Finally Friday!
Fall 2010 for Somerset County 4-H

What an exciting time of year it is for Somerset County 4-H! We want to thank all of you who helped with another successful Open House. We want to say “Welcome Back!” to many of our club members and leaders and a warm “Hello” to our new leaders and members. The Somerset County 4-H program continues to expand, offering new clubs in Astronomy, Cooking, Anime & Manga, some brand new Cloverbud/Prep Clubs and a restructured Outdoor Adventure Club.

Fall and winter is when we recognize all of our leaders and members for their achievements throughout the year. Please check out Club Corner to find out when the Achievement Nights will be held. Achievement Nights are held for Livestock, Dog, Arts, Science, Small Animal and Horse. Please attend these celebrations of the work our members have done in the past year. This is also our opportunity to thank our volunteers for all their dedication and time. We hope to see YOU there!

Sincerely,

Lisa Rothenburger
County 4-H Agent

Carol K. Ward
County 4-H Agent

Remember 4-H is for everyone, everywhere!

The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of Rutgers Cooperative 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.
**Leaders' & Parents' Outlook**

**4-H Vendor & Craft Expo 2010**

**November 20**

Mark your calendars to attend our one-stop-shopping Vendor & Craft Expo on Saturday, November 20 from 10am to 3pm at the 4-H Center. Vendors & crafters include jewelry companies & hand-crafted jewelry, interior decorating products, candles, kitchenware, gourmet foods, baskets, make-up, and gift items.

**Cash for Gold** will be there to exchange unwanted gold for cash on the spot – any carat, any condition, they buy it! (Gold accepted for exchange includes 10K-24K, class rings, bent/broken jewelry, unmatched gold earrings, tangled gold chains, gold watches/pins/necklaces/bracelets, items with missing stones, gold coins, dental gold, platinum, & much more!) All stones are removed & returned. If you’re looking for extra money (the holidays are coming!), here’s where you’ll find it! Give up that unworn, outdated, unwanted gold for CASH!

Spaces are available. For information & reservations please contact Kim at 908-359-4934 or miholicsksk@comcast.net.

**Festival of Trees**

**December 11 - 12**

Calling all 4-H and Community Clubs: Time to start planning your decorated tree to be displayed at the Festival of Trees event December 11th and 12th. You can donate your handmade or store bought ornaments to be sold at the event and all proceeds will be donated to help keep our Fantastic 4-H Fair Free!! Community clubs and organizations are invited to put up a tree.

We are also looking for Carolers or musicians to serenade us with Holiday music on Saturday and Sunday. You don't have to be a virtuoso, just willing to spread some cheer. Come join in the fun!. Thanks!

For more details please email Sue at susar@rcn.com or call 908-281-5858.

**4-H Wreath Sale Info: Club Orders Were Due October 29**

October was 4-H Wreath Sale Month!! If you did not order one, please call the 4-H office at 908-526-6644. We may have extras! The proceeds help keep the fair free! Clubs receive $1.00 for each wreath they sell.

Burn off those Thanksgiving dinner calories. Come join the fun in helping unload wreaths on **Friday, November 26 at 7:30 am.**

**Club leaders should pick up wreaths:**
- Saturday, November 27, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Monday, November 29, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 30, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Each club should plan to decorate their own wreaths. To keep wreaths fresh, do not store on concrete, which absorbs moisture. Please call Maryann Del Gigante, night superintendent, 7-10 pm, Monday-Friday, at least **a day before** you plan to pick up your ribbon, wire and cones. Wreaths should be delivered to the customers by December 5. Keep $1.00 per wreath for your club treasury if payment is made to the 4-H Association by December 15. Clubs making payment after December 15 should keep only 50¢ per wreath. Clubs making payments after December 31, 2010 will not receive money for selling wreaths. Leaders: Money drop-off days, **December 13 - 15, 7 - 9 pm, 4-H Center.** The 4-H office will accept money if these dates are inconvenient.
**Wreath Decorating**

*December 1*

Help is needed on **Wednesday, December 1** to decorate wreaths. Association members, parents, leaders and friends are asked to attend beginning at 7 pm. Bring a friend. It’s always a fun evening. *(These wreaths are to fill orders phoned in, not club orders.)*

**Working with Your Club’s Health Officer**

This year all 4-H Clubs are encouraged to elect a Health Officer to provide leadership for the 4th “H”, HEALTH, in each club. The purpose of this office is to increase health knowledge and motivate 4-H’ers and families to try new health habits and to improve others. It offers 4-H’ers ways to take part in healthy lifestyle activities and reinforces positive habits they already practice. By carrying out short health activities and challenges at each regular club meeting, Health Officers work to integrate healthy living messages that are simple and practical.

All of the activities to be used for this year will be distributed at the Health Officers’ training on **Friday November 19, 2010 at 7:00 at the 4-H Center**. All Health Officers should plan on attending. Please have your club’s Health Officer RSVP with their name and club name by November 12th.

Contact Theresa Hanntz to RSVP or with any questions at **hanntz@co.somerset.nj.us** or 908-526-6644.

**2011 Somerset County 4-H Calendar of Events**

The 2011 Somerset County 4-H Calendar of Events is being prepared now. It includes state and countywide events for the upcoming calendar year. It also includes major club events (such as achievement dinners).

If you have any ideas or contributions, let us know. If you’re not sure if your event should be on the calendar, give us a call. The 2011 Calendar will be mailed in December with the January/February Clovertales.

**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 Maryann, the building manager, between 7-10 pm at 908-526-8242, to let her know if you will be canceling your meeting that night. You are also responsible contacting club members to let them know you will cancel.

If you are a 4-H member in doubt, contact your club leader.

If the decision is made by the buildings & grounds committee to close the building for the evening, the attempt will be made to reach all leaders. Members, check with your leaders if you are not sure before coming to the 4-H Center.

Leaders, please make sure that Maryann has a number where you can most likely be reached during the day. Thank you!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**
Rummage Sale a Success
Build - Invest - Grow
by Joe Bakes

You did it again! Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers, the fifth annual BIG Rummage Sale, held September 17-18 at the 4-H Center, was a BIG success.

Once again the gym and most of the meeting rooms were packed with treasures – well, at least they were packed with stuff – and people were lined up to buy, buy, buy when we opened the doors.

And once again, more than $10,000 was raised to support the upkeep of the 4-H Center.

Our volunteers were led by Betty Sommerville, Kim Miholics and Pam Williams, and Sue and Bill MacCombie did an outstanding job again in the kitchen. Our wonderful 4-H staff pitched in as always, with Program Coordinator Rachel Bijaczyk overseeing the entire operation and our BIG Committee liaison Lisa Darby also putting in long hours above and beyond the call of duty. Marian Kaufman coordinated the volunteers, and the rest of the office staff stayed late and pitched in as they always do. Thanks, too, to 4-H Association treasurer Jim Wood for making sure the money was all in the right place.


The BIG Rummage Sale has become a much-anticipated event on the 4-H calendar and in Somerset County and environs. In addition to raising funds for the 4-H Center, it offers bargains on needed items in a time of financial stress, gives families an outlet for their unneeded household goods, benefits the nonprofit organizations that receive the leftover items when the sale is over and brings our 4-H family closer together as we work side by side for common goals.

Thanks again to all who helped, all who donated and all who shopped. Once again, together we made the best better.

Now it’s time to get ready for our Holiday Vendor Sale on Saturday, November 20, our bigger and better Festival of Trees on December 11 and 12, and our fourth annual BIG Basket Bonanza tricky tray on Sunday, March 6, 2011.

New BIG Committee members are welcome; contact chairman Joe Bakes at 908-725-4246 or josbak@copydesk.org.
United Way for Holiday Cheer

Clubs are needed to help share holiday joy with those less fortunate by helping Somerset County United Way's Gifts of the Season program. Information on specific individuals in need in Somerset County is provided by local health and human services agencies. For more information on the Gifts of the Season Program, please contact Irene Natale at (908) 253-6511 or e-mail irene.natale@scuw.org

Gift Drop Off: Thursday & Friday, December 9 & 10 between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

Gift Sorting & Tagging: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 13 - 15 - 16 - 17, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, December 14 -9:30 am - 7:00 pm. For more information on volunteering opportunities including sorting and packing gifts during the week of December 13, please contact Lisa Galonardo at (908) 253-6503 or e-mail lisa.galonardo@scuw.org

Wrapped in Love Drop Off: Thursday & Friday, December 9 & 10, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Help share the warmth this winter with those less fortunate by collecting donations for this annual drive that takes place in November and December. NEW and used, clean coats for children and young adults are needed. NEW socks, gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, etc. for all ages will also be accepted. For more information, please contact Irene Natale at (908) 253-6511 or e-mail irene.natale@scuw.org

For location of different events, please call United Way at 908-725-6640. Do not drop off items at the 4-H Center, please!

Adopt-a-Family Program

Clubs can help make Thanksgiving special for a needy family in Somerset County through the Adopt-a-Family program sponsored by the Somerset County Freeholders and the county’s 21 mayors. The cost of a Thanksgiving meal is $40.00, but all donations are gratefully accepted. Checks can be mailed to:

Food Bank Network of Somerset County
PO Box 149, Bound Brook, NJ 08805

On the memo line of the check write Adopt-a-Family and the name of the town where you wish your donation to go.

Volunteers Needed for Fall Leaf Clean Up, November 20

Would you like to help an elderly or disabled person get his or her yard ready for the winter months? The Somerset County Office of Volunteer Services is looking for volunteers for its annual fall leaf clean-up program. Volunteers are needed to rake leaves for elderly and disabled homeowners around the county who have no other means to do yard work. The annual leaf clean-up project will take place Saturday, November 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All participants are invited to lunch at the Office of Volunteer Services. For more information call the Office of Volunteer Services at (908) 541-5715. 4-H Senior Council does this every year. They have a great time!

Military Ideas

Military Mail: The holidays are just around the corner and your club can help cheer up military men and women who are spending their holidays away from home. For more information contact “Friends of Our Troops” PO Box 65408-W, Fayetteville, NC 28306-5408 or visit their website at: http://www.fanmailfortroops.net/
Senior Member Winter Camp
Register by January 7th

Members in grades 9-13th will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp January 21 - 23 2011. This year, Somerset will go with teens from Bergen, Passaic and Warren Counties. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. Cost for the whole weekend is only $50.00. Scholarships are available. For more information contact Lisa Rothenburger, 4-H Office at 908-526-6644 or rothenburger@njaes.rutgers.edu

Edward A. Platz Memorial Scholarship
Deadline November 19

This scholarship is offered by the NJ Agribusiness Association. There are 2 $1500 awards offered to students in NJ who have a rank of sophomore or above in an accredited 4 year college or university in the US, majoring in an agricultural subject area or related field, with intent to pursue a career in a field related to agriculture, with an emphasis on production agriculture. For more information or an application, please contact the 4-H office at 908-526-6644.

Somerset County Youth Conference

The 13th annual Somerset County Youth Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School’s Technology & Conference Center, North Bridge Street/Vogt Drive, Bridgewater. This year the theme is “Dreamin’ Big”. The conference is designed by teens for teens and sponsored by the Somerset County Youth Council. There is no cost to attend but you must pre-register. Dinner is included. It’s open to all teens in 7th - 12th grades. For more information call Sarah Murchison at 908-704-6300 or email: murchis@co.somerset.nj.us
Members must be registered by January 1 to be eligible to compete in the events at our 4-H Fair or state 4-H events! Get Your new member forms in today!

Achievement Dinners
- Arts Achievement Dinner
  Thursday, November 4th, 6:30 pm
- Small Animal Achievement Dinner
  Saturday, November 6th, set-up 6:00 pm
- Livestock Achievement Dinner
  Saturday, November 13th, set-up 6:00 pm
- Dog Project Achievement Dinner
  Sunday, November 14th, 4:30 pm
- Science Achievement Night
  Friday, January 7th, 7 pm
- Horse Achievement Banquet
  Sunday, January 23rd, set-up 5 pm

Loans Available for Livestock Club Members
Did you know that the New Jersey Junior Breeders Loan program can help 4-H members get the funds to purchase livestock? These low interest loans are available for purchasing breeding stock. It is a good way for youth to develop a positive credit rating and become eligible for college scholarships. If you want more information, please contact the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644, and ask for the Junior Breeder Loan information.

Public Presentations 2011
More and more members are participating in Public Presentations each year and the quality of those Presentations continues to improve.

Save the dates- March 18-22-23-24, 2011, to have your presentation judged or critiqued. Before you begin, you might want a few easy tips on how to give a better presentation. See our information below for how your club can schedule a workshop on presentations.

Workshops for Clubs
"How to Run a Meeting" and "How to Give a Presentation"
Your club can reach all it's goals if meetings are run efficiently. We have games and fun activities to bring to your club meeting to help you learn the roles of officers, how to proceed through an agenda and how to define your goals.

It's never too early to start thinking about presentations. In this fun workshop, members learn the parts of a presentation, what the judges look for, how to use visual aids, how to relax and much more.

Contact Barb Navatto to schedule a training at navatto@co.somerset.nj.us or 908-526-6644.

Senior Council Wants You!
Senior Council is a community service club for teens in grade 8 - 13. They meet the 1st Thursday of the month. There are community service activities and leadership opportunities for teens dedicated to the 4-H program. Examples include: assisting the Office on Aging with leaf clean-up in November and S.H.I.P, with their children’s holiday party (complete with Santa and goodies bags), in December. As a group they have enjoyed activities such as attending Norz Hill Farm in October for their spooky trail, the Food 'n Fun luncheon in February, "runners" for the basket raffle in March, teen volunteers for Science-sational Day, various Cloverbud/prep activities...and their all time favorite - manning their own sno-cone booth at the fair. For more information or to join, contact Beth Kavanaugh at 908-439-3751 or sixkav@aol.com.
Essay Contests for All Ages

4-H’ers are invited to enter the following contests sponsored by Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. In each contest, awards will be presented on the local, state and national level. For a complete set of rules and an entry form contact Holly Dunbar at hdunbar@ddcf.org.

AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST

Topic: 2010–2011: In celebration of the 275th anniversary of the birth of Paul Revere, pretend that you are Paul Revere writing your memoirs. Relate various accomplishments for which you wish to be remembered.

Eligibility: Open to all students in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8.

Length: Grade 5: 300 - 600 words. Grades 6, 7, and 8: 600 - 1,000 words.

Deadline: January 31, 2011

For a complete set of rules, contact Holly Dunbar at hdunbar@ddcf.org.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ESSAY CONTEST

Topic: 2010–2011: What lessons from Christopher Columbus’ life can we draw on today to bring clarity to our decision in the face of an uncertain future?.

Eligibility: Open to all students in grades 9, 10, 11, 12.

Length: 800 - 1,200 words.

Deadline: January 1, 2011

For a complete set of rules, contact Holly Dunbar at hdunbar@ddcf.org.

JUNIOR AMERICAN CITIZENS CONTEST

Topic: 2010-2011 Preserving America’s Past

Eligibility: Open to students pre-K through grade 12.

Contest Categories (enter one or more): 1) Poster; 2) Postage Stamp Design; 3) Banner; 4) Photographic Essay; 5) Community Service (for groups); 6) Poem; 7) Short Story.

Group entries may be submitted for Banners or Community Service (does your club participate in a service project?).

Deadline: January 15, 2011

For a complete set of rules, contact Holly Dunbar at hdunbar@ddcf.org.

Become a 4-H Club Health Officer

Did you know that every day, your heart pumps enough blood to fill 150 bathtubs? Or that walking 20 minutes each day will burn off 7 pounds of body fat per year? If you’re interested in health, fitness, and nutrition, becoming a Health Officer is a great way to learn more about these topics and provide leadership for the 4th “H”, HEALTH, in your club! These officers are responsible for carrying out short health activities and challenges at each regular club meeting. The theme for this year’s Healthy Living Program is physical activity. Ask your leader about running for this position and help get your club member’s heart’s pumping and feet moving!

Mark Your Calendars! All of the activities for this year will be distributed at the Health Officers’ training on Friday November 19, 2010 at 7:00 at the 4-H Center. All Health Officers should plan on attending. Please RSVP with your name and club name by November 12th.

Contact Theresa Hanntz to RSVP or for more information at hanntz@co.somerset.nj.us or 908-526-6644.

In the Kids Science Challenge, 4-H kids have fun learning the principals of science and engineering while seeing their ideas come alive. Along with an exciting competition, there is a huge offering of online projects, activities and curricula designed to national science education standards; as well as fun and educational videos, games, interactive learning opportunities and an extraordinary group of kid-friendly scientists and engineers. Kids submit their own problems and experiments to these scientists and then winning ideas are chosen on the basis of originality, do-ability and grasp of scientific principles. The process can be followed online. The competition runs from Oct. 1, 2010 – Feb. 28, 2011. For more information visit their website www.kidsciencechallenge.com.
Exhibitor Guide

Read through your division(s) in the 2010 Exhibitor Guide (available online at www.4HisTops.org) and if you see anything you would like to change, please bring it to the attention of your leader. Leaders, please discuss proposed changes with your division chairs. Division chairs are asked to send changes to the 4-H Office by January 28th so they can be made to the 2011 4-H Fair Exhibitor Guide.

Take Those Pictures!

Now that clubs have started to meet again, this is a great time to think about taking pictures of your club for the Yearbook and Catalog. You might even consider electing a club photographer!

Available Resources On-Line

Visit the National 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System website to find resources for your 4-H project area. The National CCS curriculum is used throughout the US and is found in hard copy. But there are additional on-line resources all volunteers can access for many of the different project areas. Please visit this site and see what resources it offers for your club meetings. http://www.n4hccs.org/

4-H Members can do a project on their own as an independent project member.

Save the date...

4-H FAIR

August 10-11-12, 2011
**Hurray for...**

**Open House a Huge Success!**

The twenty third annual “Join 4-H!” Open House was held at the 4-H Center on October 7, during National 4-H Week. Approximately 300 people came to learn more about 4-H and join 4-H clubs.

The following 4-H clubs were represented at the “Join 4-H” Open House to encourage new members to join: 4-H Magicians Guild, Just Kidding Goat Club, Radical Rodents, Branchburg Beef, Dairy & Livestock, Sidewinders Club, 4-H Go-Kart Club, 4-H Whiskers, Paws & Claws, People Pick-Me-Ups, Twirling Clovers, 4-H Cattleman’s Club, 4-H Country Kickers, Pretty Cool 4-H Puppet Club, BattleBots, Crazy Frog Hoppers, Scale Modelers Club, Broken Props Model Airplanes, Somerset Sentinels, Somerset 4-H Trainmasters, Kings Riders, Chaps & Spurs, Radio Control Car Club, Creations, Woolly Ones, Hoof Beats, 4-H Senior Council, Wattle’s ‘n’ Snood, Chinese Culture Club, M.A.S.H. Marksmen, Doggone Crazy, Exploding Stars, Little Crafters, Mad Scientists, Kindergarten Clovers, Lego Maniacs, Knowledge Explorers.

A special thanks to Esther Craft and Ruth Schmidt for serving refreshments; Dave Rieur, Russ Balliet and Joey Shreve for parking cars; Stephen Fenyar and Au’some Candies & Snacks for donating the fruit snacks; and Tina Pirro and Caitlyn O’Neill for assisting in the Information Booth.

New 4-H clubs starting this year are the Astronomy Club, Cooking Club, Anime & Manga Club, another Lego Robotics club, and several in our Prep/Cloverbud Division. If you would like more information about joining a club, please contact the 4-H office.

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**National 4-H Week Proclamation**

On September 28, the Kavanaugh family (from l. to r.) Shawn, Justin, Duane and Beth, accepted the Proclamation for National 4-H Week at the county freeholder’s meeting. Pictured with the Kavanaughs is Freeholder Director, Jack Ciattarelli.

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**Helpful Teens**

Thanks again to Senior Council for washing all the Fair banners!

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**Seeing Eye Scholarships Awarded**

**Rebecca Aguilar** raised 2 puppies and was awarded a Seeing Eye Scholarship. She is currently attending Rutgers and is involved in the collegiate puppy raising club on campus.

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**Fair Results Scale Modelers Club**

- Colin Reese: Excellent
- Maddie Reese: Excellent
- Mikaela Given: Excellent
- Ryan Digricoli: Very Good
Sue Posbergh Wins Award as 2010 4-H Volunteer

Congratulations to Susan Posbergh- our 2010 YMCA Volunteer Award recipient. Sue is a 4-H Alum of both the Hunterdon and Somerset County 4-H Programs having been in both the Branchburg Dairy and the Hunterdon County Beef Clubs a total of eleven years.

As a 4-H volunteer, Sue started the Four Leaf Clovers outdoor environmental club fifteen years ago and has been an archery instructor for 8 years. She was a leader of the 4-H Poultry Plus club for 8 years and has been the Science Tent and Market Lamb Chairs for seven and two years respectively. Sue is a member of the Somerset County 4-H Association and has served on its Yearbook and Catalog committee and has chaired the Science Achievement Night. She has coordinated Somerset County 4-H Club Camp and helped many years at the Somerset County 4-H Prep Family Camp.

On the state level, Sue was a member of the State 4-H Camp Advisory Council and is a Somerset representative to the State 4-H Animal Project Advisory Council. Sue also works in collaboration with the Hunterdon County 4-H Sheep committee so the Somerset County 4-H Sheep project members can actively participate in educational programs sponsored by our neighboring county. Thanks for all your time and sharing your talents with our 4-H’ers.

State Horse Show Results

Carol Anne Bekus
5th Training Level Test 1, Jr.
3rd Training Level Test 2
9th Pole Bending Pony
4th Bow Tie Horse
3rd Keyhole Pony
5th Barrel Race Pony

Kylie Dickinson
7th Training Level Test 1, Jr.
9th Training Level Test 2

Sarah Rusk
5th Bow Tie Horse
8th Barrel Race Horse

Ashley Thompson
8th Bow Tie Horse
1st Jr. Showmanship & Grooming
6th Jr. Hunter Under Saddle
8th Jr. Showmanship & Grooming

Michele Bergen
4th Jr. Showmanship & Grooming
4th Jr. Pleasure Stock
7th Jr. Equitation on the Flat

Taylor Cox
3rd English Halter
7th English Pleasure Pony
8th Hunter Hack Pony
1st Sr. Equitation over Fences
4th Handy Working Hunter Pony
5th VSE Western & English Halter
6th VSE in Hand Trail
2nd Western Pleasure Pony
4th Junior Western Trail

Samantha Erstavi
5th Jr. Equitation on the Flat

Linnea Warlick
6th Hunter Hack Horse

Justin Dagnall
4th Working Hunter Horse
3rd Handy Working Hunter Horse

Julianna Neinart
8th Western Pleasure Pony

Neha Deshpande
3rd Sr. Western Horsemanship

We apologize, but in last issue, we left off State Horse Show participants Kylie Dickinson and Elizabeth Bergen.
**What's Happening At Lindley G. Cook**

**Summer Camper Winter Reunion - December 27 - 29, 2010**  This annual reunion will have campers and counselors participating in many fun winter activities including snow tubing. This is an opportunity to celebrate the great times of summer camp while making new memories. Cabins are heated. Cost is $150.00, space is limited.

**Plan Now for Summer Camp**  
If you know someone thinking about going to camp this summer, a gift certificate to Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp makes a great holiday present. Summer sessions will run from July 4 - August 13 with fees remaining the same as last year. Check out the website for discounts. Early bird registration runs until March 1, 2011.

**Other Events**  
*Community Service Days:* March 26 & April 9, 2011  
*Outdoor Family Weekend:* May 20 - 22, 2011  
*S.E.T. Camp:* June 28 - July 1, 2011  
*NEW!! Teen Week:* August 22 - 27, 2011

For this and all other updates check their website: [www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu](http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu).

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**4-H Senior Member Winter Camp**  
**Register by January 7th**  
9-13th graders from Somerset County will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp **January 21 - 23, 2011**. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. Applications are available on the website at [www.4HisTops.org](http://www.4HisTops.org). Cost for participants is $50.00. Scholarships are available. This year we are sharing the weekend with Warren, Bergen and Passaic county 4-H’ers.

For additional information, please contact Lisa Rothenburger at 908-526-6644 or [Rothenburger@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:Rothenburger@njaes.rutgers.edu)

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**Camp Events 2011**

**Club Camp**  
April 8-9-10, 2011

**Family Camp**  
June 3-4-5, 2011

**TOPS Camp**  
June 27-July 1, 2011
Mighty Cavits & Rodents
by Ally Mahon, Megan Kouril

Because the club has so many new members, everyone introduced themselves at the last meeting. Nominations were held for club officers. Members began to plan the awards dinner and also choosing a theme for the dinner. Plans were discussed for an upcoming show on September 19. New members learned about the club requirements.

4-H Go-Kart Club
by Ryan Zaborowski

This 2010 year has been a great and busy one for the Go-Kart members. Unlike 2009, there was barely any rain during the 4-H Fair and that allowed the club to race on all 5 of their tracks, do make-ups and fun runs. Even parents had fun driving the member go-karts. Everyone had a blast at this year’s Fair and looks forward to next year. But it didn’t stop there. After the Fair, engines were kept roaring, and on September 26th members proudly came out to support troops at the John Basilone Parade in Raritan. The club impressed General Hummer, his wife and a record crowd as they performed various maneuvers, while people cheered them on and snapped photos.

4-H Cattleman’s Club
by Alanna & Rachel Staffin

The club discussed the many upcoming events. There was excitement over the annual camping trip September 10 – 12. Elections were held in October and officers are: Josh Bruss, president; Debra Winters, vice-president; John Gilliam, treasurer; Rachel Staffin, reporter; Jennifer Weinberg & Jay Vogelaar, photographers; Danielle Staffin, Health Officers. The club welcomed 3 new members. Members decided they wanted to do at least one more fundraiser such as the car wash and to participate in more community service projects. The club will send monies earned to Heifer International. Members participated in a halter breaking lesson.

New Centre Dairy
by Ariel Staffin

Elections were held and the results are: president, Lauren Yutko; vice-president, Alanna Staffin; treasurer, Liz Frank; recording secretary, Mel Boyea; corresponding secretary, Mary Ellen Sousa; reporter, Ariel Staffin; historian, Cary Brochinsky. Congratulations to all new officers! Members discussed the cow shows and how great they all did! Already they can’t wait until next year’s show! Five new members have joined. The club will be hosting the Livestock Achievement Dinner this year. A committee formed for this event. Wreath sales were discussed and the October meeting ended with an ice cream tasting test party.

Battlebots
by Spencer Terry

Battlebots elected officers for the year: president, Matt Jennings; vice-president/secretary/corresponding secretary, Spencer Terry; treasurer, Ian Glass; historian, Peter Philips; health officer, Ryan Betz.

New Cooking Club
by Harry Brochinsky

The As-Yet-Unnamed Cooking Club will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Their first meeting will be on November 10th. At that time the club will be named and a calendar set up for the upcoming year. It promises to be a fun-filled tasty year.

Stablemates
by CarolAnne Bekus

New officers are Stephanie Christian, president; Nicole Malaiko, vice-president; CarolAnne Bekus, Secretary; Kylie Dickenson, treasurer. Congratulations to everyone.
I would like to welcome back all of our returning Prep/Cloverbud members and extend a warm hello to all of our new Cloverbud members. We had another successful Open House and with that will come another exciting year. Saturday, January 8th, 2011 will be our annual New Year’s party. This is when our members and their families get together to celebrate the New Year. We will have dancing and games with a DJ, a potluck dinner, ice cream sundaes and lots of confetti. Please save the date. We are currently working on the Prep/Cloverbud Rally which will be held on Saturday, March 5th, 2011. The theme will be announced in the January Clovertales.

Now that the clubs are beginning to meet again, please remember to send in your club reports so we can put them in the Yakety-Yak section of Clovertales. You can email them to: darby@co.somerset.nj.us. How exciting for your members to share what they are doing during their club meetings with other 4-H clubs. Keep a look out for additional information on all of our upcoming events. I look forward to another great year in 4-H.

Lisa Darby

Yakety – Yak

Little Crafters - Our leaders started the meeting with a little introduction about the club and themselves. Then they went around the room and gave each member an opportunity to introduce themselves. Claire led the first project which was a stuffed felt flower with a ladybug on top. Our first meeting was very successful and we look forward to many more like it this year.

Mad Scientists – The club is gearing up for lots of hands-on experiments! At our first meeting our speaker will be Mrs. B who is a bubbly Bubbleologist (one who studies and shares the science and wonder of bubbles.) In August, the club enjoyed the end-of-the-year family fun gathering. Parents and club members played out-door games from India and shared yummy snacks.

Discovery Prep - The Discovery Prep club is reforming on a new night. We will meet on the 1st Monday of every month. Our first meeting will be on November 1st and we will be examining skeletons. Mrs. Schneiderman and Mr. Brochinsky are very excited about the club. It will be a fun-filled year of science activities.

Exploding Stars - At our first meeting we spent time getting to know one another and talked about plans for the upcoming year. For our first activity we tried to reach the stars by “Going High”. Each member had to build a sky scraper with a piece of cardboard and paper clips. We had several really tall and skinny buildings with paper clip chains to reach the sky. We had a Leaning Tower of Pisa, a strong sturdy, wind resistant building, a rocket building and a circular building. All of our buildings had to withstand a wind tunnel test too! We received positive feedback from our members. The Exploding Stars club is off to a good start.
Knowledge Explorers - During the first meeting, the club welcomed new members, Hannah, Carson, David, Ben, and Becca. We played some "get to know you" games and discussed what kinds of topics everyone might like to explore this year. There was a lot of interest in having a dog, magic and reptile clubs come and visit us. At our October 10th meeting we welcomed two new members, Sangeetua and Varun and learned about magnets and magnetic domains. Members tested different types of magnets to see how strong they were. First, members predicted how many paper clips each type of magnet could support before they fell off. Then we experimented to see how close our guesses were. We discovered that the disk magnets were the weakest and held about 25 clips, the bar magnets held about 50 and the strongest one, the neodymium magnet, held over 250 paper clips!

Cloverbud Kids - Our 4-H club members include Daniel, Andara, Dani, Lacey, Robert, and Katelin. We are having an exciting time making new 4-H friends, learning the 4-H pledge, sharing our ideas for club activities and working on our Cloverbud record books. The Cloverbud Kids enjoyed two "get to know your" activities: Hullaballoo, a game to music where the members bounced, twisted, spun, danced and laughed together and another fun game called “Who’s Here?” where the members were getting to know one another by answering wacky questions like - “If you could invent a new flavor of ice cream, what would it be?” For a new club, the Cloverbud Kids have been very busy!

Save the Date...

PREP/CLOVERBUD FAMILY NEW YEAR’S PARTY
Saturday, January 8 2011        5-8 p.m. at the 4-H Center
Each family coming brings a covered dish to share.
Dancing, Games, Crafts/Confetti, Streamers, & Noisemakers!

4-H PREP/CLOVERBUD RALLY
Saturday, March 5, 2011        9a.m.-2p.m.
Theme to be announced. More information to follow in the Jan./Feb. Clovertales

4-H FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND
L.G. Cook 4-H Camp       June 3-4-5, 2011
Fishing, hiking, boating, crafts and more!
Additional information to follow.

Until next year... be safe, have fun and be sure to tell us all about what you are doing in your club. From everyone at the 4-H Office, have a happy and healthy holiday season.
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January 29 & 30, 2011
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.

Directions to the 4-H Center:
http://somerset.rce.rutgers.edu/directions