I love 4-H!

Save the date...

4-H FAIR

August 8-9-10, 2012
Fall 2011 for Somerset County 4-H

What an exciting time of year it is for Somerset County 4-H! We have lots of new clubs forming and we want to thank everyone who helped with another successful Open House. We had a huge crowd and there were many new families there that night. The Somerset County 4-H program continues to expand, offering new clubs in Creative Writing, Bird Watching, Cooking, Twirling, Small Animals, Photography, and Orchestra!

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 (RCE) 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. Contact our office at 908-526-6644 for information regarding special needs or accommodations. RCE is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact the State Extension Director’s Office if you have concerns related to discrimination, 848-932-5000, ext. 584.

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

2012 Somerset County 4-H Calendar of Events

The 2012 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 2012 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 for 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!

Achievement Dinners

• Livestock Achievement Dinner
  Saturday, November 5th, 6:00 pm

• Dog Project Achievement Dinner
  Sunday, November 6th, 4:30 pm

• Arts Achievement Dinner
  Friday, November 11th, 6:30 pm

• Small Animal Achievement Dinner
  Saturday, November 12th, set-up 6:00 pm

• Science Achievement Night
  Friday, January 6th, 7 pm

• Horse Achievement Banquet
  Saturday, January 14th, set-up 5 pm

4-H Rutgerscience Saturdays

Once again Rutgerscience Saturdays will continue throughout the winter into spring. These programs encourage youth to spur their interest in science and in their everyday lives. Grades 6-9. Upcoming programs:

  Natural Disaster - November 19
  Our Ocean World - January 21

There will be take home activities. Check out the website for more information and dates and times of programs: [http://4hset.rutgers.edu/programs.html](http://4hset.rutgers.edu/programs.html)

Wreath Decorating

November 30

Help is needed on Wednesday, November 30 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.)
4-H Vendor & Craft Expo 2011

November 19

Mark your calendars to attend our one-stop-shopping Vendor & Craft Expo on Saturday, November 19 from 10am to 2pm 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 10 - 11

Calling all 4-H and Community Clubs: Time to start planning your decorated tree to be displayed at the Festival of Trees event December 10th and 11th. It’s a great fundraiser for your club or you can donate your handmade/store-bought ornaments to be sold at the event to benefit a worthy cause. Community clubs, organizations and businesses are invited to put up a tree. The application and flyer are on our website: www.4HisTops.org.

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 28

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 to support our Free Fair! 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 25 at 7:30 am.

Club leaders should pick up wreaths:
• Saturday, November 26, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
• Monday, November 28, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
• Tuesday, November 29, 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 DelGigante, 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 4. The cost is $15.00 decorated; $12.00 plain. Before turning in your money, keep $1.00 per wreath for your club treasury if payment is made to the 4-H Association by December 14. Clubs making payment after December 14 should keep only 50¢ per wreath. Clubs making payments after December 31, 2011 will not be able to keep any money for selling wreaths. Leaders: Money drop-off days, December 12 - 14, 7 - 9 pm, 4-H Center. The 4-H office will accept money if these dates are inconvenient.
Market America for 4-H

Save money and earn cash back by participating in an exciting new Somerset County 4-H Association MARKET AMERICA fundraising program.


If you shop online, you can now enter these and the websites of thousands of other partner stores through the 4-H Association’s website www.marketamerica.com/4h. If you shopped at a particular store previously, your old account will still be there.

When you make a purchase on www.marketamerica.com/4h, the Somerset County 4-H Association receives royalties, YOU earn up to 35% cash back on qualified purchases and you earn 0.5% cash back on the purchases of everyone you refer to our website.

Would you rather shop in the store to see and touch the product you are looking for before you buy it? After comparison shopping on the website, print out a gift card (certificate) for yourself and take it to the store of your choice. You get cash back for the purchase of your gift certificate.

Is there a store where you shop regularly, like Staples? See if they are listed, buy a gift card to use there and get cash back on your usual purchases. You’ll be helping 4-H at the same time.

Getting Started is Easy!

1) Visit our website at www.marketamerica.com/4h
2) Register as a Preferred Customer.
   • Click “Sign In” in the upper right hand corner and select the “No, I am a new customer” option
   • Follow the prompts
   • You are now eligible to earn up to 35% on qualified purchases

2) Go shopping
   • Use the search box at the top of the screen to find a specific item or type of product.
   • Use Shop Partners to find a specific partner like Target or Walmart.
   • Use “Shop All Departments” to shop via category.
   • Use Hot Deals to find special deals and coupons to save even more money.
   • Look for the green dollar icon to find out exactly how much cash back you would be earning on purchases made at that store or on a particular product.

If there are any questions about using these procedures, please call: Ruth Slovik at 908-295-5930.

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BIG Basket Bonanza

Clubs Needed to Help Support this 4-H Association Fundraiser

The BIG Committee is hosting their 5th annual BIG Basket Bonanza tricky tray basket auction on Sunday, March 4, 2012, to raise funds for the 4-H Center. Last year's event was a BIG success thanks to the many clubs, local businesses and organizations that participated by contributing to the prizes.

Themed baskets are welcome; all items should be new and in original packaging with a combined value of at least $20. But the committee can also use cash of any amount to be combined for big prizes, gift cards or single items. Be creative! Think about what you might like to receive as a gift. Please send or drop your donation at the 4-H Office Annette.L.Smutko@gsk.com.
**BIG Rummage Sale a Success**

**Build - Invest - Grow**

**You did it again!** Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers, the sixth annual BIG Rummage Sale, held September 16-17 at the 4-H Center, was a BIG success.

Once again the gym and most of the meeting rooms were packed with treasures and people were lined up to buy when we opened the doors.

This year we made almost $10,000. The goal is a new roof for the 4-H Center.

Our volunteers were led by Betty Sommerville, Kim Miholics and Pam Williams, and Sue MacCombie and Elaine Mulroony 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. 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 19, our bigger and better Festival of Trees on December 10 and 11, and our fourth annual BIG Basket Bonanza tricky tray on Sunday, March 4, 2012.

New BIG Committee members are welcome; contact chairman Maggie Navatto at mnavatto@yahoo.com.
**Community Service Ideas**

**United Way for Holiday Cheer**

Clubs are needed to help share holiday joy with those less fortunate by helping United Way of Northern New Jersey, Somerset County's Gifts of the Season program. Information on specific individuals in need in Somerset County is provided by local health and human services agencies. **Gift Drop Off:** Thursday & Friday, December 8 & 9 between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

**Gift Sorting & Tagging:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 12 - 14, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm., December 13 -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@unitedwaynnj.org

**Wrapped in Love Drop Off:** Thursday & Friday, December 8 & 9, 9:00 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 on the Gifts of the Season / Wrapped in Love Programs, or for locations of different events, please contact 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 19**

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 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** 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 6th

Members in grades 9-13th will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp January 20 - 22, 2012. 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. Applications are available on the website, the 4-H office and with Maryann, the Center Night Manager. For more information contact Lisa Rothenburger, at 908-526-6644 or rothenburger@njaes.rutgers.edu.

Edward A. Platz Memorial Scholarship
Deadline November 21

This scholarship is offered by the NJ Agribusiness Association. There are two $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.

Holiday Inn, Clinton, NJ
Open to All 4-H Teens
Grades 8 - 13

North Jersey Teen Conference
March 9-11

Somerset County Youth Conference

The 15th annual Somerset County Youth Conference will be held on Thursday, November 17, 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 “Community Unity”.

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 to the 4-H Office today!

**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.

**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 visit our website or contact the 4-H Office, 908-526-6644, and ask for the Junior Breeder Loan information.

**Public Presentations 2012**

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

Save the dates- March 20 - 22 (afternoons) and March 26-29 (evenings), 2012, 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 above for how your club can schedule a workshop on presentations.

**Equine Scholarship Offered**

The NJ Equine Advisory Board has announced a $1,000 scholarship to help 4-H and FFA members, as well as any young adult that is a member of a NJ Equine organization represented on the NJ Equine Advisory Board, pursue their equine activities.

The Sara Dubinin Scholarship, in memory of Sara, who loved horses, will be presented at the NJ Bred Equine Breeder Awards Dinner on January 15, 2012, at Charley’s Other Brother Restaurant in Eastampton.

Those interested in receiving the scholarship must submit an essay on, “How horses have affected my life and how horses figure into my future.” Consideration of applications will be weighted upon the candidate’s financial need.

The deadline to submit the essay is December 1, 2011. It can be submitted to Debra Moscatiello at (609) 984-4389 or debra.moscatiello@ag.state.nj.us.

**Attention New and Returning Health Officers**

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 or sharing healthy facts at each regular club meeting.

Mark Your Calendars! Materials and information for this year will be distributed at the Health Officers’ training on Friday November 18, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the 4-H Center. All Health Officers should plan on attending. Please RSVP with your name and club name by November 14th.

Contact Theresa Hanntz to RSVP or for more information at hanntz@co.somerset.nj.us or 908-526-6644.
Somerset County 4-H
“Careers & County Government” Day for 6-7-8 Grade Students - February 7, 2012

The Somerset County 4-H Youth Development Program and the Board of Chosen Freeholders are once again teaming up to sponsor a special career program for 6-7-8 graders on Thursday, February 7, 2012.

Since County Government performs many different functions, there are many types of careers represented by it. Therefore, participants do not have to be interested in a government job to take part. Participants will be matched with a County Division that matches a career interest. The students will then spend the day “shadowing” a high-level Division official to learn about that career type. The program is open to both Somerset County 4-H members and non-members who are county residents. Preference will be given to students who have not participated before. There is no charge. Students must provide their own transportation and lunch.

Application forms are available online at www.4HisTops.org. Completed applications are due December 2, 2011. For more information, call the 4-H Office at 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, 2011 – Feb. 28, 2012. For more information visit their website www.kidssciencechallenge.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.

2012 NEW JERSEY DAR SCHOLARSHIP
The New Jersey State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution is offering one one-time scholarship to a 2012 graduating senior from a New Jersey high school. In past years, the amount of the scholarship has been $2,000.

Deadline: December 5, 2011.

AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST
Theme: Pretend you were alive during the War of 1812 and had a friend who has become famous in history because of standing up for America during that exciting but dangerous time. Describe the person and how he or she stood up for America. Explain why it is important to honor such heroes when we celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812.

Eligibility: Open to all students in grades 5 - 8.
Deadline: January 15, 2012

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ESSAY CONTEST
Theme: Describe Christopher Columbus as he was understood in three different time periods: What did 15th century people think about his accomplishments? How did 19th-century historians view him? How did Columbus, who had primitive ships and no computers or modern navigation equipment, affect our lives today?

Eligibility: Open to all students in grades 9 - 12.
Deadline: December 5, 2011

JUNIOR AMERICAN CITIZENS CONTEST
Theme: “Enhance the Present”
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. Deadline: January 15, 2012
Hurray for...

Open House a Huge Success!

The twenty fourth annual “Join 4-H!” Open House was held at the 4-H Center on October 6, during National 4-H Week. Approximately 300 people came to learn more about 4-H.

The following 4-H clubs were represented at the “Join 4-H” Open House to encourage new members to join: 4-H Magicians Guild, Anime & Manga Club, Bird Watching Club, Creative Writing Club, Just Kidding Goat Club, Radical Rodents, Branchburg Beef, Dairy & Livestock, 4-H Go-Kart Club, 4-H Whiskers, Paws & Claws, Slot Car Club, Twirling Clovers, 4-H Country Kickers, Pretty Cool 4-H Puppet Club, Scale Modelers Club, Broken Props Model Airplanes, Somerset Sentinels, Udder Club, Somerset 4-H Trainmasters, Chaps & Spurs, Hoof Beats, 4-H Beekeeping Club, 4-H Senior Council, Wattles ‘n’ Snood, Chinese Culture Club, Doggone Crazy, Furry Friends, Here Tomorrow, K-9 Seeing Eye Puppy Club, 4-H Cattleman’s Club, New Twirling Club, PAWSabilities, People Pick-Me-Ups, Photography, 4-H Orchestra, Exploding Stars, Little Crafters, Discovery Prep, Knowledge Explorers, Kindergarten Clovers.

New 4-H clubs starting this year are Creative Writing, Bird Watching, a second Cooking Club, a second Twirling Club, a Small Animal Club that takes Cloverbud members, Photography, 4-H Orchestra and another Robotics Club. If you would like more information about joining a club, please contact the 4-H office.

National 4-H Week Proclamation

On September 27, the Brochinsky family (from l. to r.) Harry, Dale, Jill, Evan, Carey, accepted the Proclamation for National 4-H Week at the county freeholder’s meeting. Pictured with the Brochinskys is Freeholder Deputy Director, Patricia L. Walsh.

Seeing Eye Scholarships Awarded

The following 4-H Puppy Raisers received Seeing Eye Scholarships this year:

William Hartmann, President of the club and 4-H Scholarship winner - received the Anton and Augusta Birkel Foundation Scholarship and is attending Defiance College, Defiance, OH majoring in Digital Forensics.

Becki Lane - a 12 year member from Prep through High School, received the Edward A. Bragaline Scholarship, and is attending Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA, majoring in Occupational Therapy.

Austin Perry - received an Albert Payson Terhune Scholarship and is attending The College of NJ, majoring in Business Management.

Katie Sommero - an 8 year member, received a Seeing Eye Puppy Raiser Service Scholarship. She is attending the Catholic University of America as a Liberal Arts major.

Happy Holidays
State Horse Show Results

Carol Anne Bekus
3rd Sr. Hunter Type HUS
1st Pleasure Type HUS Pony
7th Hunter Hack Horse
4th USEF Training Level Test 1
5th USEF Training Level Test 2
8th Pole Bending Pony
9th Bow Tie Pony
8th Key Hole Pony

Taylor Cox
10th English Halter
2nd Hunter Type HUS Pony
6th Sr. Equitation Over Fences
1st Working Hunter Pony
1st Handy Working Hunter Pony
10th Key Hole Pony
7th Western Pleasure Pony
9th Senior Western Trail

Brianna LiBrizzi
9th Jr. Hunter Type HUS

Samantha Eristavi
6th Hunter Type HUS Pony
6th Jr. Equitation on the Flat
6th Handy Working Hunter Pony

Sarah Rusk
9th Bow Tie Horse
7th Barrels Horse

Alyssa Valvano
9th Jr. Pleasure Type HUS

Julianna Neinart
4th Pleasure Type HUS Pony
6th Sr. Equitation on the Flat
6th Western Pleasure Pony

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.

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!
**Summer Camper Winter Reunion - February 24 - 26, 2012** 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 2 - August 11 with a $50 discount for 4-H members. Check the website for additional discounts. Early bird registration runs until March 1, 2012.

**Other Events**
- **Outdoor Family Weekend:** May 18 - 20, 2012
- **S.E.T. Camp:** June 26 - June 29, 2012
- **NEW!! Teen Week:** August 20 - 25, 2012 (tentative)

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 6th**

9-13th graders from Somerset County will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp **January 20 - 22, 2012**. 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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**4-H Summer Campers**

These Somerset County 4-H members participated in the state 4-H summer camp programs:

Mollie Booker, Cary Brochinsky, Evan Brochinsky, Patty Chan, Ricson Cheng, Sunny Cheng, Kirsten Clerico, Margaret Cyr-Ohngemach, Elizabeth Dry, Austin Fan, Nicholas Gagliardi, Jakub Goraczniak, Shanna Gryder, Casey Hennessy, Eileen Hennessy, Jenna Juechter, Michael Kalenty, Erin Kopecky, Rebecca Korsgaard, Allen Luy, Dillon Monti, Ryan Shreve, Donohue Sweeney, Teagan Sweeney, Gavin VanSkiver, Casey Wasserman, Michael Wasserman, Steven Wasserman.
Cattleman’s Club
by Danielle Staffin

Members held elections at their first meeting:
President: Jen Weinberg; Vice-President: Deborah Winters; Secretary: Alexa Johnson; Treasurer: Caleb Bruss; Reporter: Danielle Staffin; Photographers: Jay Winters & Emily Milz; Health Officer: Levi Bruss. The club is looking forward to an awesome year!

Criations
by Steph Duffy

Members held elections at their first meeting:
President: Deanna Farber; Vice-Presidents Scott Weiss & Kimberley Duffy; Treasurer: George Bright; Secretary: Todd Gallagher; Recording Secretary: Stephanie Duffy. The club discussed Fair and past fundraisers. New members seem eager to learn. Welcome to Jacob Blumberg, Sarah Parisi and Emily Wallace.

Pocket Pet Rescue Home

The club had a great Fair. At their first meeting they welcomed new members and a new leader for the year. Officers were elected and goals for the upcoming year discussed. Among the topics were community service projects, other kinds of service projects, presentations, field trips and showing member animals at the small animal shows. The club is setting high goals for the year and hopes to accomplish them.

Woolly Ones
by Mary Mclaughlin

The Woolly Ones got together at Dutch Hollow Farm for a club picnic in September. The club welcomed new members, Katie, Becky, Megan and Katie K. At their first meeting, members talked about the fair and brainstormed new ideas for the coming year! Members also brought some sheep to Lord Stirling Park for the 1770's festival where they talked to the public about their animals.

Just Kidding
by Jacob Bell

Members held elections at their first meeting:
President: Taylor Johnson; Vice-President: Jack Cochran; Secretary: Shawn Kavanaugh; Treasurer: Jenna Juechter; Reporter: Jacob Bell. Mrs. Navatto came to visit the club and taught members how to correctly do a presentation. Members voted for a community outreach project to collect items for Operation Shoebox. A recreational activity still needs to be determined.

4-H Senior Council
by Pamela Gilligan

Members held elections at their first meeting: President: Dan Peterson; Vice-President: Alyssa Peterson; Corresponding & Recording Secretary: Pam Gilligan; Treasurer: Dan Memoli. Members will be raking leaves for the Office of Volunteer Services on November 19.

Wattles 'n' Snood
by Kyrstin Schwarz

The club welcomed 10 new members and held their election of officers. Record books were handed out. Members have already sold 20 wreaths. A trip to the Middlesex County Haunted House is being planned and the Poultry Award Dinner will be held on November 19.

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.
I would like to welcome back all our returning Cloverbud/Prep members and extend a warm welcome to all our new Cloverbud members. Open House is behind us and with that I look forward to another successful and exciting year. Now that your clubs are meeting again, please remember to send in your reports, telling us what your club is doing so that we can put it in the Yakety-Yak section of Clovertales. You can email them to me at darby@co.somerset.nj.us. How exciting to share what you are doing at your meetings with other 4-H clubs.

Please mark your calendars for our Cloverbud/Prep New Year’s party which will be held on Saturday January 7, 2012. This is when our prep members and their families get together to celebrate the New Year. We will have some dancing and games with DJ Mike from Music N Motion, a pot luck dinner, ice cream sundaes and lots of confetti. Please save the date.

We are currently working on the Cloverbud/Prep Rally which will be held on Saturday, March 3rd, 2012. The theme will be announced in the January Clovertales.

Welcome back, I look forward to another memorable year in the Somerset County 4-H.

Lisa Darby

Yakety - Yak

Knowledge Explorers - We had our first meeting on 9/16/11. We welcomed three new members. Mrs. Rall talked to us about “spinning”. First, everyone got two eggs and had to figure out which one was hard boiled and which one wasn’t (amazingly, no egg broke during this experiment!) and we learned why they spin differently. Then we used string and a wooden disk to make a “Whizzer” which spins when you pull and release the string. By using different colors to decorate the disk, we discovered all sorts of neat patterns appeared as the disk spun on the string.

Discovery Prep - We will be welcoming new members and making leaf rubbings to celebrate fall. We are looking forward to a fun year of 4-H.

Cloverbud Kids - In June, our topic was RC cars. Kelson & Scout’s Dad gave the club a wonderful presentation; he brought in lots of RC cars and trucks. He explained how they work and let the Cloverbud Kids give a few cars a spin around in the gym. The highlight of the night was the Drone! Cloverbud Kids wish to thank Mr. Lowrie for taking the time to come to their meeting and let the members enjoy a great night with RC cars.

In July we prepared craft items which we displayed in the prep tent at the fair. We made hearts and signs saying why we Love 4-H so much. We also decorated clovers.

August, we ventured out on our last club trip of the year before the fair. Lacey’s grandfather invited the Cloverbud Kids to Washington Crossing State Park for a Revolutionary encampment. We participated in a musket drill and saw 18th century crafters (spinning, wood making & leather making). It was an enjoyable afternoon. Thank you to Mr. Valis for inviting the Cloverbud Kids to such a fun event.
For our first meeting in September we started off with lots of laughs and smiles by playing fun get to know you games where each member was able to wear super silly hats. We also made a craft, a 4-H Pledge foam banner that each member could hang at home to help them practice the 4-H Pledge.

Upcoming meetings:
10/8 - Open Air Theater at Washington Crossing State Park for the play The Sorcerer's Apprentice
10/14 - 4-H Center for pumpkin night, learning the parts of a pumpkin, decorating pumpkins and baking with pumpkin.
11/11 - 4-H center for fall sand art craft & apple night
11/12 Howell Living Farm for apple cider and candle making plus farm animals
12/9 - Set up our Cloverbud Kids tree for the Festival of Trees and special presentation - spinning wheel demonstration by Mrs. Chisarick.

Save the Date

CLOVERBUD/PREP FAMILY NEW YEAR’S PARTY
Saturday, January 7 2012
5-8 p.m. at the 4-H Center
Each family please bring a covered dish to share.
Dancing, Games, Crafts, Confetti, Streamers & Fun

4-H PREP/CLOVERBUD RALLY
Saturday, March 3, 2012
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
Friday, June 1 - Sunday, June 3, 2012
Fishing, hiking, boating, crafts and more!
Additional information to follow.

From all of us at the 4-H office, be safe, have fun, and enjoy the New Year!
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**November**

- November 5th - 7th: AEFE Congress
- November 5th: Awards Banquet
- November 6th: Board of Directors Meeting
- November 7th: Awards Banquet
- November 8th: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 9th: AEFE Congress
- November 10th: Awards Banquet
- November 11th: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 12th: AEFE Congress
- November 13th: Awards Banquet
- November 14th: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 15th: AEFE Congress
- November 16th: Awards Banquet
- November 17th: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 18th: AEFE Congress
- November 19th: Awards Banquet
- November 20th: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 21st: AEFE Congress
- November 22nd: Awards Banquet
- November 23rd: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 24th: AEFE Congress
- November 25th: Awards Banquet
- November 26th: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 27th: AEFE Congress
- November 28th: Awards Banquet
- November 29th: Board of Directors Meeting

- November 30th: AEFE Congress
- December 1st: Awards Banquet
- December 2nd: Board of Directors Meeting

- December 12th: AEFE Congress
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January 28 & 29, 2012
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
$4.00 Adult
$2.00 Children under 12

Concessions available all day.

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