Dear Members, Leaders and Parents:

With all our clubs filled to capacity, 4 new ones starting up, an extremely successful Science-sational Day, a huge group of participants for presentations and a truly outstanding basket auction, Operation Clover is going strong! And we’ve only just begun!

Coming up is CloverCon, A LEGO Educational Event, a visit from former NASA Astronaut, Terry Hart, Family Camp, the Somerset Trainmasters Train Show, our hugely successful TOPS camp and of course the Somerset County 4-H Fair!

Keep checking out the Fair Page for the latest updates and details. This will have all the information you need to prepare for Fair. Please spend time looking through the Open Divisions to see what interests you as well as your own club division.

Thank you for all you do for Somerset County 4-H. Keep up the good work. Remember that together we continue “To Make the Best Better”.

Lisa Rothenburger  
County 4-H Agent

Carol Ward  
County 4-H Agent

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.

Remember 4-H is for everyone, everywhere!

The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Cooperative Extension. 4-H educational programs are offered to all youth, grades K-13, on an age-appropriate basis, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, military service, veteran status, and any other category protected by law. 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, 848-932-5853.

2013 Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders
Peter S. Palmer, Director • Patrick Scaglione, Deputy Director • Robert Zaborowski • Patricia L. Walsh • Mark Caliguire

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.
Leaders' & Parents' Outlook

Leaders May Nominate Outstanding 4-H'ers - Applications Due June 1

Members in 11th grade or older should be encouraged to apply to be a Somerset County Outstanding 4-H'er. If you feel a member of your club has proven themselves outstanding in the areas of leadership, personal growth, participation, achievement, attitude and contribution to the total program, you may write a reference for them and help them to complete the application. Applications are available online at http://www.4HisTOPS.org, in Maryann's Evening Office or the 4-H Office. Due date is June 1 and recipients will be honored at the July 17th 4-H Association Meeting.

Fair Exhibitor Guide Update

Updates to the 4-H Fair Exhibitor Guide will be available on the website as they come in and are approved. There will be only a limited number of hard copies available for those who request them.

The guide will be divided into sections and divisions. To reference the Guide you will go to www.4HisTops.org and click the link for the Somerset County Fair. On the right side of the Fair page will be links and the Exhibitor Guide will be listed in the links. The link will navigate to a page with the Guide listed in sections.

CloverCon 2013 - May 19

The 4-H Anime & Manga Club: “The Village Hidden in the Clovers” will be hosting their third mini-convention at the 4-H Center on May 19, 11am - 7pm. So, come and see what's happening if you're already an “otaku” or “fan” or just curious about experiencing the many faces of this pervasive visual & aural art form originating in Japan. If you like, come dressed as a favorite anime/manga character and greet your other fellow adventurers. Featured events will be a Cosplay Catwalk, an Artists’ Alley, Dealers Area, WacDonald’s, Silent Auction, Labyrinth, Anime Parliament, Anime Screenings, Manga Reading Room, Workshops, and exciting games: Anime Jeopardy, Pokemon Video & YuGiOh! Tournaments, Super Smash Brothers Melee with perhaps a Pokemon Card Tournament, too. A fundraiser for Hurricane Sandy Relief will take place along with music and dancing. Pre-register for just $5 or pay just $10 at the door to enter a whole 'nother world. If you want to donate goods or come as an artist or dealer or run a panel discussion or workshop, please check out our website at: http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/CloverCon.html.
Alumni Newsletter for Fair

Holly Dunbar, 4-H horse club alumna and 4-H Association member, is looking for news of 4-H alumni for this year’s edition of the Alumni Newsletter. Many Somerset County 4-H parents, leaders and other volunteers are alumni, and we are asking them to take a minute to send an update on what they are doing now, how they are supporting 4-H today, or to share a favorite memory of their days in 4-H.

♦ What are you doing today?
♦ Did 4-H provide a start to your current career or a hobby?
♦ What do you consider to be the highlight of your days as a 4-H’er? What was your favorite activity or event?
♦ As a 4-H’er did you attend 4-H camp? What is your favorite memory from camp?
♦ What do you consider to be the highlight of your days as a 4-H’er?
♦ Do you encourage your children or other young people to participate in 4-H? Why?
♦ How do you support 4-H now? (leader, volunteer, purchase a wreath, attend the fair, etc.)

This is your chance to reconnect with old friends and help us tell the story of how our involvement in 4-H has impacted our lives. Please send your response to one of the questions above, or any information that you would like to share with alumni, to Holly at hdunbar@verizon.net. Be sure to include your name and the name and project area of your club, along with the name of the county where you were a member. And photos, past or present are welcome! Thank you!

Mark These State 4-H Show Dates...

### Dairy:
- August 12: State Dairy Show in Salem County

### Goat:
- August 22: State Goat Show in Hunterdon County

### Equine:
- June 23: Somerset County 4-H Qualifying Show
- July 7: Somerset County 4-H Qualifying Show
- August 17: Equestrian of the Year in Monmouth Co.
- August 23-25: State Horse Show at Horse Park of NJ

### Small Animals:
- September 7: State Rabbit, Cavy, Small Animal, Herpetology & Poultry Show, Gloucester County

Summer Science Camp

**For Gifted and Talented Youngsters**

Rutgers University Summer Session is proud to announce their 3-credit 2013 Summer Session course called “Experiments with GFP: The Art and the Science.” Taught by a career-long expert in biochemistry and bioluminescence, this hands-on lab course is available to gifted and talented children ages 10 through 17.

Registration information and administrative details about this course are available on-line at [http://summer.rutgers.edu/highschool](http://summer.rutgers.edu/highschool). The meeting place is the Cook Campus (SEBS) biochemistry lab/lecture suite located on the second floor of Lipman Hall, 76 Lipman Drive, New Brunswick. The course runs from 9 am to 12 noon 5 days a week for 3 weeks.

Fundraising Activities

If your club is going to be participating in fundraisers beyond the 4-H Wreath Sales and Yearbook Ad Sales, please let the 4-H office know. Thank you!!!

Please check our website for our Fundraising proposal and worksheet.

Always check out the website at [www.4HisTops.org](http://www.4HisTops.org) for the latest information about Somerset County 4-H and other important opportunities for members and their families.
National 4-H Conference

By Kristen Johnson

In the first week of April, Somerset County 4-H’ers, Kristen Johnson and Debra Winters represented New Jersey at the National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C. This conference was comprised of delegates from all 50 states, Canada and Puerto Rico.

The objective was to take all the delegates and assign them each to a small group to formulate a solution to a current topic in what was known as "roundtables". Debra's roundtable was “Nutrition and Healthy Living” where she proceeded to present to the Department of Human Health Services. Kristen's roundtable was “Military Youth and Families” where she presented at the Pentagon to the Department of Defense.

What Debra and Kristen enjoyed most was meeting new people and the night monument tour. They also enjoyed working for a common cause with teens of different backgrounds but all with a love of 4-H.

Outstanding 4-H'er
Applications Due June 1

Members who are in 11th grade or older this year, should apply to be a Somerset County Outstanding 4-H’er. You will need to complete an application and have a written reference from an adult 4-H volunteer.

To be considered an Outstanding 4-H'er a 4-H member should be truly deserving of the award by excelling in the following areas:

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

Applications are available online http://www.4HisTops.org or in Maryann’s office at night, or in the 4-H office during the day. Due date is June 1 and recipients will be honored at the July 17 Association Meeting.

Herdsmen Applications –
Due July 5

If you are in 8th grade or older and are interested in being a herdsman at the 4-H Fair, you MUST fill out an application and attend an orientation. Look for more information in Fair Facts. http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/pdfs/4h-2013-Youth-Herdsman.pdf
North Jersey Teen Conference

The theme for the 2013 North Jersey Teen Conference (NJTC) was Mysteries. This was a theme in which 4-H’ers had to solve different crimes such as - who stole a ‘green clover gem’, to who must have stolen a hotel safe during a CSI (crime scene investigation) workshop we participated in. The Somerset County prosecutors came to NJTC and gave a presentation telling participants how they collect blood samples at crime scenes, how to interpret blood splatters and how to identify the point of attack a gunman used by examining the bullet entry points in a victim's clothing. We also got to learn about other strategies policemen use when looking at active crime scenes.

At the end of the Conference, two of the New Jersey 4-H county teams put together a hypothetical survival activity for us, in which we had to prioritize which objects at a plane crash site were important and to estimate how long we could survive given the availability of needed supplies.

NJTC is a good introduction to state level 4-H events and activities, and a great way to meet people from other parts of New Jersey. NJTC is a great opportunity for 4-H’ers to learn more about our state and national level activities (such as National Conference and Citizenship Washington Focus), and allows us to expand our horizons beyond our local Somerset County interests and to bond with other teenagers from our state.

Many thanks to all the Somerset County 4-H’ers who were part of the planning committee, Kristen Johnson, Debra Winters, Alyssa Peterson, Jill Newbold, Matthew Thiel, Dan Peterson, Katie Kouril and Jake Vitaliano. Special thanks to chaperone, Shannon Zimmitti, who helped to make this a great event.

By: Jill Newbold

Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp Counselor Opportunities

Become a camp counselor at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp in Stokes State Forest. Anyone sixteen or older may volunteer to be a counselor for one or more weeks this summer. Mandatory counselor training is available. Visit the Camp Website for more information: http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/

Citizen Washington Focus

Congratulations to these 4-H members who will be representing Somerset County at CWF in July:

Emily Ma
Melissa Smutko
Julia Meier
Kimberley Duffy
Plan Your Club’s Fair Exhibit Now

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

Remember the 2013 4-H Fair theme…

Operation: Clover

Foods Judging
July 27, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Any 4-H member who would like to have Breads, Cake Decorating or Dairy Foods judged should bring these items between 11:00 - 3:00 pm on July 27. These are Open Divisions and rules are listed in the 2012 Exhibitor Guide. Foods and Nutrition Project members will have their food and nutrition units judged at this time. Pre-register with the 4-H Office by July 20.

Clothing Judging
June 6 - 7 pm Units 1 & 2
June 11 - 7 pm Units 3 & Up

For members enrolled in the 4-H clothing construction project. Please register with your leader.

¡Bienvenidos a Neustro Club!

Youth in grades 3 - 13 are invited to join the new Hispanic Culture Club! Learn about food, art, music, dance and traditions of many Latin American cultures! Meetings will be held at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Somerville on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in May only and then 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm. For more info contact Luz Alvarez at Luzmiriana17@hotmail.com or Ellen Parker at hookcookbook@gmail.com.

New Music Club
Open to all Grades!

♦ Learn to play the piano
♦ Help form a mini orchestra or band
♦ Play for local organizations

This new club is open to all, grades K-13! The club will be meeting in the Yellow Room of the 4-H Center on the 2nd & 4th Fridays. For more information, contact the 4-H office at 908-526-6644 or somersetcounty4h@co.somerset.nj.us.

Spring Club Camp Musings

By Betty Sommerville

Snow on the ground & some flurries greeted us this time! Although not enough for snow tubing by the lake, on Saturday morning, we did break a trail out to the labyrinth & stomped out a round-about path there.

Members of the Puppetry, Wooley Ones, Kickers & Village Hidden in the Clovers Clubs mixed it up with lots of games, anime & laughter. We ate well including grilling hotdogs on the campfire for lunch. A shorter hike than usual happened before supper. Later on s’mores & improv by the fireplace topped off the weekend.

As always, 4-H Camp rocks! But no actual rocks were moved this time, we’ll add more next time in October.
Hurray for the 4-H members who participated in Public Presentations! They are:

**Alpaca, Inc.**
Sydney Billera
George Bright*
Taylor Ciattarelli*
Deanna Farber*
Benjamin Lewis
Sarah Parisi
Danny Philipshek*
Allison Thyne
Emily Wallace
Breanna White*
Cheyenne White

**Astronomy Club**
Dustin Copeland
Ricson Cheng*

**Battlebots**
Ian Martin
Peter Romayev
Alex Strasser

**Cattleman’s Club**
Caleb Bruss*
Joshua Bruss*
Levi Bruss
Holly Fitzpatrick*
Alexa Johnson*
Danielle Staffin*
Rachel Staffin*
Jennifer Weinberg*

**Chaps & Spurs**
Sarah Dagnall*
Kara Johnson
Kristen Johnson*

**Chinese Culture Club**
Savern Lau*

**Clover Ensemble**
Heyden Verbanas

**Club Clanga**
Joseph Figliano

**Crazy Frog Hoppers**
Mellissa Smutko*

**Creative Writing**
Vishva Chidamboran
Siddharth Gupta
Neha Nirmal
Surya Pillai
Shree Raghauan
Cassandra Siniscalco
Sarah Wise

**Fantastic Fiber Club**
Emily Ward*

**Fantastic FotoFanatics**
Rashni Gala
Sarah Hujber

**Furry Friends**
Caleb Bell
Eli Bell
Isaac Bell
Jacob Bell
Casey Billera
Mikayla Couch*
Olivia Couch

**Gingersnaps**
Daria Monti
Eliza Rothenburger

**Grade A Beef Club**
Sarah Gillies
Emily Milz
Jay Winters*

**Hippity Happity Happy Handlers**
Jenna Sweetman
Sophie Winter

**Hoof Beats**
Elizabeth Bergen
Michele Bergen
Denise Grohn*

**Just Kidding**
Maeve Egan*
Taylor Johnson*
Jenna Juechter*
Justin Kavanaugh
Allison Parascandola
Carol Ann Perry
Davis Perry

**K-9 Seeing Eye**
Emily Hill*

**Master Chefs**
Evan Brochinsky
Samantha DeProspo
Lauren Niemeyer
Ashley Stamets

**Mighty Cavits & Rodents**
Todd Gallagher*
Caroline Hands
Emma Hands
Austin Raymond
Daniel Sutherland
Judah Sutherland

**Mind Your Bees & Wax**
Rashni Gala
SarahMichaela Ruvinsky
Samantha Shephard

**Movie Making Masters**
Isha Gupta

**New Centre Dairy**
Melissa Bright*
Sarah Fenwick*
David Furmato*
Josh Miller*
Kyla Morgan
Alex Norz
Susie Norz
Grace O’Sullivan
Molly O’Sullivan
Katherine Schenflen
Mary Ellen Sousa*

**PAWSabilities**
Jennifer Clougher
Kate Gallagher
Allison Koopman
Ashley Korbeil*
James Meier
Julia Meier*
Samantha Pellicone*
Jennifer Versfelt*
Kayla Versfelt

**Pocket Pet Rescue**
Chelsea Obermeier*

**Prep Chefs**
Dale Brochinsky

**Radical Rodents**
Allison Dempsey*
Brianna Glowinski
Valerie Kral
Sarah McDonnell
Johnathan Schramm*

**Radio Control Cars**
Owen Booker
Brian Kober
Matthew Thiel*

**Raving Robots**
Sunny Cheng
Rahul Ramanathan

**Senior Council**
Sarah Bijaczyk
Becca Francis
Alyssa Peterson*
Public Presentations on March 12-13-14-18-19-20-21 (continued)

Dan Peterson*
Riddhima Rao*
Shruti Ramanathan*
Scott Weiss*

Sheepfold
Teresa Buzzoni
Richie Granja
Kristi Philipsheck*

Sidewinders
Daniel Furmato
Noah Rothenburger

Somerset Servos
Madara Dias*
Nelusha Dias
Scott Webster

Somerset Trainmasters
Zachary Alvara
Zayn Aldabagh*
Mathew Amerman
Chase Brickman*
Cary Brochinsky*
Thomas Davidson
Benjamin Dickholtz
Douglas Evans*
Zachary Ferreira
Derek Fought*
Nick Gagliardi*
Zachary Gumble
Bobby Gwiazda

Thomas Healy
James Hughes
Matthew Jones
Thomas Presley*
Daniel Rosario*
Kenneth Rosario*
David Sanders
Thomas Sanders
Ricky Sepe
Andrew Simmons
Anthony Siniscalco
Gregory Veneziale
Hunter Waldron
Christian Wizda

Christine Jensen*
Erin Kopecyk*
Justin Kopecyk
Lizzy McGrath*
Sean McGrath
Amanda Miller
Amy Miller*
Helen Newbold
Jill Newbold*
Destiny Pappas
Whitney Porter*
Kiera Semcer
Sarah Stamets*
Greta Wickman

Wattles & Snood
Kimberley Duffy*
Stephanie Duffy*
Reed VanDerMeiren*
Alexandra Wick*

Whiskers, Paws & Claws
Phoenix Fela
Kieron Wiggins*

Woof
Kristen Andreychak*
Alexandra Baxter
Rachel Blumberg
James Clelland*
Kirsten Clerico
Morgan Czajkowski*
Chloe Devero
Rebecca Dry*
Barbara Follett*
Lexi George
Emily Helm*
Emily Hickson
Megan Hickson
Sheridan Hoyt
Laura Karg*
Shannon Kile*
Alli Maher
Victoria Marconi*
Veronica Moditz*
Kristen Obermeier*
Stephanie Patullo
Rowan Pendegraph
Shannon Reinhart
Molly Shanahan
Katie Updegrove
Brianna Zeitler

Woolly Ones
Alyssa Figliano
Nicholas Francis
Katie Kouril*
Elijah Staats
Wil Staats*

*These 4-H’ers have received an invitation to State Presentations on June 8th.

National Volunteer Week

Representing Somerset County 4-H and holding the proclamation given out by Freeholder Director, Peter Palmer, were members of the K-9 Seeing Eye Puppy Club. From left to right: Bknorr Throckmorton with Nancy, Aparna Suderam with Hero and Sandy Claire with General.
BIG Basket Bonanza a Brilliant Benefit

The 4-H Association is happy to report that once again the BIG Basket Bonanza was as successful as last year. Sincere thanks to all the 4-H volunteers and members that worked the event, solicited donations or contributed gifts or materials. Thanks to Somerset County 4-H Sr. Council Members, and 4-H Udder Club Members for helping that day.

Thanks to the 4-H Clubs for baskets and other donations:
4-H Alpaca Club, 4-H Anime & Manga Club, 4-H Arts Clubs, Best Colorful Clovers Prep Club, 4-H Chinese Culture Club, Chaps & Spurs 4-H Horse Club, 4-H Clover Ensemble, 4-H Country Kickers, Crazy Frog Hoppers 4-H Club, Creative Writing Club, Fantastic Fibers, Furry Friends, Gingersnaps, 4-H Go-Kart Club, Grade A Beef Club, Hippity, Hoppity, Happy Handlers Club, Hoof Beats 4-H Horse Club, Just Kidding Goat Club, K-9 Leaders, Mad Scientists Prep Club, The 4-H Magicians Guild, Master Chefs 4-H Club, Mighty Cavits & Rodents 4-H Club, New Centre Dairy, Pawsabilities 4-H Dog Club, Pocket Pet Rescue, 4-H Prep Chefs, 4-H Prep Division, Radical Rodents 4-H Club, Raving Robots 4-H Club, Roboforce 4-H Club, Scale Modelers 4-H Club, 4-H Senior Council, Sheepfold, Somerset Servos, Stablemates, 4-H Trainmasters, Udder 4-H Goat Club, Wag & Whiskers 4-H Club, Wattles & Snoods 4-H Club, Woolly Ones.

And a special thank you to over 100 other individuals, businesses and organizations that donated to this event.

First Annual Photography Show

The Fantastic Foto Fanatics hosted their first Photography Show on Saturday April 13th. Fifty-two entries were received and judged within one of five different categories - People, Landscapes, Animals, Nature, and Miscellaneous - and 1st - 3rd place ribbons were awarded in each category. In addition, a "Best in Show" ribbon was awarded to Sarah Hujber, for her submission of her "Skeleton" photograph.

The club would like to thank Mr. Chris Black from the Bridgewater-Raritan High School for judging all the entries. Mr. Black provided feedback on each photograph submitted and we appreciated his involvement in this first show. Mr. Black is a photography and media teacher at BRHS.

The club encourages submissions for the Fair in August, and welcomes new members in 4 - 13 grades.

Best in Show
Sara Hujber

Nature
Paige Lamberson 1st
Paige Lamberson 2nd
Sage Lau 3rd

Landscapes
Mellissa Smutko 1st
Sara Hujber 2nd

People
Denise Grohn 1st
Erin Kopecki 2nd

Miscellaneous
Sara Hujber 1st
Denise Grohn 2nd
Erin Kopecki 3rd
Izzy Maddock 2nd

Animals
Madison Whiting 1st
James Clelland 2nd
Sara Hujber 3rd

Additional Participants: Rashi Gala, Surya Pillai, Bri Ames, Savern Lau, Kristie Rosado, Helen Newbold

The 4-H Alpaca Club is sponsoring a packing event for Operation Shoebox on June 2, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm in the 4-H Center gym. If you would like to donate any items, boxes can be found in the 4-H Center lobby or the 4-H office. Volunteers are also welcome that day to help with packing. For more information, contact Janet Weiss at alyscott77@gmail.com.
4-H Science-sational Day

This year Science-sational Day was again Sensational! There were 13 workshops covering a broad range of science subjects which included our always popular Panning for Gems, Snakes & Lizards, Alka Seltzer Rockets, Try It, Fly It, Colder Than Ice and iRobot. We had many new workshops this year: Grow Your Own Friend, Parrots of the World, Alpaca-Ology, Science You Can Eat, To the Earth and Back Again, Chemistry Wizardry and Astronomers in Training.

Thanks to Picirillo Science Telling for a tremendous opening program called Dragons and Dreams.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made 4-H Science-sational Day a success: James Thomson, Harry Brochinsky, Margarita Bossa, Terri Jones, Janet & Ken Weiss, Debybe Duffy, Dawn Gallagher, Karen Fisch, Tom Dietrich, Stephen Rothenburger, Theresa Hannitz, Jessica Hannitz, Dave Rieur, Glenn Valis, Savern Lau, Frank Modrowsky, Gene Sellers, Nich Heitkamp, Dylan Gotlieb, Steven Modrowsky, Robbie DeVergillo, Brendan O’Kane, Beth Tormey, Donghui Wu, Rahul Patel, Michael Fitzgerald, Zhigang Hao, Claudia Rojas, Bharvi Stalhamer, Tyhesha Cromwell, Rose Cromwell, Nicole Feemster, Chris Schueler, Lori Terry, Sam Keats, Nicholas Schueler, Jonah Schneiderman, Matt Jennings, James Meier, Carson Stacy, Spencer Terry, Rebecca Kalenak, Aynannah Lawrence, Talia Lawrence. Special thanks to all the members of the Sidewinders Club and the Alpaca Club who came with their pets.

Thanks to these assistants who helped the day run smoothly: Rachel Biajaczyk, Georgeanne Valis, Evan Brochinsky, Pamela Gilligan, Zack Larson, P. Mookerjee, Gladys, Ian & Carla Rios, Becca Francis, Ashley Miller, Ruth & Elise McKean, Alyssa Peterson, Jennifer Versfelt, Sarah Biajaczyk, Jennifer & Sage Lau, Paige Lamerson, Julia Meier, Ethan Wu, Alyssa Figliano, Andy Snyder, Tommy Kober, Andrew Hunter, Joseph Heitkamp, Shruti Ramanathan.

Special thanks to Shu Chang and the Chinese Culture Club for assisting with clean up after the event.

Thank You to All the Presentation Judges!

On March 23rd, the Teen Russian American International Leadership (TRAIL) program sponsored the event “Breakfast with the Bunnies”. All of the profits went to TRAIL, which is a statewide program that sends New Jersey 4-H’ers to Russia to create a Russian 4-H program and to be immersed in the culture. Then, the Russian 4-H’ers will come back to the U.S. and stay with the NJ 4-H’ers, making it an exchange experience. At the Breakfast with the Bunnies, they served pancakes, sausage, eggs, and donuts. There were live bunnies and an appearance from the Easter Bunny! The Somerset County TRAIL members are Matt Thiel, Bree Glowinski, and Kristen Johnson.

Thanks to helpers Annette and Mellissa Smutko, Eliza Rothenburger, Debra Johnson, Jean Fasullo and the Warren County 4-H helpers. Special accolades to Kristen Johnson who organized the event and Bree Glowinski who brought all the bunnies.

State 4-H Dairy Judging

These Somerset members participated in the State Dairy Judging Contest.

Seniors:
Alanna Staffin - 1st Overall, 1st Reasons
Cary Brochinsky - 4th Reasons
Josh Miller - 5th Placings

Juniors:
Katie Scheflen - Participation
Congratulations to all.
Thanks to Nancy Kirby & Rich Norz for coaching these members.

Results of Dairy Clip Off

Congratulations!

Junior Teams
3rd Place - Josh Miller & Melissa Bright
Participants: Suzie Norz & Kyra Morgan

Senior Teams
1st Place - Mary Ellen Sousa & Ransom Elwell (Salem)

NJ 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl

Congratulations to the 4-H Dairy Club members who participated in the NJ State Dairy Quiz Bowl.

Junior Teams
Team 1 - Cary Brochinsky, Josh Miller, Mary Ellen Sousa, Ariel Staffin
Team 2 - Melissa Bright, Alex Norz, Susie Norz, Claire Wickman
Senior Individual - Alanna Staffin
Alumni, Christina O’Brien

Many thanks to Nancy Kirby for coaching the team.

State 4-H Dairy Art Show

Congratulations to our winner:

Ariel Staffin 3rd place Junior Division 3-D Art
State 4-H Model Horse Show

Congratulations to Bridgett Sona for being awarded Champion in the Junior Do-It-Yourself Division. Surya Pillai was awarded the Reserve Champion in the same Division. We also would like to acknowledge the other two Somerset County participants of the 2013 State 4-H Model Horse Show: Sianna Musarra & Lauren Steinkopf.

State 4-H Equine Art Show

Congratulations to our winner:
Carol Anne Bekus
Sr. Photo B&W 2nd, 3rd, 4th place
Sr. Photo Close Up 4th, 5th place
Sr. Photo Head Shots 1st place
Sr. Photo Just Horses 2nd place

State 4-H Equine Presentations

Senior Individual Presentation:
1st place CarolAnne Bekus
Senior Public Speaking:
1st place Kristen Johnson
5th place Ashley Thompson

Trainmasters Win Blue Comet Award

Established by Mike’s Train House in 2010, the Blue Comet Award is presented annually to a group or individual who, in the opinion of the judging committee, has done the best job of promoting O gauge model railroading to the general public and to make the hobby more visible to potential new members of all ages. The Somerset County 4-H Trainmasters were selected as the winners of the 2013 award, which was presented on April 19th at the Train Collectors Association conference in York, PA. The Trainmasters club is the ONLY recipient of the award that is an organization specifically composed mainly of youth members. On hand to receive the award on behalf of the Trainmasters were members, Thomas Presley, Cary Brochinsky and Anthony Siniscalco and leaders, Doug Pitney, Joe Presley and Tony Siniscalco.

Senior Horse Judging and Hippology

Senior Horse Judging - 2nd Place Team Overall
Ashley Thompson, Samantha Eristavi, Carol Anne Bekus, Alice Pryor (Sussex)

Senior High Team Reasons 5th Place Overall
Ashley Thompson, Samantha Eristavi, Carol Anne Bekus, Alice Pryor (Sussex)

Senior High Team Reasons 8th Place Overall
Jenna Miller, Amber LiBrizzi, Christina Papalski, Kirsten Jeansson (Burlington)

Senior Individual Judging:
Ashley Thompson 4th Place High Overall
Samantha Eristavi 3rd Place High Overall
2nd Place Indiv. Judging Halter

Senior Hippology:
Ashley Thompson 1st Place Overall
1st Place Phase A
5th Place Phase B
7th Place Phase C
Samantha Eristavi 4th Place Overall
4th Place Phase A
6th Place Phase B
5th Place C
Somerset Team 2nd Place Overall
1st Place Team Problems

Senior Individual Reasons:
Ashley Thompson 5th Place Overall
5th Place Individual Performance
5th Place Phase B
7th Place Phase C
Samantha Eristavi 4th Place Overall
6th Place Phase B
5th Place Phase C

Junior Horse Judging - 5th Place Team Overall
Kara Johnson, Bridget Sona, Kayla Johnson, Craig Cronce (Warren)

Junior Individual Judging:
Kara Johnson 10 Place Overall
6th Place Phase A
7 Place Phase B
Kayla Johnson 9th Place Phase C
Somerset Team 3rd Place Team Problems
Family Camp

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

May 31 - June 2, 2013
Lindley G. Cook NJ 4-H Camp

Cost is $65 per person for the weekend and includes EVERYTHING! Scholarships available. You can come for the whole weekend or just Saturday ($20.00 for the day). But by all means...plan on coming. Registration packets are available at the 4-H Office, the 4-H Center lobby or on our website. You can contact Mrs. Lisa Darby at 908-526-6644 or email her at darby@co.somerset.nj.us for more information.

4-H Summer Camp 2013 (Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp, Stokes State Forest)

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

Register now! Summer camp will run for six one-week sessions, Sunday -Saturday, from July 1-August 10. The camp schedule is packed with fun & exciting activities from dawn to dusk. On the website there is a sample Daily Schedule, a Week in Review, Activity (Class) Descriptions to give you an idea of some of the activities available, photos of the buildings and activities and a detailed packing list to download.

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

To register for camp you may download and fill out the Summer Camp Registration Form on the website www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu or call the 4-H Office and we will print one for you. (There is an additional charge to mail out hard copy registration forms.) There are many discounts offered including a $50.00 discount for registered 4-H members, a multiple family member discount and a discount if you bring a friend. More information can be found on the camp website. Camp is also located on Facebook that provides the most up to date information on programming and other happenings at camp. To get to the Facebook page, visit the camp website and click on the Facebook link at the top right of the page. Would you like to visit camp? Please call to schedule a tour: 973-948-3550.
We're on the lookout to load the S4HL noon hours with 4-H performances! The 2013 Fair Entertainment committee is in search of talented 4-H'ers (in prep/cloverbud or standard clubs) who would like to perform on the Clover Theater Stage.

It's easy to be eligible! If you didn't already perform at the County Presentations in March, a quick audition at the 4-H Center is all we need. For inspiration, check out the description of the Open Division: Performing Arts in the 2013 Exhibitors' Guide on-line.

All interested 4-H'ers should contact Betty Sommerville (908-281-5238, cell 908-635-1951) or the 4-H Office by May 31. Let's celebrate our super Fair with talent!

4-H members, who have completed 8th grade and older may apply. Applications are available at the 4-H Office/4-H Center and on the website and are due back by Friday, July 5. Members need permission and approval signatures from parents, a 4-H Leader, a 4-H Agent, and approval from a Herdsmen Supervisor. A photo must accompany your application. Late applications will not be accepted. Everyone selected to be a herdsman must attend one of two Herdsmen Orientation Meetings at 7:00 p.m. on either Monday, July 22 or Tuesday, July 30.

Registered volunteers may also serve as adult herdsmen. They must complete the Adult Herdsmen application. All forms are available on our website: www.4HisTops.org.

Limited Fair Grants Available

The 4-H Association is happy to consider funding requests from clubs, divisions or tents seeking funds necessary to display your project or maintain safety at the Fair. Applications will be available at the 4-H Center and on the website after May 1. Deadline August 1st 2013. Clubs requesting grants must have sold ads and/or wreaths.
Fair Planning Meeting
May 29, 2013, 7:30 pm 4-H Center
Get the whole scoop and have your suggestions heard. Fair Managers will discuss the following topics:

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

Member in Good Standing Requirements

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

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

All 4-H’ers are welcome to exhibit at the 4-H Fair.

Space for Commercial Vendors

Parents, friends or ad customers may be interested in having a commercial booth at the fair. Space is limited, but the rental prices are good and the exposure is terrific. Contact Kimberly Lynn Cook, kimberlylynn7@gmail.com, and reserve your space now or visit our website for more information.

Volunteers Supporting Volunteers

The Volunteer Oasis Committee will provide meals and water for Fair Managers and other volunteers that are on the fairgrounds the week before the Fair and Saturday after. We are looking for clubs or individuals who would like to help by cooking or providing a meal, part of a meal, or snack. Schedule to be announced, but help is definitely needed the Tuesday before the Fair at lunch time to host the corporate volunteers. If you or your club is interested in helping, please contact Tina Pirro at 732-906-2027 or kmpirro@msn.com.

Ad Sales

Ad are still welcomed until May 17.

Thank you to all that purchased and sold ads. 4-H’ers who sold ads - remember to take a copy of the Yearbook & Catalog to your ad customers as well as green supporter ribbons, available at the 4-H Center. If you sold $100, be sure to pick up your t-shirt at the 4-H Center after August 1.
Open Divisions For All 4-H'ers!

Look at “Open Divisions” to find more ways to participate. Open Divisions are for everyone and include:

- Bread
- Cake Decorating
- Crafts
- Creative Arts
- Creative Writing
- Dairy Food
- Fiber
- Horticulture & Agriculture
- Needlecrafts
- Performing Arts
- Photography
- Woodworking & Wood Science

Check out the complete list of rules and regulations on our website at: http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/fairexhibitorguide.html. Remember, projects made in school or for another organization such as scouts, can be submitted.

How Sweet It Is!

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

HELP WANTED

Adults to work the Milkshake Booth!!!

Did you know that the 4-H Association runs the Milkshake Booth? All of the profits support the 4-H Fair. Any adult may volunteer to help in the booth. In the past we have had parents, aunts, uncles, corporate volunteers, even grandmas & grandpas. It is so much fun that it is a well-kept secret.

Don’t miss out on the fun and camaraderie. Sign up for an hour or two and support the 4-H Fair. Please contact the 4-H office at: somersetcounty4h@co.somerset.nj.us.

4-H FAIR WELCOME PARADE

Calling all clubs to participate in the 2013 4-H Fair Opening Day Parade! Now led by the Trainmasters Brass!

Wednesday, August 7th

Gather at 5:30 pm outside the Radio Control Car Tent

Parade starts at 5:45 pm

More details in the July/August issue of Clovertales. For more info contact Ellen Parker at hookcookbook@gmail.com
Master Chefs  
by Evan Brochinsky

The club welcomes Kaitlyn Smith. Members had 15 minutes to create a dish using 4 hard boiled eggs. A judge from Wags & Whiskers ranked them. Tyler Giebas - first, Lauren Niemeyer - second and Evan Brochinsky - third. It was egg-citing. On March 25 members decorated cupcakes with mini-marshmallows dipped in colored sugar. They looked like flowers. Again the judge from Wags & Whiskers rated them. Lydia Gargano - first, Kaitlyn Smith - second, and Julie Pirro - third. Thank you Ashley for showing us how to do it. In April members had fun teaching the Knowledge Explorers how to make 1-2-3 cake and pudding parfaits. Each of the 7 members sent a dozen cookies to Evan’s cousin serving in Afghanistan. She will find 11 other soldiers to taste test them and pick a winner! In April members made quiche bacon and cheese, sponge cake with ice cream, strawberries, chocolate syrup and whipped cream.

Stablemates  
by Kayla Steinkopf

It’s been a busy year for the Stablemates. The new officers are: Ashley Thompson, President; Amber LiBrizzi, Vice-President; Kayla Steinkopf, Secretary; Leigha Giranda, Treasurer. Right before the holidays in December, members did a roadside cleanup and made treats for Last Chance Ranch. In March, the club participated in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Somerville and in the Livestock Breeder’s Symposium held at Rutgers.

4-H Alpaca Club  
by Stephanie Duffy

Happy spring from Alpaca, Inc. The club has had 2 farm days preparing their alpacas for an upcoming agility show in PA. Members participated in Science-sational Day and were very successful in teaching young children all about alpacas. Discussions include fundraising opportunities, Fair tent designs both inside and out. The club is sponsoring an Operation Shoebox on June 2.

Just Kidding  
by Maeve Egan

The club is doing a community service eco-rally project at the Environmental Center in Basking Ridge. They will also be selling coffee, tea, etc. at the Master Gardener plant sale in May. At the by-laws revision meeting, members voted to collect yearly dues. The club is participating in a breakfast fundraiser at Applebees in Hillsborough.

4-H Senior Council  
by Shruti Ramanathan

Discussions included the success of the BIG Basket Bonanza and council members helping to support the upcoming Science-sational Day, which was also very successful. The club participated in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Somerville. Several members went to NJTC the beginning of March and had a lot of fun. The club will be assisting at the Somerset Youth Council Safe Night in April with several team building activities. Members practiced the games with each other. The club has arranged a road cleanup in Branchburg the end of April. Other discussions included the 4th of July celebration at the fairgrounds and plans for the sno-cone booth at the Fair.

Pocket Pet Rescue  
by Megan Moore

During the March meeting, two members gave interesting club presentations about their clarinet and Holland Lop rabbit. Members created bucket seats for the Fair and decided on making club shirts and sweatshirts.

Wattles ‘n’ Snood  
by Kimberley Duffy

On March 15, members went to Medieval Times and had a great time! It was a magnificent time as they cheered the Blue Knight in all his glory. At the last meeting there was an intense debate about Fair tent designs before finalizing one. Congratulations to Kristen Schwartz on her color guard competition and to Kim Duffy for getting accepted to go to CWF in July.
In 1969 the Somerset County 4-H Agent, Ted Blum, started the Prep program. In honor of Ted and to maintain this tradition, the Association has agreed to continue to use Prep to define the Prep (Cloverbud) program. Although around the United States other counties may use Cloverbuds, in Somerset County Prep and Cloverbud will be synonymous.

Saturday March 2nd was our annual K-3 Rally. The day started off with the children receiving their boarding pass and having their passport picture taken. Then they boarded their plane (were put into their groups) and flown around the world by their pilot (group leader). This year we traveled Around the World to visit India, Russia, China & Egypt. Each workshop offered interesting and fun activities native to that country. The children learned about Hieroglyphs, mummies & belly dancing in Egypt; Chinese yo-yo’s, how to count to 10 in Chinese and how to use Chop Sticks in China. In India they learned about Bollywood dancing, Yoga & Powder Painting. In Russia the children made shields & swords or a Kakoshnks (crowns), learned how to write their name in Russian and how to play Russian games.

Many Thanks to our workshop presenters; Ram, Uma, Shruti & Rahul from India, Sabrina & Amaly from Egypt, Alayne from Russia and Shu & Patricia from China.

We certainly can’t forget all of our adults and teens that helped to make the day such a huge success; Laura, Joedie, Julie, Sue, Jill, Amy, Annette, Sumita, Chunya, Edward, Ariel, Evanna, Melissa, Sarah, Pam & Cary. It is the volunteers that truly make this a very special day for our Cloverbud members.

Happy spring!

Lisa Darby
4-H Program Coordinator

Reminder!

Family Camp will be held May 31, June 1 & 2 at L.G. Cook Camp. Registration packets are available in the lobby of the 4-H Center or online at www.4HisTops.org. If you have any questions please call me at the 4-H office on (908) 526-6644. This is truly a wonderful weekend. Hope to see you all at Camp!
Yakety - Yak

New Centre Dairy Prep
The New Centre Dairy Prep Club had a great time at the Prep Rally, they learned about Bylaws and they learned how to say the 4-H Pledge without sound!!! The members spent time learning the pledge in sign language. Well, we actually had to say it to know where we were at, but it was fun. The instructions can be found on our 4HisTops.org web-site.

Discovery Prep
In April we welcomed Carolyn Pirro who brought her short-haired collie, Jett. Carolyn talked to us about different breeds of dogs. She then taught us how to show a dog. Carolyn and Jett finished second in their class at the Westminster Dog Show in New York City. It was a lot of fun learning about the different dogs and getting to pet Jett.

Legomaniacs II
This month we had Evan Brochinsky from the 4-H Magician's Guild come to show us some magic tricks. He even taught us a trick.

Proud 2B Prep
We have gotten off to a great start. Kristen Johnson will be bringing a lamb and a goat to our next meeting.

Reminder:
Each club is responsible to put up a club display in the Prep Tent during the 4-H Fair in August. It is never too early to start thinking about your display. If anyone has any question, please contact Lisa Darby on (908) 526-6644 for more information.

This year we will be setting up the Prep Tent on Saturday August 3rd. Prep parents & alum, please come by and give us a hand. We will post the time of set-up as we get closer to the fair.
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2013
CloverCon 2013
hosted by
4-H Anime & Manga Club
Village Hidden in the Clovers
May 19, 11 am - 7 pm
Somerset County 4-H Center
310 Milltown Rd, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Cosplay/Catwalk
Arts/ Alley
Dealers’ Area
Anime Screenings
Dancing & Music
Labyrinth
WaxDonalds
Manga Reading Room
Panel Discussions
Various Workshops
Various Games & Silent Auction

$10.00 at the door
(to pre-register for $5.00, please download form at www.4h NJ.org)
All proceeds will benefit the Somerset County 4-H Association fundraising efforts.

Somerset County 4-H Presents:

NASA Astronaut
Terry Hart

Hear about his NASA experience in both Mission Control and Space!
Learn about the history of Aerospace!
Ask questions and get answers!

When: May 22, 2013
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Ted Blum 4-H Center
310 Milltown Rd, Bridgewater, NJ

For more information: somersetcounty4h@co.somerset.nj.us

Come Take A Look!
We’re hosting a LEGO Education Showcase Event and you’re invited!

Monday, May 20, 2013
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Ted Blum 4-H Center, 310 Milltown Road, Bridgewater
For more information, contact: Margarita Bossa-Bastidas bossa@aesop.rutgers.edu or call 908-526-6644

June 29 - 30, 2013
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
4-H Center
310 Milltown Road
Bridgewater, NJ

ANNUAL 4-H SPRING 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://somersetnces.rutgers.edu/directions