4-H Cl o ve r t a l e s

A bi-monthly newsletter about Somerset County 4-H

November/December 2013

Save the Date...

4-H FAIR
August 6-7-8, 2014
Fall 2013 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 who came to learn about 4-H. The Somerset County 4-H program continues to expand, offering new and innovative clubs. We welcome our new Steam Punk club, Motocross club, Music club, Hispanic Culture club, Entomology club, Dog Club as well as new clubs for horses, robotics and Prep/Cloverbuds.

Fall and winter is when we recognize all of our leaders and members for their achievements throughout the year. Please check out Leaders’ & Parents’ Outlook 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 this 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

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, 848-932-3583.

2013 Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Peter S. Palmer, Director ● Patrick Scaglione , Deputy Director
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Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.
2014 Somerset County 4-H Calendar of Events

The 2014 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. 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 2014 Calendar will be available in late 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 4:00 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

- **Arts Achievement Night**
  
  Friday, November 1st, 6:30 pm

- **Livestock Achievement Dinner**
  
  Saturday, November 2nd, 6:00 pm

- **Dog Project Achievement Dinner**
  
  Sunday, November 3rd, 4:30 pm

- **Small Animal Achievement Awards**
  
  Sunday, November 9th, 1:00 pm

- **Science Achievement Night**
  
  Friday, January 3rd, 7 pm

- **Horse Achievement Dinner**
  
  Sunday, January 12th, set-up 5 pm

4-H Rutgerscience Saturdays

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:

- **Urban Ecology - November 16**
- **Parasites & How They Got That Way - February 15**
- **Spy Technology - March 29**

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

Wreath Decorating

December 4

Help is needed on **Wednesday, December 4**, 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.)
13th Grade Youth- How Do You Record Their Participation?

The office staff have had several questions lately about 13th grade youth and how to record their participation for their last year in 4-H.

For those youth who live locally and are able to attend regular meetings, they should be given the same consideration as the rest of the club as far as attendance. If they call ahead with an excuse of illness or school conflict, they should be excused.

For those youth who go to college away from home and are unable to attend club functions during the school year, they should be given an excused absence for those months they are away, but should be expected to participate when they are home such as winter or spring break if there are club functions held during that time. If you need further clarification, please contact your staff liaison.

Club Reorganization

Please remember that every club should be conducting a business meeting on a regular basis and have officers. Barb Navatto is willing to come and get you started with an informal workshop about how to run a meeting and duties of officers.

Every club should have a secretary keeping minutes of any action the club agrees upon. The secretary also takes attendance. This is important because members wishing to compete at Fair must have attended 70% of club meetings and activities (excused absences are at the leader’s discretion. Members away at college are excused). An officer should send announcements of club activities to the 4-H Office for Clovertales and every club should have a treasurer that keeps track of club finances.


Treasuries & Fundraising Policy

Just some general reminders for success and safety in 4-H fundraising:

Raising Funds for a Specific Goal: Fundraising will be done only to meet a specific 4-H club or program goal (i.e., purchasing supplies for a club project; funding a community service project; sponsoring members to attend an educational conference or 4-H camp). Money raised during the course of a 4-H year should be spent that same year, unless a long-term goal with a specific timeline is stated. Raising money should not be the club's primary activity and is not a requirement for club success.

Informing County 4-H Office: 4-H clubs must submit a Fundraising Worksheet (http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/pdfs/4h-Fundraising-Worksheet.pdf) to inform the county 4-H office of fundraising plans in advance to avoid conflict with other 4-H fundraising efforts and program goals. If the 4-H staff determines there is a conflict with other efforts or program goals, or is not informed of the fundraising plans, he or she may choose to deny support or permission for the fundraiser.

Meeting Legal Requirements: Fundraising activities must meet legal requirements within the local municipality, county and state. The adult leader should contact the appropriate municipality to ensure compliance with local jurisdiction prior to any fundraising planning and must be able to produce documentation (i.e., permit) when requested.

Safety Factors: Door-to-door solicitation of funds is not permitted. Adult leaders should consider the personal safety of all youth when planning fundraisers. Precautions should be taken when needed. Adult supervision of any fundraising, as with any 4-H event, is necessary.

Any fundraising will be properly identified with quality signage and all participants should be able to explain the purpose of the fundraiser. It’s important to uphold the positive image of 4-H.

More information can be found in the Treasurer's Record Book.
4-H Vendor & Craft Sale
November 23

Mark your calendars to attend our one-stop-shopping Vendor & Craft Marketplace on Saturday, November 23 from 10am to 2pm at the 4-H Center. Items for sale include jewelry, home decorating products, candles, kitchenware, gourmet foods, baskets, cosmetics, wooden items, gift items and much more. With almost 50 crafters & vendors, you’ll be sure to enjoy this event!

Festival of Trees
December 14 - 15; 10am - 4pm

Calling all 4-H and Community Clubs: Time to start planning your decorated tree to be displayed at the Festival of Trees event December 14th and 15th. (Set-up is Friday, December 13, 6:00 - 9:00 pm) It’s a great fundraiser for your club or you can donate your handmade/store-bought ornaments to our Holiday Dinner fund. Community clubs, organizations and businesses are invited to put up a tree. The application and flyer are on our website: www.4HisTops.org. Come join in the fun! New this year will be a pet photo opportunity for your large or small pet. For more details please email Sue at susar@rcn.com.

4-H Wreath Sale Info:
Club Orders Were Due October 30

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 29 at 7:30 am.

Club leaders should pick up wreaths:
- Saturday, November 30, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Monday, December 2, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 3, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 4, 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 7. 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 18. Clubs making payment after December 18 should keep only 50¢ per wreath. Clubs making payments after December 31, 2013 will not be able to keep any money for selling wreaths. Leaders: Money drop-off days, December 16 - 18, 7 - 9 pm, 4-H Center. The 4-H office will accept money if these dates are inconvenient.

BIG Basket Bonanza

Clubs Needed to Help Support this 4-H Association Fundraiser

The BIG Committee is hosting their 7th annual BIG Basket Bonanza tricky tray basket auction on Sunday, March 2, 2014, 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. Any questions, please contact Annette Smutko: Annette.L.Smutko@gsk.com.
**BIG Rummage Sale a Success**

**Build - Invest - Grow**

**We did it!** We now have a new roof! Paid in FULL, no loans. This year we raised over $11,000. THANKS to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers and staff, the eighth annual BIG Rummage Sale was once again a BIG success. Held on September 13-14, the meeting rooms, gym and large conference rooms were packed with many treasures and clothes. The parking lot was full and people were lined around the building when we opened.

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

We couldn’t have done it without the help of our wonderful volunteers.


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 23, our bigger and better Festival of Trees on December 14 and 15, and our seventh annual BIG Basket Bonanza tricky tray on Sunday, March 2, 2014.

The BIG Committee (Build-Invest-Grow) is the Association’s Fundraising Committee. New members are always welcome. To help with the Rummage Sale, contact Lisa Darby at darby@co.somerset.nj.us. To help with the BIG Basket Bonanza, contact Annette Smutko at Annette.L.Smutko@gsk.com.
Senior Member Winter Camp
Register by January 3rd

Members in grades 8-13th will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp **January 10-12, 2014**. This year, Somerset will go with teens from **Bergen, Passaic, Warren and Ocean 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 15*

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:


**North Jersey Teen Conference**

**Best Western Regency House Pompton Plains**

**Open to All 4-H Teens Grades 8 - 13**

**SOMERSET COUNTY YOUTH CONFERENCE**

The 17th annual Somerset County Youth Conference will be held on **Thursday, November 14, 6:00 - 9:00 pm**, at Somerset County Dept. of Human Services Conference Rm #1, 27 Warren Street, Somerville. This year the theme is **“Many Faces”**.

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 its 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 http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/pdfs/4h-2012-Jr-Breeder-Loan-Packet.pdf.

Public Presentations 2014

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

Save the dates - March 24 - 28 (both day and evening hours), 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.

Attention New and Returning Health Officers

If you’re interested in health, fitness, nutrition, and safety, 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 a healthy thought at each club meeting.

Mark Your Calendars! Materials and information for this year will be distributed at the Health Officers’ training on Thursday, November 21, from 7:00 - 8:00 pm at the 4-H Center. All Health Officers should plan on attending. Please RSVP with your name and club name by November 18th.

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

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 Luncheon on January 26, 2014, 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 is based upon candidate’s financial need. Application: www.jerseyequine.nj.gov/dubininapplicationform.pdf

The deadline to submit the essay is January 2, 2014 to Lynn Mathews at (609) 292-2888 or lynn.mathews@ag.state.nj.us.
National 4-H Youth Conference Center Program Assistant Opportunities

If you are a 4-H’er who has a passion for government, history, political science, working with youth, public speaking, or leadership, then consider applying for the position of Program Assistant (PA) at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center! PAs will be touching the lives of thousands of middle and high school-aged students from all over the United States.

The Wonders of Washington program gives young people the chance to explore, develop, and refine the skills necessary to become outstanding citizens and leaders in their home communities. Using the living classroom of Washington, D.C., Program Assistants teach about the history of our nation, its various leaders, and how youth can put their skills of leadership and citizenship into use when they return home.

Citizenship Washington Focus gives 4-H’ers the opportunity to strengthen their communication, leadership, and citizenship skills on a national level. Program Assistants will lead 1,500+ 4-H’ers at Citizenship Washington Focus. By facilitating hands-on activities, simulations, and tours of various monuments and memorials, 4-H participants discover what citizenship means to them and develop action plans to make a difference in their communities. CWF Program Assistants help create, develop, and facilitate curriculum to be used during the 2014 program.

View the job descriptions for more information and application materials. If you have any questions, please contact JaQuan Bryant, Youth Program Specialist at JBryant@4HCenter.org.

Record Books

It is very important for members to learn to keep records and to think about why they are in 4-H. They should be able to articulate their goals and what they are learning. If they intend to compete at the fair (this includes the open divisions) they must complete a record book. The information in their record books helps tremendously when completing forms for state and national awards as well as college and job applications.

Some projects have specific record books that are on the website under “forms”. The General record book is on the website: http://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/publication.asp?pid=4H239. If you wish to adapt a record book for your specific project needs, please contact the 4-H agents.

Essay Contests for All Ages

4-H’ers are invited to enter the following contests sponsored by local chapters 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@verizon.net

**AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST**

**Theme:** “The Lives of Children During the American Revolution.” Pretend that you are growing up during the American Revolution and describe the changes and challenges taking place in your life.

**Eligibility:**
Open to all students in grades 5 - 8.

**Deadline:** January 1, 2014

**CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ESSAY CONTEST**

**Theme:** “How Do Americans View Christopher Columbus and George Washington Today?”

**Eligibility:** Open to all students in grades 9 - 12.

**Deadline:** December 15, 2013

**JUNIOR AMERICAN CITIZENS CONTEST**

**Theme:** “Honoring Our Heritage”

**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, 2014 Some of your 4-H work may be eligible for this contest.
Volunteers Needed for Fall Leaf Clean Up, November 23

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 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** For more information call the Office of Volunteer Services at (908) 541-5715. **Other dates are available for those who cannot make November 23.**

4-H Senior Council does this every year. They have a great time!

### Exhibitor Guide

Read through your division(s) in the 2013 Exhibitor Guide (available online at [www.4HisTops.org](http://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 as soon as possible so they can be made to the 2014 4-H Fair Exhibitor Guide. Leaders of newly established divisions should work with their office liaison.

### 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!

Please send photos to yearbook4h@yahoo.com.

### 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/](http://www.n4hccs.org/)

### 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/](http://www.fanmailfortroops.net/)

### United Way Opportunities

Clubs are needed to help share holiday joy with those less fortunate by helping United Way of Northern New Jersey’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 at United Way: Thursday & Friday, December 5 & 6 between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

**Gift Sorting & Tagging:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 9 - 11 - 12 - 13, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm., December 10, 9:30 am - 7:00 pm. For more information on volunteering opportunities including sorting and packing gifts during the week of December 9, please contact Lisa Galonardo at (908) 253-6503 or e-mail lisa.galonardo@unitedwaynj.org
Hurray for...
Open House a Huge Success!

The twenty-fifth annual “Join 4-H!” Open House was held at the 4-H Center on October 10 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 Alpaca Club, 4-H Magicians Guild, Anime & Manga Club, World Wide Writers, Ink., Just Kidding Goat Club, 4-H Go-Kart Club, 4-H Whiskers, Paws & Claws, Radical Rodents, Twirling Clovers, 4-H Country Kickers, Scale Modelers Club, Broken Props Model Airplanes, Somerset Sentinels, Somerset 4-H Trainmasters, Chaps & Spurs, 4-H Beekeeping Club, 4-H Senior Council, 4-H Astronomy Club, Wattles ‘n’ Snood, Wags & Whiskers, Furry Friends, Fantastic FotoFanatics, K-9 Seeing Eye Puppy Club, PAWSabilities, People Pick-Me-Ups, Clover Ensemble, Club Clanga, Fantastic Fiber Club, Mind Your Bees & Wax, Puppy Love, Woolly Ones, Sidewinders, 4-H Grade A Beef Club, Movie Making Masters, Nueva Sensacion, Pretty Cool Puppets, Hoof Beats, CloverWorks Steam Punk, Woof, Hippity Hoppity Happy Handlers, Entomology Club, 4-H Average Spot, 4-H Motocross Club, Little Crafters, Galloping Gaits, Lego Wedo.

New 4-H clubs starting this year include a Steam Punk club, Motocross club, Hispanic Culture club, Entomology club, Dog club as well as new clubs for horses, robotics and several new Cloverbud clubs.

If you would like more information about joining a club, please contact the 4-H office.

National 4-H Week Proclamation

On October 8, 4-H members, Dale Brochinsky, Kara Edgar, Evan Brochinsky and Hayden Verbanas accepted the Proclamation for National 4-H Week at the county freeholder’s meeting. Pictured with our members is Freeholder Director, Peter Palmer.

Spreading the Word

On Monday, September 23, at the Bernards Township Library, Beth Kavanaugh (Just Kidding, Senior Council) promoted 4-H and encouraged over 50 teens to "Find out about 4-H" and the opportunities offered in our Somerset County program.

"Backpacking For Others"

The RC Car Club participated in the "Backpacking For Others" community service project this fall. They collected school supplies for needy kids in NJ. With the help of their contributions, the program was able to provide 207 filled backpacks for kids heading back to school all over the state.

Eagle Scout Award

Kyle Mountney (Somerset Sentinels), recently early his Eagle Scout Leadership badge. His project was building an outdoor classroom and raised garden beds for Good Shepherd Christian Day Care for the students to learn about ecology and gardening in a safe environment.

Congratulations!

Brett Mathews of the Radio Control Car Club is the NJ State Champion BMX Expert in the 12-year old division.
What's Happening At Lindley G. Cook

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 June 30 - August 9 with a $50 discount for 4-H members. Check the website for additional discounts. Early bird registration runs until March 1, 2014.

Other Events
Outdoor Family Weekend
S.E.T. Camp

For this and all other updates check their website: www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/.

4-H Senior Member Winter Camp
Register by January 3rd

8-13th graders from Somerset County will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp January 10 - 12, 2014. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. Applications are available on the website at www.4HisTops.org. Cost for participants is $50.00. Scholarships are available. This year we are sharing the weekend with Warren, Bergen, Passaic and Ocean county 4-H’ers.

For additional information, please contact Lisa Rothenburger at 908-526-6644 or Rothenburger@njaes.rutgers.edu

4-H Summer Campers

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

The Prep (Cloverbud) Page

I would like to welcome back all our returning Cloverbud/Prep members and extend a warm welcome to our new Cloverbud members. We had another successful Open House and with that will come another exciting 4-H year. **Saturday, January 4, 2014** will be our annual New Year's party. At our New Year's party we will have dancing and games with DJ Mike Malone of Music N Motion, a pot luck dinner, ice cream sundaes and lots of confetti. This event is open to all Prep/Cloverbud members and their families. We are currently working on our Prep/Cloverbud Rally which will be held on **Saturday, March 1, 2014**. The Theme will be announced in the January Clovertales.

Now that your clubs are beginning to meet again, please remember to send in your club report telling us what you did at your meeting so we can publish it in the Yakety-Yak section of the Clovertales. You can email them to me at 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
4-H Program Coordinator

Yakety - Yak

**The Legomaniacs II** - We had a wonderful start. Our members were very excited. We are looking forward to welcoming new members and having a fun-filled year.

**The Knowledge Explorers** - We started the year off with a Flinker Challenger. The kids came up with creative ways to make various things "flink" - not float, not sink, but remain suspended in the water for a few seconds. We also tried to add just enough material to a helium balloon to suspend it in the air. A fun time was had by all!

**The Cloverbud Kids** - Couldn’t wait to start up again in September. For the monthly club meeting the kids met at the 4-H Center for an evening of outdoor games and activities. Everyone had a blast playing freeze tag, figuring out how to win in "100 ways to get there", running in the egg & spoon relay, playing pass the orange, walking like a duck, and spinning , twisting around and around with a hula hoop. During the month of September the Cloverbud Kids also ventured out to attend the annual New Jersey storytelling Festival hosted at the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton NJ and the New Jersey Wild Outdoor Expo in Colliers Mills Wildlife Management Area of Jackson NJ. Stay tuned, we have lots of fun stuff coming up in October and November!
Save the Dates

**Prep (Cloverbud) Family New Year’s Party**
Saturday, January 4, 2014 from 5-7:30 pm at the 4-H Center.
Each family coming brings a covered main dish to share
Dancing/ Games/ Crafts
Confetti and more…

**4-H Prep (Cloverbud) Rally**
Saturday, March 1, 2014
9:30 am - 2:00 pm
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 May 31, Sat & Sun June 1 & 2, 2014.
Fishing, hiking, boating, crafts and more!
Additional information to follow.
**Senior Council**

*by Shruti Ramanathan*

Discussions before Fair included sponsoring the herdsmen at Fair and planning the Sno-Cone booth during the Fair, the successful road clean-up and the club’s participation in Safe Night with the help of Somerset County Youth Council. After Fair, discussions included the profits made from the sale of Glo-Stix on the 4th of July and sno-cone sales. Members considered a donation to the Adolescent Enrichment Program. Volunteers were taken to wash the banners from the Fair, to help at the Haunted Maze in order to build stronger connections and to work the leaf clean-up. Nominations were taken for officers. Congratulations to: President: Alyssa Peterson, Vice-President: Sarah Bijaczyk, Recording Secretary: Riddhima Rao, Corresponding Secretary: Shruti Ramanathan, Treasurer: Zach Larson, Historian: Kristie Rosado, Health Officer: Mellissa Smutko. Senior Council is planning to go to Achievement night and bring desserts.

**Pocket Pet Rescue**

*by Megan Moore*

At the April meeting members designed and voted on club t-shirts and sweatshirts to be ordered in time for the Fair. Games were tested to make sure they were ready for the club’s Fair display. Members then discussed requirements for the Fair and explained record books to new members.

**Furry Friends**

*by Claire DeAngelis*

The Furry Friends had their first meeting on September 17. They welcomed three new members and discussed many of the upcoming events for the fall. Members planned a pumpkin picking outing for October at Norz Hill Farm in Hillsborough. They also discussed service activities including clean-up at North Branch Reformed Church in November and a petting zoo and a canned food drive to benefit SHIP at the small animal awards dinner. Members worked on a gift for the Bell family. In October the focus will be on election of officers followed by a costume contest for all the little Furry Friends to be judged by current club officers.

**Somerset Servos**

*by Nelusha Dios*

In April the club attended the BRMS Technical Design Challenge. The two challenges were bowling and setting up trees and a last minute challenge of creating a dancing robot to put on a show! Prizes and plaques were handed out. Members had a fun time.

**Master Chefs**

*by Evan Brochinksy*

In September the club welcomed new Master Chefs Megan, Ben, Natalie, Hannah and Brie. Members talked about upcoming events. At the end of the meeting, the club held a Master Chef Challenge. Everyone had to make a dish with banana. The winners were Evan, Natalie and Becky.

**Sheepfold**

*by Cathy Christy*

Sheepfold 4-H Club members participated in the Stars & Stripes Livestock Show, Mercer County Sheep Show, Somerset County Sheep Show, Hunterdon County Sheep Show and the Garden State Sheep Breeders Show. They had a busy show season, but learned a lot and brought home the awards for all their hard work.

**Just Kidding**

*by Maeve Egan*

The club is planning to attend Open House. Members are looking forward to having a veterinarian visit the club and discuss various questions on goats. Members are starting their record books for the year. Just Kidding, along with the Udder Club, will host the livestock achievement dinner.
Congratulations to these officers: President: Taylor Johnson, Vice-President: Jack Cochrane, Secretary: Carol Ann Perry, Treasurer: Davis Perry, Reporter: Allison Parascandola.

**Battlebots by Lori Terry**

Wreath packets were discussed along with order deadlines. Alex Strasser did a presentation on how to program a Lego NXT robot to move on a rectangular path using sensors, logic loops, variables and math.

**New Centre Dairy by Alanna Staffin**

Members discussed the various fairs and dairy shows that were attended throughout the summer. The club talked about the 4-H Fair, what they liked best and what they would like to do differently next year. Different ideas for club activities for the year were also discussed. Elections were held. Congratulations to these officers: President: Mary Ellen Sousa; Vice President: Melissa Bright; Recording Secretary: Sarah Fenwick; Corresponding Secretary: Josh Miller; Treasurer: David Furmato, Reporter: Alanna Staffin; Historians: Kyra Morgan, Alex Norz and Grace O’Sullivan.

### 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.

### Sheep Results from Fair

**Jessie Murday**  
Best Overall Sr Wool Fitter  
Champion Wool Ewe  
Champion Romney  
Keep of the Flock

**Anna Mazzola**  
Best Overall Jr Wool Fitter  
Res Champion Meat Ram

Res Champion Purebred Ram  
Champion Hampshire

**Katie Kouril**  
Best Overall Sr Meat Fitter  
Best Overall Sr Showman

**Will Staats**  
Best Overall Jr Meat Fitter  
Champion Meat Ram  
Champion Registered Ram Overall  
Champion Southdown  
Best Overall Jr Showman

**Josh Miller**  
Best Beginner Wool Fitter  
Res Champion Wool Ewe  
Res Champion Grade Ewe  
Champion Natural Colored

**Mary Ellen Sousa**  
Best Beginner Meat Fitter  
Champion Oxford

**Kristi Philipsheck**  
Champion Wool Ram  
Champion Meat Ewe  
Champion Purebred Ewe Overall  
Supreme Champion Sheep of Show  
Best Lend a Lamb  
Champion Dorset

**Lauren Fox**  
Res Champion Wool Ram  
Sportsmanship Award

**Teresa Buzzoni**  
Res Champion Meat Ewe  
Res Champion Purebred Ewe  
Champion Shropshire

**Veronica Moditz**  
Champion Purebred Baby Doll  
Res Champion Baby Doll  
Champion Baby Doll

**Richie Granja**  
Champion Grade Ewe Overall  
Res Champion Sheep of Show  
Best Overall Owner Bred Animal

**Nick Francis**  
Champion Tunis

**Aidan McHendry**  
Sportsmanship Award
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**November Events:**
- **Vendor Sale:** 10am - 7pm
- **Space & Astronomy:** 6pm
- ** artisan achievement Nightly Livestock:** 7am - 7pm
- ** Office Closed:** 7pm
- ** Election Day:** 7pm
- ** Horse Leaders:** 7pm
- **Veteran’s Day:** 7pm
- **Thanksgiving:** 7pm
- **Hanukkah:** 7pm
- **Black Friday:** 7pm
- **Office Closed:** 7pm
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