Our slogan, “4-H is Tops”, is a great description of 4-H families and the 4-H program. But it would be fun to change the theme of the 4-H Fair! Members and leaders have sent in a list of suggestions for the 2009 Fair. To vote for your top 3 choices by January 16th. You can vote electronically (see link on page 14) or complete the hard copy attached. One vote per person.
Welcome to 2009

Last year we had 10 new clubs, this year we already have 12, half of which are filled to capacity. We have over a dozen volunteers waiting to be oriented, not only to assist with pre-existing clubs, but volunteers wanting to start even more new clubs! And many of our other clubs are “maxxed out”! 4-H is certainly Tops in Somerset County and is continuing to grow at a phenomenal rate.

4-H SET (Science, Engineering & Technology), the national 4-H initiative geared to provide youth with hands-on learning experiences fostering exploration, discovery and passion for the sciences, was extremely successful in our county and our first year doing the National Science Experience was met with enthusiasm everywhere it was introduced. At Somerset County 4-H, we continue to lead the way with our many diverse clubs in mechanical science, physical science, as well as animal science. We are proud to offer the largest 4-H program in the state.

In addition to our clubs, we offer 4-H Science-sational Day, which broke attendance records last year, 4-H/RCE TOPS camp, 4-H Winter Camp and 4-H Family Camp, and for our younger members, 4-H Prep New Year and 4-H Prep Rally.

Much of the success of our programs is due to the dedication of our volunteers, who willingly share their time and knowledge to making “the best better”. We thank you for all you have done for Somerset County 4-H in 2008 and look forward to a great 2009. Happy New Year!

Lisa Rothenburger
County 4-H Agent

Carol K. Ward
County 4-H Agent

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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.
What is a Tricky Tray? Also known as a basket raffle, is a popular fund-raising event. Prizes, usually offered in groupings or baskets, are put out on display with a collection container next to each. People pay an admission fee to attend the event and receive tickets to place in the collection containers of the prizes they would like to win. Attendees may purchase additional tickets to increase their chances of winning. At the conclusion of the event, a winning ticket is drawn for each prize.

We need prizes! 4-H clubs can help by donating prizes or a gift basket for the event. All items should be new and in original packaging if possible. While prizes are referred to as “baskets,” you do not need to have your donations in an actual basket, volunteers can package your items for the event. Individual prize items will be accepted and grouped with other items to create baskets. Gift certificates and gift cards are needed, too! All prize donors will have their names listed in the event program.

To donate a basket: The most popular baskets are those that have a theme, such as puzzles, books, paper/ party goods, bath items, baby items, a season or holiday, etc. Perhaps your basket could reflect your club’s subject area: grooming supplies and toys for a pet, cooking or baking utensils, sporting goods. The value of a basket should be $20 or more. Be creative!

Baskets should be dropped off at the 4-H Center by February 1.

Calling all volunteers! Adult volunteers are needed to:
- Solicit donations from businesses
- Package prizes
- Set up in the late afternoon/evening on Saturday, February 28 or the morning of Sunday, March 1
- Assist at the event

Have Questions?
For more information or to volunteer, contact Barb Navatto, navatto@co.somerset.nj.us, (908) 526-6644, or Annette Smutko, Annette.L.Smutko@gsk.com (908) 575-0974.

Project Learning Tree, January 21

Project Learning Tree is an award winning environmental education program designed for teachers and youth leaders working with students kindergarten through 12. Discover over 175 hands-on activities that help teach science, math, language arts, social studies and other subjects like animals and habitats. Registration deadline is January 7, 2009.

Training for both workshops will be held at the 4-H Center, beginning at 9:00 am and ending approximately 3:00 pm. The fee per person is $25 and includes lunch and the Learning Tree Workbook on January 21 or the Project Wild Guide on February 18. For more information contact the 4-H Office at 908-526-6644.
### Food ‘N Fun Luncheon
**February 21**

*Register by February 13*

Choose a theme, plan a menu and come prepared for a party! Plan to participate in the Food ‘N Fun Luncheon, February 21. This covered dish luncheon is open to **ALL 4-H CLUBS**. Contact Mrs. Razzano for more details at 908-526-6644 or razzano@co.somerset.nj.us.

### Table Setting Contest
**February 21**

*Register by February 13*

Plan a menu and set the table. Held on the same day as the Food ‘N Fun Luncheon, February 21. It’s open to **ALL 4-H CLUBS**.

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

*Tell your Friends & Family!*

Learn about a variety of science topics! This fun-filled day for youth in grades 1-6 will be held Saturday, April 4th. Registration forms will be available in February.

### 4-H Summer Camp
**July 5 – August 15**

Available to all 4-H members and their non-4-H friends

The Lindley G. Cook, 4-H Camp in Stokes State Forest, NJ, is open six weeks starting the beginning of July. 4-H members and non-members are welcome to sign up for any week. However, in order to continue the tradition of camping with other members from your county, **Somerset County 4-H members are encouraged to attend July 26 -August 1**. Campers will see other Somerset County 4-H members. A limited number of full and partial scholarships are available. Call the 4-H office at 908-526-6644 for more information. To learn more about camp, visit their website at: [www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu](http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu).

### Presentation Judges Needed
**March 20-24-25-26**

You have helped and watched your child or club members do many presentations. You know when they are doing a good job and you know how they can improve their presentations. 4-H needs you to pass along this expertise! 4-H Presentations are **March 20, 24, 25, 26**. Please call the 4-H Office at 908-526-6644 to volunteer. Training will be provided.

### New Jersey 4-H Junior Breeder Symposium
**March 21 at Cook College**

This year the Livestock Symposium will go back to the traditional format. There will be workshops for large and small ruminants and equine on Feed Hay Evaluation, Judging, Fitting and Hoof Care.

Registration information is available by contacting Carol Ward at the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644.

### What To Do In Case of Inclement Weather

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

Clubs

4-H welcomes these new clubs.

Lego Robotics Club: Meets 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7:00 pm. Members utilize legos to learn about designing and programming robots.

Lego Robotics Prep Club: Meets 2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:00 pm. Especially geared for 1-3 graders, teaching members about legos to design and program robots.

Kings Riders Horse Club: Meets every 1st Wednesday, 7:30 pm at Palermo Stables in Bedminster. Members will be learning about horses and have the opportunity to take riding lessons.

Secret Mystical Magicians: Meets every 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm. Open to prep members. Members will learn basic magic tricks, using a deck of cards and coins and will practice performance skills for the fair.

4-H Helping Hands: Meets every 3rd Tuesday at the Neshanic United Methodist Church, 6:30 pm. The club’s primary focus will be on community service projects.

Martial Arts Club: Meets 1st & 3rd Mondays, 5:00 pm at the Leader’s place of business, South Bridge Street, Somerville. Open to Prep members.

Karate Club: Meets 1st, 3rd, 4th Fridays, 7:30 pm. Club will be teaching members the fine art of karate.

Ultimate Frisbee Club: Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 6:00 pm. This club is for grades 9 - 13. Fine tune your Frisbee skills to a competitive level.

Green Team Environmental Club: Meets every 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm. This club will focus on outdoor education and environmental science.

New Small Animal Club: This is a brand new club, meeting dates and times to be determined. If you would like more information, please contact Carol Ward.

Lucky Stars Prep Club: Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7:00 pm. This club will be covering a variety of topics to spark the interests of our “preppers”.

Little Crafters Prep Club: Meets 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:00 pm. The primary interest in this club is arts and crafts and members will get the opportunity to spread their creative wings.

Focus on Life Skills

Life skills are positive habits learned through practice that help us achieve our goals in life. Through participation in 4-H we can practice and learn many different life skills. See if you can match each life skill on the right to one of the 4 essential 4-H elements on the left.

A. Sense of Belonging

☐ Shear a sheep
☐ Decide on your own
☐ Clean up a park
☐ Join a committee
☐ Listen and share
☐ Present a talk
☐ Sew a Button

B. Mastery of Skill

C. Independence

D. Generosity

Answers on page 9

WANTED!

Small Animal Club Leaders & Volunteers

Please contact:
Carol Ward
908-526-6644
Learn More About Citizenship Washington Focus

Applications available in the spring!

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Maryland during the summer. This year’s dates will be July 5 - 11. CWF continues to be a powerful learning experience for thousands of 4-H youth throughout the country. Teens in grades 9-12, who are interested can check out the website at: www.4hcwf.org.

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

National 4-H Congress

Applications will be due in April.

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, and brings over 1200 4-H members to Atlanta, Georgia. Delegates are exposed to as many venues in this international 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.

Youth grades 9-12 may apply. This event will be held November 28-December 2. Call the 4-H office for an application. Applications will also be available on-line.

Their website is www.national4-hecongress.com, Watch your March newsletter for a due date in April.

North Jersey 4-H Teen Conference

February 27 - March 1

NJTC is a fun-filled weekend conference where 4-H teens in grades 8 – 13 meet people from other counties, learn about our global cultures, economy and the environment, go on a field trip to Funplex, attend a dance and participate in hands-on workshops. This year’s theme will be “Around the World in 3 Days” and will include workshops in Global Environmental Issues, 4-H Exchange Programs, Cultural Etiquette, Music Exploration, Travel Through Time. The cost is $170, including meals. Scholarships available. Registration forms will be available shortly.

Don’t Forget! January 23 - 25

Applications for Senior Member Winter Camp Due January 9. The cost is $50.00 and scholarships are available. Open to all 4-H members grades 9 - 13. Applications can be obtained at the 4-H Office, the 4-H Center in the evenings, or on our website.
Financial Help for College

Applications are being sent, and acceptance letters are coming soon—but how will you pay for college? Check out these available scholarships offered through Somerset County 4-H. Applications available at the 4-H office and on line.

Somerset County 4-H Association Scholarship
The Somerset County 4-H Association is offering five $1000.00 scholarships to 4-H'ers for college, vo-tech, etc. To apply, students must be a high school senior or a college freshman. They need to be a Somerset County 4-H member in good standing and they must have a letter of recommendation from a 4-H Club Leader. Applications due in the office by April 1.

Somerset County 4-H Prep Scholarship
Somerset County 4-H Prep is offering a $500.00 scholarship to a 4-H'ers who started out in our 4-H Prep Program. To apply, students must be a high school senior or a college freshman. They need to be a Somerset County 4-H member in good standing, have contributed to the 4-H program and demonstrated mentoring relationships within 4-H and they must have a letter of recommendation from a 4-H Club Leader. Applications due in the office by April 1.

Somerset County 4-H Trainmasters Club Scholarship
Scholarship recipient will receive a grant of $1000 provided that they have been accepted for a regular course of study at a college or technical school, taking courses with an interest in a career in science. Recipients need to be a current member in good standing of a current Somerset County 4-H Club. Applications due in the office by April 1.

James Rudowski Scholarship
The James Rudowski Scholarship is awarded each year to a graduating high school senior with an interest in a career in science. The senior needs to be a current member in good standing with a Somerset County 4-H Club and must have a letter of recommendation from an adult currently active in a Somerset County 4-H Program. Mr. Rudowski was a 4-H science club leader. This fund was established by his family. Applications due in the office by April 1.

Joseph J. and Florence E. Klimas Scholarship
The Joseph J. and Florence E. Klimas Scholarship is awarded annually to a Somerset County 4-H Alum, entering his/her junior or senior year in college, having declared a major in education. Letters of recommendation from a 4-H adult volunteer and a professor are also necessary. Mrs. Klimas is a former Somerset County 4-H Leader and Branchburg Middle School teacher. This fund was established by her son, Scott Goodell, and his family. Applications due in the office by April 1.

For those interested in studying agriculture, plant science, animal science, landscape architecture or other related field, these scholarship applications are available in our 4-H office:

The Tom Everett Memorial Scholarship
$2000 Academic Scholarship. Applicant must be enrolled as a sophomore or older at an accredited college or university. Applicant must also be a NJ resident majoring in an agricultural subject area and must intend to pursue a career in production agriculture or related field. Applicant's parent must be a current member of the NJ Farm Bureau.

$500 Continuing Education Scholarship: Applicant or parent, if under 21, must be a current member of the NJ Farm Bureau and will be attending an accredited or approved seminar, workshop or conference related directly to product agriculture or related field. Both applications due in the office by January 31.

The Edward Rosania, William Staats, Peter Smith Memorial Scholarship
A one time grant for the encouragement and promotion of agriculture endeavors. Applicants must be a member in good standing in a Somerset County 4-H Club, demonstrate community involvement and personal growth and must have a letter of recommendation from an adult currently active in the Somerset County 4-H Program or the Somerset County Board of Agriculture. Applications due in the office by July 15.
In November, the key leader for each club should have received a computer printout of what we have in our database for your club. This database is used for all of our mail lists and to verify eligibility for the Fair and state 4-H events. Young people are not registered members until we receive their application and have it in our computer. Any youth not registered by January 1st, will not be able to participate in competitive events at the Fair or state level; national 4-H event or any county recognition, award or scholarship. We will send a list of members eligible for the Fair and state events, to you, after the first of the year. You may add members during the year to receive Clovertales and participate in non-competitive 4-H events.

Public Presentations March 20-24-25-26

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

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

To Prepare for Public Presentations

Come to a Presentation Workshop on February 10, 7 pm or on February 19, 4 pm.

A Power Point workshop will be offered on February 26, 7 pm. Learn to use Power Point to give your presentation visual punch!

Workshops will be held at the 4-H Center. To register, call the 4-H Office at 908-526-6644, by February 6.

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

Remember the Veterans!

February 14

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

Need to Reach the 4-H Center at Night?

The 4-H Center Night Manager is

Maryann DelGigante
Phone: 908-526-8242
7-10 pm Monday - Friday.
National 4-H Council Needs Winning Photos...

...taken between 2004 - 2009, to create the 2011 National 4-H Calendar. Winning photos will be on display at the National 4-H Conference Center from September - November, 2009 and posted on their website.

The list of criteria is listed at this link: [http://www.4-hmall.org/Calendar/PhotoContest2011.asp](http://www.4-hmall.org/Calendar/PhotoContest2011.asp) and includes:

- Photographer must be involved in the 4-H program
- Photograph must have received another award (like from our fair!)
- Photograph must be in color, high resolution, high quality paper, 8 x 10 landscape.

Please check the complete list of criteria and submit any entries to:

2011 4-H Calendar
National 4-H Supply Service
6931 Arlington Road, Suite T-400
Bethesda, MD 20814

Deadline to enter is March 31, 2009

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Association News

Beautiful Wreaths - Great Sales!

Somerset County 4-H members sold 3630 wreaths this year. A new record! This is the oldest 4-H fundraiser in Somerset County. Our wreath sales helped to build the 4-H building and help maintain it and the 4-H programs.

Special thanks to all those who helped unload wreaths Thanksgiving Friday, those that helped hand out the wreaths to the clubs, all wreath committee members, the Association for decorating and anyone else who helped in the wreath sales. Many hands make easy work.

Top selling clubs this year were: Woof Dog Club, $3168; Somerset Trainmasters, $2810; Wags & Whiskers, $2766; and PAWSabilities, $2464. Thanks for making the best better for next year!

*Mark Kirby*, 4-H Association

BIG Accomplishments

*Did you notice our new parking lot?*
Thanks to the BIG events- the Rummage Sales and the '08 Basket Bonanza, the Association had the parking lot of the 4-H Center repaved.

Many volunteers worked very hard to make this happen. Congratulations! Proceeds from future events will be saved for a new roof.

New Members

The 4-H Association hopes to welcome new members Doug Pitney, Maggie Navatto, Linda Au and Jill Brochinsky. Anyone wishing to be involved as a member or to help on a committee or with an event should contact Jeff Weinstein at 908-281-2595.

Leaders Round Table, January 29

*Thursday, January 29, 7:00 pm - 4-H Association members and 4-H Staff will be on hand to discuss 4-H topics of interest to leaders such as Fair participation, Building use, BIG events, Wreath and Ad Sales, Audits and Club lists, Yearbook and Catalog club pages, Presentations, etc. Bring your co-leaders and your questions.*

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Achievement Dinners in January

**Science Achievement Night**
Friday, January 9, 7 pm - 9 pm

**Horse Achievement Banquet**
Sunday, January 11
set up time 4:00 pm

*Call your leader for details.*

Answers to Focus on Life Skills

**Sense of Belonging:** Join a committee; Listen and share

**Mastery of Skill:** Shear a sheep; Sew on a button

**Independence:** Decide on your own; Present a talk

**Generosity:** Clean up at a park

For more information about the 4-H Essential Elements, visit the national 4-H headquarters website at: [http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/about/4h_elements.htm](http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/about/4h_elements.htm)
HURRAY FOR...

NJ 4-H Honor Clubs

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

   Woof Dog Club
   Hoof Beats
   Wags & Whiskers

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

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

Honor Clubs:

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

At least 70% of Honor Club members:

• Attend at least 70% of club meetings.
• Do a public presentation at the club or county level at least once a year.
• Complete a record book, if your project requires one.
• sell at least one business card ad and one wreath (this is for Somerset County clubs only)

4-H Trainmasters Fair Results

Modules:

1st year  Cary Brochinsky, Rosette
          Daniel Flynn, Very Good
          Derek Fought, Good

2nd year  Billy Quick, Rosette
          Thomas Healy, Fair
          Andrew Wild, Fair
          Zayn Aldahagh, Fair

3rd year  Ken Rosario, Rosette
          Joe Czernikowski, Excellent
          Joe Monaco, Excellent
          Scott Pantalone, Very Good
          Matt Ramachandran, Very Good
          David Osborne, Good

4th year  Ted Spulick, Rosette
          Thomas Presley, Very Good
          Shawn Wild, Good
          Mike Rossi, Good

First Year Special Project

Derek Fought, Rosette
Cary Brochinsky, Very Good
Daniel Flynn, Very Good

Second Year Custom Car

Billy Quick, Rosette
Zayne Aldahagh, Excellent
Tommy Healy, Very Good
Andrew Wild, Very Good
Congratulations to the Following 4-H’ers on Their County 4-H Achievement Awards


Eastern National 4-H Round Up

Congratulations to Justin Dagnall who was part of a Hippology team that placed ninth in the Judging phase at the 2008 Eastern National 4-H Round Up for New Jersey Horse Teams.

Kudos to Judy Hennessy who coached.

Congratulations to these winners...

NJ State Alpaca Show, November 22 - 23

Junior Agility: 3rd, Deanna Farber
Junior PR: 1st, Deanna Farber
Junior Showmanship: 3rd Deanna Farber
Intermediate Showmanship: 1st, Ainslee Clark; 2nd Danny Philipsheck; 3rd, Brooke Gallagher
Senior Showmanship: 1st, Anya Cyr-Ohngemach; 2nd Alyson Weiss

Members who attended the show: Deanna Farber, Anya Cyr-Ohngemach, Stephanie Duffy, Kimberly Duffy, Alyson Weiss

Many Thanks...

Thank you to Citicorp for wiring bows and cones for the 4-H Association wreaths.

Thank you to Betty Sommerville and Laura Graham for taking the supplies and teaching the Citicorp volunteers how to prepare the bows and cones.
Club Camp Weekend 2009

Do you love camp? How about trying Club Camp in April? This camp weekend offers the opportunity for 4-H’ers, parents and leaders to interact outside of their regular meetings. Activities may include hiking, fishing, archery, and teambuilding, as well as just hanging out together. Club camp is held at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp in Branchville, Sussex County. Registration forms and information packets will be available at the 4-H Office. This is a great chance to spend time together. Contact Sue Posbergh at 908-304-6435 or ksec@att.net for more information. This year Club Camp will be April 17, 18, and 19th. Due to the increase in camp fees, the cost, including food, will be $42.00.

Here are some details:

Check in time:
After 5:00 PM, Friday, April 17
Check out time:
Before 2:00 PM, Sunday, April 19

A 4-H Event Permission Form or a 4-H Adult Overnight Agreement/Release Form needs to be completed for each participant. Please request these forms from the 4-H office and return completed forms to the 4-H office by April 3. Forms can also be downloaded from our website: www.4HisTops.org.

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4-H TOPS Camp

Totally Outrageous Program for Summer

Totally Outrageous Programs
Explore the world of science, arts and nature.

Totally Outrageous Games
Ball Games, Hoola-Hoops, Relay Races and more!

Totally Outrageous Snacks
Make your own nutritious and delicious snacks!

Totally Outrageous Crafts
Let your imaginations soar; your creative juices flow!

Totally Outrageous Fun!
Make new friends and have fun!!!

For Children Grades 1-6
June 29 - July 2, 2009
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Early Bird Discount: $200.00
before March 30 ($250.00 after this date)
Scholarships available

Call the office for an application.
Camp held here at the Ted Blum 4-H Center.

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4-H Senior Member Winter Camp

Register by January 9

Winter camp is a fun get away for teens to play in the snow and meet 4-H’ers from other clubs and counties. 4-H’ers in grades 9-13 from Somerset, Warren and Bergen Counties will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp January 23 - 25. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. The cost for the weekend is $50.00 and includes meals. Scholarships are available. For more information contact Lisa Rothenburger at 908-526-6644.
Family Camp June 5-6-7

Somerset County 4-H Family Camp is a wonderful time to have fun and spend time with your club, family and friends. ALL Somerset County 4-H Families are invited for a special Weekend at the Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp in Sussex County… June 5 - 7, 2009.

There will be time for fishing, boating, arts and crafts, hikes, games, great food in the dining hall and lots of fun and songs around the campfire. **Cost is $55 per person.** Camp scholarship funds are available. Please inquire at the 4-H office for an application.

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

4-H Summer Camp - Early Bird Prices!

The Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp is located off Route 206 in Stokes State Forest in Branchville, NJ. Camp is open to all youth who have completed third grade through tenth grade. Camp weeks begin July 5 and continue through mid-August. The **Somerset County Preference week is July 26 - August 1.** All sessions begin Sunday afternoon with check in at 4:00 pm. Check out is Saturday morning with a special closing ceremony for parents at 10:00 am.

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

The basic camp fee for one week is $425. However, if you attended camp last year and register by February 1, you receive a discount of $70.00. If you are a 4-H member you receive another $20.00 discount. Early bird discounts include $30.00 if registered by March 1 and $15.00 if registered by May 1. There are also multi-family member discounts. Please check the website or call the camp directly if you have questions about camp fees. Some scholarships are available through the Somerset County 4-H Office. Please call our office (908) 526-6644 to inquire.

This year camp weeks will have themes which include: Life on the Farm, Color Wars, Pirates of Lake Shawanni and Camp Chaos. Our preference week is Camp Chaos with a day where everything is crazy and mismatched from meals to activities to the clothing on your back!

Camp Events
Call 973-948-3550
[www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu](http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu)
For more information
• Volunteer Work Days
  March 28 & April 18
  (RSVP if attending)
• Open House
  (call to schedule tour)
• Shooting Sports Training
  April 24 - 26
• Volunteer Staff Training
  June 21 - 26
  Go to the 4-H camp website for details.
Fair Planning Meeting

All members, leaders and parents are invitedFebruary 23 at 7:30 for the first fair planning meeting of 2009. Please come and share your ideas and ask questions. We are always looking for ways to “Make the Best Better”!

4-H Fair Exhibitor Guide

Attention all Division Chairs! Please review the rules for your division in the 2008 Exhibitor Guide with the other leaders in your division, make any necessary changes and send them to the 4-H Office for inclusion in the 2009 Exhibitor Guide. If you need a copy of the '08 edition or have any questions please contact Barbara Navatto. We would like all changes to be in the office by January 30, 2009 so we can have the new edition available to members as soon as possible. Thanks for your help.

2009 Yearbook and Catalog

Please start to take photos of 4-H’ers in action. March 31 is the deadline for submission of Club photos. Send a maximum of 6 photos of your club, including a descriptive statement for each photo. Do not include member names. You may take your own photos and email them to yearbook4h@yahoo.com or send hard copies. You may borrow the digital 4-H camera. Volunteer photographers are also standing by if you would like to invite one to your club event. Call the 4-H Office if you need assistance.

Photos need to be of good quality, showing your members in action shots preferably, and a positive representation of your club and the 4-H program.

Final photo selection for inclusion will be at the discretion of the Catalog Committee.

2009 4-H Fair Theme

Everyone can vote for the 2009 4-H Fair Theme. Go to:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=81b6qU3U_2fFqc6JMXd_2bbnVQ_3d_3d

and vote for your top 3 choices. Keep in mind that this will be the publicity theme for the Fair only and clubs will use this in Fair displays.

Thanks for suggestions from Carol Maciborski, Deirdre Rosinski, Pauline Kodack, Glenn Peterson, Ellen Parker, The Miholics Family, Krystin Schwarz, Wags & Whiskers, Amanda Weinstein, Jenna Juechter, Sue Posbergh, Ally Mahon, Ruth Slovak, Kevin & Reni Melvin, Dawn Granja, Chris Schueler, Just Kidding Goat Club
Sugar ‘n’ Spice
by Megan Kouril

Members talked about the upcoming events which included Achievement Night and the Food & Fun Luncheon, which they will begin planning for in November. Projects for the year were also discussed. The Club is going to start to learn to crochet at the next meeting.

Woolly Ones
by Jenny Hunt

In October, sheep updates were given. All sheep are doing great! Members went over their “tack” boxes for the year. These boxes hold supplies for the fair such as tools, herdsmen’s needs and feed. The club was pleased with the success of Open House. New officers were elected: Desiree McLaughlin, President; Gina Callari, Vice President; Jenny Hunt, Secretary; Chris Posbergh, Treasurer. In November, the club had a great time at the Livestock Achievement Dinner. They really loved the food. At their meeting, wreath decorating was discussed and going to a Festival of Trees. Plans were made for the holiday party. Members formed a club constitution committee. Desiree McLaughlin gave a presentation on “Understanding Wool”.

Secret Mystical Magicians
by Paige Lamberson

For the club’s first official meeting, members picked a name for our club and officers: Conrad Colon, President; Jared Brokaw, Vice President; Paige Lamberson and Taylor Glassberg, Secretaries.

Mighty Cavits & Rodents
by Megan Kouril

Conrad starting teaching the club simple card tricks. At their next meetings, members practiced “cops & robbers” and “telepathy test” and their newest trick called the “ace” trick. They are also practicing learning how to shuffle a deck of cards. At their last meeting, members showed off the tricks they have learned. The club is also learning the history of magic.

The Kings Riders
by Patricia Anderson

The Kings Riders held their first meeting at Palermo Stables, where future meetings will be held. The meaning of the 4-H pledge was taught and all new members were welcomed. Information about 4-H was handed out. A demonstration, “How to Groom & Saddle Your Horse,” was given by Linnea Warlick and Kelly DiFligia. Guest Speaker, Martin Marcelli, demonstrated basics on hunt seat equitation. Mr. Marcelli then gave members a tour of the stables and explained about barn rules. On November 6, members took a field trip to the Museum of Natural History in NYC to the exhibition “The Horse”. At their second meeting Kate McGann & Katherine Genirs gave a demonstration on “English Riding Attire” and the guest speaker was Mike Mullen, an equine dentist. Elections were held.

Somerset Sentinels
by Megan Kouril

The club’s first meeting kicked off by welcoming new members. The club was explained and meeting dates were gone over. Members then discussed wreath sales and their community service project to adopt a road. The year promises to be a fun-filled and exciting one.

Stablemates
by Terin Weinberg

Stablemates held their elections for 2008-09. Erica Gyimes, President; Chance Weinberg, Vice-President; Sophia Carroll, Secretary; Carol Anne Bekus, Treasurer; Terin Weinberg, Reporter. The club is looking forward to an amazing year.

The Green Team
by Katherine Capra

The Green Team Environmental Club is off to a great, green start! Members
made sculptures, instruments and toys out of trash at their first meeting! The club is joining the Upper Raritan Watershed Association in a nature walk on December 14th at Fairview Farm Wildlife Preserve in Bedminster. Winter treats for wildlife will be made, following the walk. The club is organizing a River Clean-up this spring. Other clubs are welcome to join them for a fun day on the banks of the Raritan! Club members have some great project ideas, including educational presentations at their schools on global warming, reducing water bottle waste, anti-idling campaign and “green” cleaning. Some members will be working with preschoolers making games out of recycled materials. Want to give them your junk? They will gladly take used water bottles, coffee cans, bottle tops, soda can pull tabs, baby food jars and anything else you may want to send their way! Contact: Katharine Capra 908-253-9069

Senior Council
by Katherine Pirro

New officers were elected: Sarah Memoli, President; Wendy Franzysken, Vice-President; Rob Slovik, Treasurer; Jason Ning, Corresponding Secretary; Amanda Weinstein, Recording Secretary; Katherine Pirro, Reporter. Members attended the Arts Achievement Dinner. Special thanks to all members who participated in the fall leaf clean-up. Upcoming projects and events include participating in Winter Camp and NJTC, helping with Prep New Year and Prep Rally and assisting SHIP with their holiday party for the less fortunate. Wendy Franzysken has been appointed chairperson for the Senior Council Blood Drive. Members have also voted to have a club lock-in 2009.

Don’t Forget!!
Vote Now for a Fair Theme!

Just Kidding Goat Club
by Scott Weiss

The Club made goat cheese on November 8. Members did 2 batches and put it on pizza which the whole club enjoyed. Thanks to the Davidson’s for hosting. Members also worked on bows and pine cones for wreaths. Then all enjoyed playing with the goats.

Wags ‘n’ Whiskers
by Carolyn Pirro

The Club went on a field trip to Norz-Hill Farm. Members participated in the corn maze (spelled confusion!) and then went on a hayride. The club got to see a full working farm, met the workers and picked pumpkins and gourds. In addition to dairy cows, Norz-Hill has horses, pigs, ducks and a zonkey (cross between a zebra and a donkey). Thanks to the Norz’s for letting the Club visit. New officers for the year will be: Tiffany Freuler, President; Ashley Ward, Vice-President; Joey Shreve, Treasurer; Amy Miller, Historian; Carolyn Pirro, Corresponding Secretary; Brenna Massey, Recording Secretary. Members participated in the Awards Dinner along with the other 3 dog clubs. It was a potluck dinner and a great evening for everyone. Guest speaker, Andrea Babchak, talked about what to do with your pet in case of an emergency.
Dear 4-H Preppers,

Happy Holidays to you and your family. I'll be looking forward to seeing all of you at our Prep Family New Year Party on Saturday January 10th at the 4-H Center in Bridgewater. The fun begins at 5:00pm with face painting and craft, followed by a pot luck dinner and ice cream sundaes. DJ Mike will be on hand to help ring in the New Year with music, dancing, confetti and streamers.

Read about the new 4-H Fair Theme and about the Prep Rally we are planning for March! Be sure to send me news about what you are doing in your club so I can tell everyone.

A BIG WELCOME to our new prep clubs: Prep Lego/Robotics, The Lucky Stars & The Little Crafters. Most of our prep clubs are still accepting members. Please call the 4-H office on (908) 526-6644 if you would like more information on our prep clubs.

Mrs. Darby
4-H Prep Coordinator

Yakety - Yak

**The Crazy Clovers** - 10/23/08 - At our first meeting of the year, Mrs. Darby read us “Bartholomew and the Oobleck” by Dr. Seuss. Then we got to play with oobleck, examine it and compare it to the oobleck in the story. We also welcomed several new members. 11/13/08 - We learned about hydro-gels. We did the National 4-H science experiment and learned that there are hydro-gels in baby diapers. That is how they absorb water and what keeps them from leaking.

**The Mad Scientists** - Our first meeting on 10/14/08, we conducted an experiment with diapers! We found they held more than 4 cups of water! We found it was because of a powder called hydro gel which holds lots of water. On 10/28/08 we made slime, gooey worms, & pretend eyeballs. All of these are examples of “non-Newtonian fluids” but we called them “loloids” - a mix of a liquid & solid.

**The Prep Chefs** - 10/28/08 - We made mini pumpkin pies, Halloween popcorn balls and slime juice. Cullen, Nicholas and Evan liked smashing their popcorn balls together. Daria and Brena liked stirring the marshmallows. Gillian liked making the slime juice.
11/11/08 - Daria says we made sweet potato pies & chocolate turkeys. Nick likes to eat the turkeys. Francesca thinks it was hard to make the sweet potato pies. Evan wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

**The Lucky Stars** – The first meeting on 10/22/08 was a meet and greet with the new members and their families. During the meeting, the members choose the club name, talked about what they would like to do at future meetings and got to know each other. 11/12/08 - At our meeting we made pizza bagels and cup cakes. Then we decorated our own cup cakes.

**The Exploding Stars** - Our year started with Bubbles, Bubbles Everywhere. We used common kitchen remedies to make bubbles. 10/27/08 - We made roller coasters with marbles and rubber tubing. 11/10/08 - Make it Shine - Kitchen Chemistry. We talked about what metals make up a penny and what chemicals would make them shine.

**Lego/Robotics Prep** - Our first meeting was November 10, and we built things with legos. We will meet the 2nd & 4th Monday of the month.

**The Little Crafters Arts & Crafts Prep Club** - We had a meet and greet with our members and their families on Thursday 10/30/08. We meet the 1st & 3rd Thursday in the Blue room. New members WELCOME. 11/06/08 - We made turkeys with pine cones & leaves. We mounted them to cardboard and attached a string so they can be hung up for the holidays. 11/20/08 – We made Pilgrim Masks. We used paper plates, construction paper and our imagination. What fun we had. There are a lot more fun things planned for the year. Come join us!

**Knowledge Explorers** - We had our first meeting of the year on 10/13/08. Paul Cirillo from the Space and Astronomy club came and did a presentation. It was very informative and interesting. On 10/27/08 the Sidewinders came with their animals and talked about their care. It was real cool! 11/10/08 – Kevin ran the business meeting. The club members made photo postcard thank you notes for Mr. Cirillo from the Space & Astronomy club and Mrs. Rasmussen and the Sidewinders club for their presentations to our club.

**Discovery Prep** - We met on 11/14/08, Election Day. Mr. Pappas gave a little talk about the election process. Then we voted on what type of club shirt to order for our members. Mrs. Weinstock brought a special snack. On Saturday 11/15/08 we went to the NJ Transit Train Yard located near the Raritan Train Station. We were given a tour of the train yard. We will not have a meeting in December. We will see everyone in January.

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**4-H Prep Rally**

Come discover the 4-H’s! Enjoy a fun day as you move through 4 workshops

Saturday, March 7, 2009

9a.m. - 2p.m.
January 31 & February 1, 2009
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
4-H Center
310 Milltown Road
Bridgewater, NJ

ANNUAL
4-H WINTER TRAIN SHOW

Sponsored by:
The Somerset County 4-H Trainmasters
Featuring demonstrations and hands-on activities as well as the ever-growing and ever-improving O-Scale trains and layout.

Admission
$3.00 Adult
$1.00 Children under 12

Concessions available all day.
Door Prizes

Directions to the 4-H Center:
http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu/directions
29th Annual Doll & Teddy Bear Show

Somerset County 4-H Exchange
Doll & Teddy Bear Show

Saturday
February 28, 2009
10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Ted Blum 4-H Center
310 Milltown Road
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Admission:
$3.50
Mention this ad
$3.00

Appraiser:
$5.00
Elizabeth Pierce
(available all day)

Lunch Counter • Free Parking

Doll competition: 28 Categories
$2.00 per entry
Submit entry by 10:30 am - Pick up after 2:00 pm

For Information: (908) 526-6773
Day of show: (908) 526-8242
Rutgers
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

June 29 - July 2, 2009

4-H TOPS Camp

Totally Outrageous Program for Summer

A 4-day camp for children grades 1 - 6
8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Featuring
Outdoor Activities...Workshops...Science Fun...
New Games...New Friends...and More!

$200 for 4 Days*

sign up before March 30, 2009 and you only pay $200.
$250 after March 30.

Call for Registration Form or on the web at:
http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu

Sponsored by:
Rutgers Cooperative Extension
of Somerset County
310 Milltown Road
Bridgewater, NJ 08807
(908) 526-6644

*Full and partial scholarships available to those who qualify. Please contact the 4-H office for details.

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.
Who?
4-H Teens in Grades 8-13

What?
A weekend of making new friends, learning new skills and having fun!

When?
February 27-March 1

Where?
Fairfield Executive Inn
Route 46 in Fairfield
http://www.bwfei.com/

Cost?
$170
Scholarships available for Somerset County participants

Contact your 4-H Office for registration information!

You are invited to the Annual 4-H Teen Conference for North Jersey!

NJTC is a fun-filled weekend conference where teens in 4-H can meet people from other counties, learn about our global cultures, economy and the environment, go on a field trip to Funplex, attend a dance, and participate in hands-on workshops:

- Talk It Out
- Global Environmental Issues
- 4-H Exchange Programs
- Cultural Etiquette
- Music Exploration
- Travel through Time
- And More!
# 2009 Somerset County 4-H Fair Theme

One vote per person. Your name must appear on this ballot for it to be valid. Thank you.

1. Please vote for your TOP 3 choices for the 2009 Somerset County Fair themes.

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<th>4-H: Teaching Young Minds to Soar</th>
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