan added that he wants to be a chef when he grows up. Then Colin summed up the meeting and the club by saying "YUM."

April 8, 2008: In April, the Gray family arranged for Jenny Frank and Jessi Brygier from New Centre Dairy Club to teach the Prep Chefs how to make butter. The group was amazed that it took only 1 ingredient. Their arms got tired from so much shaking. Afterwards everyone enjoyed the butter on crackers and crescent rolls. The club also learned a lot about cows.

Discovery 4-H

The Discovery 4-H Prep Club is happy to welcome two new members, Brendan O’Kane and Christian Johnson.

February 16, 2008: Discovery went to the Somerset County Environmental Education Center to learn about maple sugaring.

March 2008: Jenny & Elizabeth Frank showed the club how to make butter and then everyone got to enjoy it on crackers.

April 1, 2008: Chris Posbergh brought baby lambs to the meeting. It was fun learning all about them. The club even got to pet them!

April 14, 2008: The focus of the meeting was “Earth Day”. They planted seeds in egg cartons. The meeting was lead by Ethan Weinstock and his mom.
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<td>County 4-H Qualifying Horse Show</td>
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Whiskers, Paws & Claws 4-H Cat Club is assisting Operation Happy Sock to create and deliver catnip toys to homeless cats in animal shelters. Volunteers make simple toys, called "Happy Socks," by putting catnip in the toe of an old sock and tying a knot at the ankle.

♦ Donated socks are needed that meet these guidelines:

♦ **Clean** – please run them through the washer first.

♦ Sweat socks and fuzzy socks are terrific!

♦ **Any size** (baby and kids’ sizes too) are welcome.

♦ Thin synthetics ornylons aren’t durable enough.

Even **socks with holes are fine** – we are experts at making a toy from almost any sock!

It’s time to clean out that sock drawer and admit that all those lone socks will probably never meet their mates again. Give ’em a second life as a Happy Sock! Thank you on behalf of homeless cats everywhere!

Please put socks in the donation box located in the 4-H Center lobby or contact: Heidi Cyr at 908-359-9666

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Instuctables ([www.instructables.com](http://www.instructables.com)) has teamed up with Discover Magazine to bring you the Green Science Fair for a Better Planet!

Think green! Share what you’ve learned! Win some great prizes!

Some ideas could be:

♦ Make a solar powered water desalination out of plastic bottles.

♦ Test and compare levels of CO2 in human breath, car exhaust and combustion products.

♦ Find out how biodegradable different materials are made

♦ Make a saline fuel cell

♦ Find the most drought-resistant types of grass

♦ Hack a toilet for free water

♦ Make your own recycled solar panels

So, put on your lab coats, grab your notebooks and start testing hypotheses! Projects can be done individually or as a club project. Entry deadline is June 8, 2008. For more information visit:
