Ignite the Green
Dear Members, Leaders and Parents:

So far in 2014 we are really Igniting the Green! We had a very successful, better than ever NJTC, an extremely successful Science-sational Day, a huge group of participants for presentations and a truly outstanding basket auction.

Coming up are the Sporting & Fishing Expo, CloverCon, Family Camp, the Somerset Trainmasters Train Show, TOPS camp and of course the Somerset County 4-H Fair! We hope you will be participating in all of these.

To prepare for the Fair, keep checking out the Fair Page for the latest updates and details. And don’t forget to look through the Open Divisions to see other opportunities to get involved in the Fair.

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

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**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.

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**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.

**2014 Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders**

Patrick Scaglione, Director ● Mark Caliguire, Deputy Director
Peter S. Palmer ● Robert Zaborowski ● Patricia L. Walsh

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**SOMERSET COUNTY 4-H CLOVERTALES**

Bi-Monthly Newsletter – Available on our website: 4HisTops.org

For hard copy contact:
Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Somerset County
310 Milltown Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
(908) 526-6644 or 231-7000, ext. 7521
Office hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
4-H Center: Evenings, 7:00 - 9:00 pm - 908-526-8242
Fax – 908-704-1821

New Jersey 4-H:
j4H.rutgers.edu or RUinto4H.org

Staff
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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.
Leaders' & Parents' Outlook

Leaders May Nominate Outstanding 4-H'ers - Applications Due June 2

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 2 and recipients will be honored at the July 16th 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, 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 2014 - May 18

The 4-H Anime & Manga Club: “The Village Hidden in the Clovers” will be hosting their fourth mini-convention at the 4-H Center on May 18, 10am - 5pm. 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 Screenings, Manga Reading Room, Cosplay Workshop (plus more panels tbd), and exciting games including a tournament of Super Smash Brothers Melee plus a Pokemon X & Y Card Tournament too. Music and dancing will also be happening. Pre-register for just $5 or pay just $10 at the door to enter a whole 'mother 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 26 State Dairy Show in Sussex County

Goat:
- August 21 State Goat Show in Hunterdon County

Equine:
- June 29 Somerset County 4-H Qualifying Show
- July 13 Somerset County 4-H Qualifying Show
- August 16 Equestrian of the Year in Monmouth Co.
- August 22-24 State Horse Show at Horse Park of NJ

Small Animals:
- September 13 State Rabbit, Cavy, Small Animal, Herpetology & Poultry Show

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.
President's Message

I love the 4-H spring. This is the time of year when we recognize the fantastic kids that are in 4-H. We start in April and May with our scholarships. Then in June and July it is the Outstanding 4-H'ers. While all of the kids in 4-H are wonderful, these few stand out above the crowd. Why? It is because of all that they give back. These are the kids who you see at every event. They are all over the fair, not just in their own project area, but also in the set-up and take down.

They are also the role models. These are the members younger children should emulate. I know I point them out to my boys. They share their knowledge and more importantly, their time, with younger members of their clubs. This cycle of mentorship is what makes our program so strong here in Somerset County. Many of these kids are the one who come back to us as young adults to lead clubs. We are very proud of all our kids, but these have truly earned our respect. Look out for their names and when you see them, thank them for all their work right after you congratulate them.

As of this writing there are 103 days until fair. I can't wait! As always, if you have anything you'd like to ask or tell me, drop me a note at president4h@hotmail.com

Happy Spring (finally)

Harry Brochinsky

A Look at 4-H Finances

The 4-H Association is a non-profit organization that has very few income sources. The 4-H Association owns and operates the 4-H Center. Office space is rented to the county and the organization runs various fundraisers throughout the year to supplement that income. When the weather or other circumstances increase the cost of operations (snow removal, fallen tree removal) there is no other source of income. Last year, the cost to operate the 4-H Center was $136,618, over budget $16,000. 4-H club meeting space is provided at no cost to clubs.

The 4-H Association also finances the Somerset County 4-H Fair. There is no charge to visit the fair and no entry fees to participate. This is unlike any other fair in NJ. Again, income sources are very limited. County Government contributes $70,000 annually. From the food tent, 4-H receives only 20% of the income. Last year, that combined with the milkshake booth totaled $35,000. Commercial space and sponsorships bring in about $30,000. Fair expenses, including awards, buses, the installation of electric, entertainment, equipment rental, insurance, porta-jons, security, etc. totaled $65,925. Added to that was the $88,407 tent rental fee. Last year, total Fair expenses exceeded $150,000. This was $20,000 more than the income, mainly due to bad weather.

Through the very diligent efforts of everyone involved in 4-H business over the years, the 4-H Association has a rainy day fund for just such emergencies. But it can’t continue to cover costs like these! Please do your part to support wreath sales, the rummage sale and the basket auction. If you know a business, foundation or individual that might like to be a Fair sponsor, please let us know.

At this time of year, you can help by supporting the 4-H Yearbook & Catalog Ad Sale Campaign. If every one of the 1,000 members of Somerset County 4-H sold just $100 of ads, we would have a balanced budget in 2014.

Ad forms and sponsorship forms are available on the website at www.4histops.org.

How much is 4-H worth to you?
North Jersey Teen Conference

The theme for the 2014 North Jersey Teen Conference was “4-H Goes Back to the Future”. There were 113 teens from 10 different counties in attendance. During the weekend, teens participated in various workshops, varying from dance to college, to exploring the elements of the past. They also took a field trip to the Patterson Falls and Patterson Museum.

The main purpose of NJTC is for teens to gain leadership skills and to use elements of the past to aid them in their future. After a successful conference, all participants are better prepared for their future, both in 4-H and in the real world.

Outstanding 4-H'er Applications Due June 2

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 2 and recipients will be honored at the July 16 Association Meeting.

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/

Herdsman Applications – Due July 7

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-2014-Youth-Herdsman.pdf
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 2014 4-H Fair theme…

**Ignite the Green**

Workshops Offered

**May 9 & June 13**

Mighty Cavits and Rodents will be offering rabbit and small animal showmanship workshops at their May and June MCR meetings for anyone who thinks they may be interested, including those from other clubs and divisions who might be in Round Robin. But they need to contact Dawn Gallagher to let her know they are interested in attending. [dgallagher64@gmail.com](mailto:dgallagher64@gmail.com)

**Fashion Revue for All 4-H'ers**

**June 13, 7:00 pm (rehearsal 6:00 pm)**

If you are a 4-H member and have sewed, knitted, crocheted or made something to wear or carry, please join the fun. Did you sew a costume for Clover Con, Food N Fun or other 4-H Club or event? Did you make something fabulous in your sewing or fiber club? Did you finish your project during sewing lessons? Come show it off! Register with Barb Navatto at [navatto@co.somerset.nj.us](mailto:navatto@co.somerset.nj.us) by May 30th. Members will model for family and friends in the large conference room. Refreshments will be served. More info will be forwarded to participants.

Clothing Judging

**June 9 & 10, 4 & 7 pm**

Members enrolled in the 4-H clothing construction project, please register with your leader. Members of the sewing workshop, please register with Barb Navatto at [navatto@co.somerset.nj.us](mailto:navatto@co.somerset.nj.us). Please register by June 2. Score sheets are available at the 4-H office to look at ahead of time.

Spring Club Camp Musings

*By Betty Sommerville*

Snow on the ground again but the piles were still white. 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 and raked some leaves. Members of the Puppetry, Woolly Ones and Village Hidden in the Clovers Clubs mixed it up with lots of games, anime & laughter. We tried some trial recipes for potential CloverCon treats of dangos and mocha plus bubble tea! After a supper of “Stone Noodle Soup”, a lot of us sang along to “Frozen” the biggest animated file ever. As always, 4-H Camp rocks! But again no actual rocks were moved this springtime. We’ll add more next time in October, after we finish raking it out. We do love our “Clover Labyrinth”!
Hurray for...  
Public Presentations on March 24 - 28

Hurray for the 4-H members who participated in Public Presentations! They are:

**Alpaca Club**
- Melissa Baldi
- Sydney Billera
- Alex Gonzalez*
- Benjamin Lewis
- Sarah Parisi*
- Allison Thyne
- Emily Wallace*
- Cheyenne White

**Anime & Manga**
- Molly Aeschliman

**Astronomy Club**
- Dustin Copeland
- Ricson Cheng*
- Sunny Cheng

**Battlebots**
- Ian Martin
- Peter Romayev
- Alex Strasser
- Spencer Terry*

**Cattleman’s Club**
- Alexa Johnson*

**Chaps & Spurs**
- Sarah Dagnall*

**Chinese Culture Club**
- Patricia Chan*
- Savern Lau*
- Tiffany Yang-Tran*

**Clover Ensemble**
- Dale Brochinsky
- Krishna Mody
- Natasha Mody
- Hayden Verbanas

**Cooking in Action**
- Aly Massi

**Crazy Frog Hoppers**
- Kate Aeschliman
- Melissa Smutko*

**Creative Writing**
- Vishva Chidamboran
- Nikhita Iyer
- Shree Raghauan
- Cassandra Siniscalco

**Fantastic Fiber Club**
- Daria Monti
- Eliza Rothenburger
- Emily Ward*

**Fantastic FotoFanatics**
- Elizabeth Dietrich
- Rashni Gala
- Natalie Zurek

**Grade A Beef Club**
- George Bright*
- Faith Carlson
- Sarah Gillies*
- Emily Milz*
- Debra Winters
- Jay Winters

**Horsin’ Around**
- Stephanie Kirkpatrick*
- Madison Whiting*

**Just Kidding**
- Katrina Duque
- Maeve Egan*
- Alonna Gliksman
- Taylor Johnson*
- Jenna Juechter
- Justin Kavanaugh
- Allison Parascandola
- Carol Ann Perry

**Legomaniacs**
- Abheek Dhara
- Maanas Gopi
- Rishit Roy

**Master Chefs**
- Evan Brochinsky
- Samantha DeProspo
- Tyler Giebas
- Brie Larson
- Lauren Niemeyer
- Kaitlyn Smith
- Ben Strasser
- Megan VanAntwerp
- Rebecca Woltonish

**Mighty Cavits & Rodents**
- Todd Gallagher
- Surya Pillai
- Melanie Quick
- Austin Raymond*
- Daniel Sutherland*
- Judah Sutherland

**Mind Your Bees & Wax**
- Santino Laspina

**Motocross**
- Destiny Golaszewski
- Breanna White

**Movie Making Masters**
- Shawn Kavanaugh

**New Centre Dairy**
- Melissa Bright*
- Cary Brochinsky*
- Sarah Fenwick*
- David Furmato*
- Brooke Marlat
- Kyra Morgan
- Alex Norz*
- Megan Norz
- Susan Norz
- Grace O’Sullivan
- Molly O’Sullivan
- Katherine Schenfien
- Mary Ellen Sousa*

**NextBot**
- Rahul Umran

**PAWSabilities**
- Jennifer Clougher*
- Kate Gallagher*
- Allison Koopman
- Ashley Korbeil
- James Meier
- Julia Meier*
- Samantha Pelicone
- Jennifer Versfelt
- Kayla Versfelt
- Sydney Weber
- Sophie Winter

**Piano/Music Club**
- Brooke Crane*
- Madara Dias*
- Nelusha Dias
- Rohit Madikonda
- Tracy Wang*

**People Pick-Me-Ups**
- Rosemary Davidson*

**Pocket Pet Rescue**
- Chelsea Obermeier*

**Proud 2B Prep**
- Cody Booker

**Radical Rodents**
- Caroline Herdje
- James Killeen
- Valerie Kral*

**Radio Control Cars**
- Owen Booker
## Public Presentations on March 24 - 28 (continued)

**Robotics Club**  
Roshni Dhanasekar

**Senior Council**  
Sarah Bijaczyk*  
John Jannone*  
Alyssa Peterson*  
Shruti Ramanathan*

**Sheepfold**  
Teresa Buzzoni  
Kristi Philipscheck*

**Sidewinders**  
Noah Rothenburger*

**Somerset Servos**  
Alec Doyle  
JP Fox  
Alex Menendez  
Nick Menendez  
Aidan O’Connell  
Callahan O’Connell  
Rahul Ramanathan

**Somerset Trainmasters**  
Zayn Aldabagh*  
Zachary Alvarez*  
Mathew Amerman*  
Chase Brickman*  
John Czerkies  
Benjamin Dickholtz  
Douglas Evans*

**Sheepfold**  
Teresa Buzzoni  
Kristi Philipscheck*

**Sidewinders**  
Noah Rothenburger*

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Zachary Alvarez*  
Mathew Amerman*  
Chase Brickman*  
John Czerkies  
Benjamin Dickholtz  
Douglas Evans*

Zachary Ferreira  
Benjamin Fernandez  
Derek Fought*  
Zachary Gumble  
Bobby Gwiazda  
Nick Hoyer  
James Hughes  
Matthew Jones  
Billy Quick*  
Daniel Rosario  
Kenneth Rosario  
David Sanders  
Thomas Sanders  
Ricky Sepe  
Andrew Simmons*  
Anthony Siniscalco  
Gregory Veneziale  
Hunter Waldron  
Christian Wizda

**Stablemates**  
Hailey Kirsch*  
Hunter Kirsch  
Zoe Kirsch*  
Amber LiBrizzi*  
Ashley LiBrizzi*

**Udder Club**  
Maria Buzzoni*

**Wags & Whiskers**  
Julian Bjugstad  
Ariel Camaligan*

**Watts & Snood**  
Kimberly Duffy*  
Stephanie Duffy*  
Ryder Kirsch  
Kyra Schwarz*  
Kyrstin Schwarz*  
Evelyn Sullivan  
Reed VanDerMeiren

**Whiskers, Paws & Claws**  
Cyrus Duncan  
Katherine Parsons  
Alexis Rushton*

**Woof**  
Krystyn Andreychak*  
Kayla Batzer  
Rachel Blumberg  
James Clelland  
Kirsten Clerico*

**Udder Club**  
Maria Buzzoni*

**Wags & Whiskers**  
Julian Bjugstad  
Ariel Camaligan*

**Watts & Snood**  
Kimberly Duffy*  
Stephanie Duffy*  
Ryder Kirsch  
Kyra Schwarz*  
Kyrstin Schwarz*  
Evelyn Sullivan  
Reed VanDerMeiren

**Whiskers, Paws & Claws**  
Cyrus Duncan  
Katherine Parsons  
Alexis Rushton*

**Woof**  
Krystyn Andreychak*  
Kayla Batzer  
Rachel Blumberg  
James Clelland  
Kirsten Clerico*

*These 4-H’ers have received an invitation to State Presentations on June 14th.

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**National Volunteer Week April 6 - 12**

Each year the Freeholders recognize National Volunteer Week and honor the work of all RCE volunteers.

Representing Somerset County 4-H volunteers were members of 4-H Alpaca Club, Wattsles ‘n’ Snood and New Centre Dairy. From left to right: George Bright Sr., Scott Weiss, Melissa Bright, Janet Weiss, Rutgers Cooperative Extension’s Daryl Minch, Stephanie Duffy, Debbye Duffy. Holding the proclamation is Freeholder Director, Patrick Scaglione.
BIG Basket Bonanza Huge Success. Thanks to All!

Thanks to the tremendous support from our 4-H Family and the generosity of the community, the BIG Basket Auction was a very successful event. MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED by planning, donating prizes, soliciting prizes, wrapping baskets, filling goodie bags, setting and cleaning up, working the event, baking desserts and following up. Proceeds will be used to maintain the 4-H Center.


Thanks to the Udder Club and Chaps & Spurs for running the kitchen and to Senior Council for the hot dog stand, running the gifts and helping with clean-up.

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

National Agriculture Day

The Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders proclaimed March 25 as national Agriculture Day, nothing that the Freeholders established the Somerset County Agriculture Development Board in 1983 to preserve farmland, mediate right-to-farm matters and retain, sustain and advance the industry of agriculture in Somerset County. To date 8,116 acres of farmland have been preserved under the county program.

The proclamation further states that the agriculture business contributes substantially to the county’s economy, promotes healthier lifestyles through locally-grown foods and provides society benefits through agritourism and land preservation.

Accepting the proclamation was 4-H Association’s Lifetime Member, Mark Kirby, himself a lifelong farmer.

Presidential Volunteer Award

These members of the 4-H Chinese Culture Club have qualified for recognition in the Presidential Volunteer Award Program:

Gold
Karen Huang 250 hours
Jonathan Lin 280 hours
Emily Ma 330 hours
Evanna Wang 570 hours

Silver
Angelina Lai 225 hours
Angeline Shieh 175 hours

Bronze
Savern Lau 110 hours
4-H Science-sational Day

This year Science-sational Day was again Sen-sational! 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. Rounding out the day were Alpaca-Ology, Now You See It, Meet “Bug” Boy, Here a Chick, Build Your Own Wind Boat, A Walk with Galileo and Blast Off.

Thanks to Picirillo Science Telling for a tremendous opening program called Potions.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made 4-H Science-sational Day a success: James Thomson, Harry Brochinsky, Margarita Bossa, Vincent Balducci, Janet, Ken and Alyson Weiss, the 4-H Alpaca Club, Debbye and Stephanie Duffy, Wattles ‘n’ Snood, Tom Dietrich, Stephen Rothenburger, the 4-H Sidewinders, Dave Rieur, Glenn Valis, Lynn Liguz, Frank Modrowsky, Ken Pomplun, Marshall Hayward, Broken Props Airplane Club Donghui Wu, Shaotang Yuan, Preet Patel, Naresh Patel, Zhigang Hao, Bharvi Stalhamer, Carlo Daep, Lori Terry, Jane Schneiderman, Jonah Schneiderman, Akash Aedavelli, Conrad Colon, Bob Reichman, Richard Hall and Ernie Hall.

Special thanks to all those club members who shared their pets for the day.

Thanks to these assistants who helped the day run smoothly: Rachel Bijaczyk, Georgeanne Valis, Shannon Zimmitti, Evan Brochinsky, Carolyn Pirro, Zack Larson, P. Mookerjee, Sue Ann Midura, Joedie Sawyer, Ruth McKeen, Alyssa Peterson, Jennifer Versfelt, Paige Lamberston, Allison Kincaid, Mellissa Smutko, Madara Dios, Riddhima Rao, Rebecca Korsgaard, Philip Tellup, Emily Ma.

Thank You to All the Presentation Judges!

State 4-H Dairy Management

These Somerset members participated in the State Dairy Management Contest.

Seniors:
Alanna Staffin - 1st Overall
Josh Miller - 3rd Overall

Other Participants: Melissa Bright, Cary Brochinski, MaryEllen Sousa

Juniors:
Ariel Staffin - 4th Overall

Other Participants: Dale Brochinksy, Jacquilin Kirby, Molly O’Sullivan, Katie Schefen, Lily Teeple, Claire Wickman

Thanks to Nancy Kirby for coaching these members.

State 4-H Dairy Art Show

Congratulations to our winner:
Ariel Staffin 3rd place Junior Division Fine Arts
Melissa Bright 3rd place Senior Division Fine Arts

Food N Fun: A Culinary Delight

Congratulations to all the participants of Food N Fun and many thanks to all the judges. The clubs did an excellent job of making their themes come alive, while learning about cooking and nutrition. Wags ‘n’ Whiskers put up a 4-H Fair Food Tent. Mrs. Linda Augustine was impressed with all the great fair food. The Crazy Frog Hoppers used the Red Carpet to wow Mrs. Ruth Slovik with their elegance and pizazz. Ms. Shannon Zimmitti was the only adult allowed at the Master Chefs rockin’ Pajama Party. The K-9 Leaders incorporated Planets into their meal. Mrs. Tammy Weber enjoyed this really creative approach. Cooking in Action took Mrs. Lynne Kinch back to the past and served dinner in a very authentic 50’s Flashback Diner. Mrs. Cathie Picchiello enjoyed a wonderful meal at a Hawaiian Luau with the Gingersnaps. The Woolly Ones took Mrs. Kathy Bakes on an adventure thru the world of Harry Potter.

Will your club join the fun next year?

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Will your club join the fun next year?

Results of Dairy Clip Off

Congratulations!

Beginner Teams
1st Place - Susie Norz & Grace O’Sullivan
2nd Place - Megan Norz & Dale Brochinsky

Junior Teams
4th Place - Alex Norz, Kyra Morgan & Molly O’Sullivan

Senior Teams
1st Place - Mary Ellen Sousa & Melissa Bright
2nd Place - Josh Miller & Cary Brochinsky

NJ 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl

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

Seniors:
Alanna Staffin - 1st Overall
MaryEllen Sousa - 4th Overall
Melissa Bright - 6th Overall

Junior Participants:
Cary Brochinsky, Josh Miller, Ariel Staffin, Claire Wickman Lily Steeple, Dale Brochinsky, Katie Stefen, Molly O’Sullivan

Many thanks to Nancy Kirby for coaching the team.
State 4-H Equine Presentations

Junior Individual Presentation:
4th place  Madison Whiting

Senior Individual Presentation:
5th place  Stephanie Kirkpatrick
Participant  Christine Papalski

Congratulations to all three for doing a great job!

State 4-H Horse Bowl

Junior Individual:
4th place  Leigha Giranda

Senior Individual:
1st place  Samantha Eristavi
6th place  Amber LiBrizzi
10th place  Christine Papalski

Senior Team
3rd Place  Somerset
Samantha Eristavi, Amber LiBrizzi, Christine Papalski

State Horse Judging and Hippology

Senior Horse Hippology - 2nd Place Team Overall
Samantha Eristavi, Christine Papalski, Amber LiBrizzi, Brianna Ames

Senior Hippology
Christine Papalski  8th Place Senior High Individual
5th Place Individual Station
7th Place Senior Examination
Samantha Eristavi  1st Place Senior High Individual
2nd Place Individual Station
9th Place Individual Judging
2nd Place Senior Examination

Senior Judging
Samantha Eristavi  7th Place High Indiv. Performance
4th Place High Indiv. Oral Reasons
5th Place High Individual Overall

Junior Horse Hippology - 2nd Place Team Overall
Kara Johnson, Leigha Giranda with Hunterdon Co.

Junior Team Problems - 1st Place Team Overall
Kara Johnson, Leigha Giranda with Hunterdon Co.

Junior Hippology
Kara Johnson  3rd Place Overall
2nd Place Junior Exam
2nd Place Individual Station Phase
5th Place Individual Judging Phase
Leigha Giranda  5th Place Overall
5th Place Junior Exam
5th Place Individual Station Phase

Junior Judging
Kara Johnson  8th Place High Indiv. Performance
8th Place High Individual Overall
Leigha Giranda  5th Place High Individual Halter
7th Place High Individual Overall

Junior Judging Team - 4th Place Overall
Kara Johnson & Leigha Giranda with Cumberland Co.

Citizen Washington Focus

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

Sarah Bijaczyk
Stephanie Duffy
We're on the lookout to load the S4HL noon hours with 4-H performances! The 2014 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 (908-393-2239, cell 908-635-1951) or the 4-H Office by May 31. Let's celebrate our super Fair with talent!

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**4-H Fair Herdsmen**

**Application Due July 7**

All project areas are encouraged to send teens to sleep overnight on the fairgrounds. Their job is to make sure everything; animals, exhibits, and equipment, is safe and secure for the night and that the grounds are clean. Becky Moore, Shannon Zimmitti and Jason Metting are the Herdsmen Supervisors and Pauline Kodak makes a great breakfast each day (food suggestions welcomed). A Bridgewater police officer is also present all night.

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 Monday, July 7. 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 21 or Tuesday, July 29.

Registered volunteers may also serve as adult herdsmen. They must complete the Adult Herdsman application. All forms are available on our website: [www.4HisTops.org](http://www.4HisTops.org).

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**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 2014.**

Clubs requesting grants must have sold ads and/or wreaths.
**Fair Planning Meeting**  
**May 28, 2014, 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.

**Ad Sales**

**Ads are still welcomed until May 16.**

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 Prep (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 on (908) 526-6644 between 8:00am and 2:30pm 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! Ignite the Green by marching in the new Twilight Parade of Clubs! Glow sticks for all participants!

In keeping with the Fair theme of Ignite the Green, we’re going to light up the fair with a twilight march!

**New time:** Gather at 7:30pm outside the RC Car Tent
Parade kicks off at 7:45pm
Participation ribbons for all marching clubs.

So ready your banners, your instruments, your costumes, your crazy chicken hats, your giant snake and dragon puppets, your RC cars, your cookware, your batons, or anything that shows off your club! For more info contact Ellen Parker at hookcookbook@gmail.com.
4-H Senior Council
by Riddhima Rao

The BIG Basket Bonanza was fun and successful. Upcoming activities discussed in March: Marching in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade March 16, participating in the Middle Earth 10K Run on March 23, Safe Night in the 4-H Center on April 5 and the Food and Fun Luncheon on April 12. At the April meeting, members discussed the success of the parade and the distribution of lollipops. The club is planning a spring clean-up day on April 27. Already plans are being discussed for Fair!

Just Kidding
by Allison Parascandola

Members discussed the Eco Rally book collection, county presentations and a flower sale fund raiser. The club also reviewed information on goat teeth. Four members are planning to go the NJ Breeders Symposium. Members are busy selling ads and getting sponsors. Reminders were given about lease forms being due.

4-H Alpaca Club
by Cheyenne White

The club saw a presentation given by Shannon Zimmitti on Teen Opportunities. Discussions included the Fair tent design, an agility show in June, ad sales, animal assignments, county presentations, the BIG Basket Bonanza and the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. The club is planning another visit to the farm.

Wags 'n' Whiskers
by Sammi Hall

The club was busy getting ready for their dog show on March 10. All the members were training hard to show their dogs at their very best. Some club members already participated in the Woofminster show in February. Everyone is hoping that they will keep improving.

Furry Friends
by Claire DeAngelis

Members created a new look for their club t-shirts by tie-dying. Members also participated in the Small Animal Show. Former members, the Bell Family, will be coming from out of state to give a presentation to the club. Children’s author Loren Spiotta-DiMare will be speaking to the club about the art of “rabbit hopping”.

People Pick-Me-Ups
by Carolyn Rubinfeld

Last July, the club visited the Gress Mountain Ranch, a forever home for animals in need. While there, they delivered a large amount of donations, including pet food, animal bedding, and cleaning supplies. Members got to enjoy a day of farm work from feeding alpacas to putting lotion on the backs of potbellied pigs. The club is looking forward to another visit in April, and is busy collecting donations. Members are hoping to put together a book of short stories, poetry and photography which feature the ranch’s animals and all proceeds will go towards the Gress Mountain Ranch. Any interested parties should contact 4-H leader Carolyn at carubinf@student.fdu.edu.

Nueva Sensación
by Ellen Parker

The members of the Hispanic Culture club have been having a great time! In October members celebrated Day of the Dead by drawing skeletons, making flowers for loved ones and drinking hot chocolate. In December the club learned about Christmas traditions as members dressed up as characters from the nativity and stuffed a dummy for New Years. In January the club learned about Bull Fighting, and of course, ate more chocolate! This spring they are doing many crafts including weaving and puppetry. And in May they will celebrate Cinco de Mayo and eat Tres Leches Cake! Please join us!
**Master Chefs**  
*by Evan Brochinsky*

In January, members planned out the rest of the year and then dove right into the Master Chef Challenge: 6 Ritz Crackers. There were many different ways to prepare dishes. Evan, Montana and Brie won. Thanks to Mrs. Norz for judging. At one of the cooking sessions, Becky led the club as they made bacon wrapped shrimp and Hawaiian Mini Hot Dogs. They would make great appetizers for the Super Bowl. At another cooking session, Ashley taught members how to make personal calzones, another great appetizer. In February, the club planned their dinner that the Strasser/Herndon family won at the Arts Awards Night. The Master Chef Challenge was 1/4 cup of mayonnaise. Brie, Hannah and Samantha won. Brie now leads the pack with three. Thanks to Mr. Keith and Dimitri for judging. In March the challenge was using 1/4 cup of milk. Winners were Ashley, Brie and Sam. Mrs. Kirby was the judge. Tyler led the club making Irish soda bread, couscous and banana bread. Brie led dirt cups with worms. The April challenge was 2 Eggo waffles. Shannon Zimmitti was the judge and the winners were Julie Ashley and Megan. Discussion included the Food N Fun where the theme is Slumber Party (they won a blue ribbon) and the prize dinner being made for the winners of the Big Basket Bonanza. Members have a great time at their meetings.

**Chinese Culture Club**  
*by Jonathan Lin*

On March 23rd, the Raritan Valley Chinese School hosted their annual Easter Party. Organized by the School’s Chinese Culture Club council (recognizable by the prominent pink bunny ears council members were forced to wear), participants enjoyed all the customary activities of an Easter party. First, students set out onto the Raritan Valley Community College Campus in search of brightly colored plastic eggs, filled with candy. Afterwards, kids were given eggs to color with an assortment of vibrant dyes. At the same time, council members set up a little game-quiz on Chinese names of colors for the kids in an effort to make the party “educational,” and were met with modest success. But perhaps the greatest highlight of the party was the free food, drinks and peeps. In all, it was an exciting, sugar-infused success of a party.

**Cooking Clovers**  
*by Harry Brochinsky*

The new cooking club has a name: the Cooking Clovers! New members Brenna, Riya and Heetanshi were welcomed. Members made apple crisp cups and planned out the rest of the year. New members are welcome to join. Please contact Harry Brochinsky at Brochinsky@hotmail.com.

**Cooking in Action**  
*by Maureen Bono Schenfeld*

Cooking in Action has been very busy. In December they assembled bag lunches for a soup kitchen; in January they made apple tarte tatin; in February they made pizza snacks in a bag and held their Top Chef contest. Each member had to create a dish using 6 Ritz crackers. Winners were Best Overall, Casey with turkey pepperoni pizzas; Best Taste, Julia with bruschetta; Home Cook’s Favorite, Aly with chocolate covered peanut butter sandwiches; Turnaround Success Award, Abby with white chocolate s’mores; Most Creative, Nora with pequeñ chispas; Most Creative, Patricia with The Elvis Cracker; Exhibition Entry Award, Catt with fat-free macaroni and cheese casserole. Spatulas were rewarded to all!

Always check out the website at www.4HisTops.org for the latest information about Somerset County 4-H and other important opportunities for members and their families.
Saturday March 1st was our Prep Rally for grades K – 3rd. This year our theme was “What's the Buzz”. We began the day with an awesome program called “Dancin' with the Honey Bees” presented by Cliff Sunflower Wright. Followed by 4 workshops: Building a Beehive by Cliff Sunflower, Pollination by Rachel Bijaczyk, Cooking with Honey and Beeswax both presented by our Bee Keeping club, Mind your Bees & Wax. It was a fun and educational day that was enjoyed by all who attended.

Thanks to EVERYONE who helped to make the day a great success. Adele, Ronnie Ann, Denise, Ellen, Nancy, Mike, Santino, Carol, Reed, Gabby, Mikki, Samantha, Mikayla, Rachel, Aneta, Mellissa, Becca, Pam, Brenna, Joe, Emily, Beth, Sue, Conrad, Joedie, Nancy K, Carol, Dave, Amy, Sudha, & Jonathan. I couldn't have done it without you.

Happy spring!

Lisa Darby
4-H Program Coordinator

Reminder!

The registration packets for Family Camp, which will be held Friday & Saturday 5/30-5/31 & Sunday 6/1/2014, are available in the lobby of the 4-H Center or on line at www.4HisTops.org. If you have any questions, please contact me at Darby@co.somerset.nj.us or at the 4-H office on (908) 526-6644.

Did you know?

May...

The month of May was originally called Maia after the Roman goddess of spring & growth. The Empire State building was officially opened on May 1st, 1931. Emelia Earhart made the first solo flight by a woman across the Atlantic Ocean on May 20, 1932. The Golden Gate Bridge opened in San Francisco on May 27, 1937. The Kentucky Derby takes place the 1st Saturday of May, Mother's Day is the second Sunday of May and Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday of May.

June...

June is named for the Roman goddess Juno who was the goddess of marriage. Benjamin Franklin discovered electricity on June 15, 1752. The Continental Congress adopted the United States flag known as the Stars & Stripes on June 14, 1777. The Pledge of Allegiance was recognized by Congress on June 22, 1942. Father's Day is celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of June and Flag Day is celebrated on June 14th each year.
Yakety - Yak

Discovery Prep
In March Carolyn Pirro from Wage & Whiskers came to us with her new puppy Cruise. He is a smooth coated collie and really cute. Carolyn showed us how she takes care of him and trains him. We all got to give him a treat and pet him. He is very soft. At our next March meeting Wil Staats brought in his lamb, Clyde, to show us. The lamb was very soft too and a bit nervous at first. Then he calmed down and we learned all about how Wil cares for him and how Wil shows him at the fair. We will look for Carolyn & Cruise, Will & Clyde at the Fair this August.

Cloverbud Kids
February’s meeting was a Lego Night. Members built all kinds of crazy fun contraptions and gadgets. During the March meeting we did a “Me in a Bag” activity. Since March was County Public Presentation month for all the older 4-H’ers we thought it would be fun for the Cloverbud kids to try our own spin on things by us creating “Me in a Bag”. Each Cloverbud Kids member decorated and filled a lunch bag at home with four to six special items that told about themselves. Each member then presented and shared their “Me in a Bag” items with their fellow club members. We learned a lot of our club members have the same interests and like to do many of the same things. April’s meeting was “The Incredible Egg”. Activities included: Meet a Chicken - Lacey brought her chicken to our meeting; egg fun facts, parts of an egg, dying eggs using Kool-Aid, and cooking with eggs. We scrambled them. Finally we did and experiment called “Can you make an Egg float”? After each meeting the past 3 months the Cloverbud Kids have been joining in with the Country Kickers to learn the dance “What Does the Fox Say”.

Proud 2B Prep
In March David Furmato from the Sidewinders club came to our meeting. He brought his reptile and taught us all about it. In April the Crazy Frog Hoppers came and taught us how to double-dutch jump rope.

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 questions, please contact Lisa Darby at Darby@co.somerset.nj.us or on (908) 526-6644.
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<td>Living Well Conference</td>
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Outstanding 4-H’er Forms Due June 2nd
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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, hiking, 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 30 - June 1, 2014
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 ($35.00 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 2014 (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 7-August 16. 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.
Dated Material