 Earn County/State Recognition for Your Club’s Community Service Work!

Community service, citizenship, and service learning are all part of the Citizenship Mission Mandate for the 4-H Youth Development Program. Participating in service projects empowers young people to be well-informed citizens who are actively engaged in their communities and the world.

Those of us involved in 4-H know that our 4-H members contribute hundreds of hours to their communities every year but our key leaders, politicians, and potential funders may not! To help NJ 4-H, and our county 4-H program, tell the story of how 4-H members provide community service and develop valuable life skills in the process we need your help.

NJ 4-H is asking all clubs to complete an online survey, NJ 4-H Service Project Survey, for every community service, service learning, and/or citizenship project they complete. We ask that only the leader or one designated 4-H member complete the survey.

The survey link can be found on the Morris County 4-H website or by following the below QR code. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. You are strongly encouraged to look over the survey and ask the entire club to help with answering the questions before completing it online - but remember there should only be one survey completed for each project.

At the end of the 2015-2016 project year, the NJ 4-H Citizenship Committee will compile all of the surveys to tell of our 4-H contributions and the life skills our 4-H members gain as a result of doing valuable service projects. Clubs that complete the survey will receive recognition for their work at Awards Night.

Help us tell others about the great work your 4-H club and its members are doing! Contact the Morris County 4-H office with questions.

Follow the QR code to the survey or visit the Morris County 4-H website.
Dear 4-H Families,

The Morris County 4-H staff wishes you a healthy and Happy New Year. 2016 will be filled with lots of exciting opportunities to get involved with activities outside of your 4-H club. This issue of Discoveries is filled with news about special training opportunities and upcoming 4-H county and state events. There are also 4-H club reports from our members and leaders. We encourage all club reporters to send us your news and pictures.

Much of the success of our program is due to the dedication of our volunteers. Our leaders are willing to share their time and knowledge to making “the best better”. We welcome all parents who wish to get more involved to do it this year! Make one of your New Year’s resolutions this year to do something that you think will make 4-H even better!

Kathy Murarik
Kelly Dziak

RCE educational programs are open and accessible to all. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the 4-H office.
4-H State Goat Extravaganza
January 9, 2016
This event is for members, parents, and volunteers in the 4-H goat project. Activities include mixed-county team poster-presentation contest, skill-a-thon stations, quiz bowl contests, a goat-themed art show, an ice cream social, and awards ceremony. Learn more by visiting http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/goats/extravaganza/

WANTED: Workshop Presenters for Science-sational Day
Deadline: January 22, 2016
Event Date: March 26, 2016
Each year, Morris County youth in grades K-6 get excited about science at this unique hands-on science event. Volunteers are needed to run 50 minute workshops on a science topic of your choice. Topics can range from astronomy to physics, animals to robotics, and chemistry to engineering. Whatever your interest, we want to share it with our county’s future scientists! The Morris County 4-H office has several ready-made science kits/curriculums to get you started. Already have an idea for a workshop? Great! Contact the 4-H office to get started! Workshops may be led by adult volunteers, teen volunteers with adult support, and 4-H clubs.
Contact the 4-H office to learn more!

National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest
Deadline: January 20, 2016
“What will happen when the bees are gone?” 4-H members are challenged to answer this question by researching what is currently being done in their local communities. If you’re interested in the latest beekeeping research and want to teach others how to support these valuable pollinators, then this essay contest is perfect for you! Submissions must be sent to the state 4-H office by Jan. 20th. Visit the Morris County 4-H website to learn more.

4-H Teen Winter Camp
Deadline: January 15th
January 22-24, 2016
Winter camp is a fun weekend getaway for teens in grades 9-13. Teens from Morris, Salem, Gloucester and Mercer Counties enjoy sledding, hiking, crafting, singing, playing games, and making new friends at L.G Cook 4-H Camp in Stokes State Forest. On Friday night, teens play ice-breaker games. Saturday is spent exploring the various camp activities. Space is limited, so get your application in early. The cost for the weekend is $65.00 and includes meals.
Rutgerscience Saturday!
January 23, 2016
Youth in grades 5-8 will explore the science taking place in our coldest climates at this exciting event. Participants will communicate live with scientists in currently stationed in Antarctica. Find out what it takes to survive in this harsh environment and what important research is being done. Space is limited so don’t wait! Learn more on the Morris County 4-H website.

North Jersey Teen Conference
Deadline: January 30, 2016
Event Date: March 11-13, 2016
This conference is open to all 4-H teens in grades 8-13 throughout northern New Jersey. The conference is planned and run through a partnership of 4-H teens and adults. This year’s theme is “Lights, Camera, Leadership!”

The conference will focus great leaders on the big screen and in every day life. Workshops and group programs will include interactive and hands-on activities. This is a great opportunity for 4-H teens to strengthen their leadership skills and meet new friends. Contact the 4-H office to learn more. Registration deadline is Jan. 30. Registration materials will be available online shortly.

NJ Youth Institute
(part of The World Food Prize)
Deadline: February 1, 2016
Event Date: March 4, 2016
Are you interested in issues related to food security? If so, then don’t miss this fantastic event! Teens in grades 8-12 will meet at Rutgers University to collaborate with other student leaders, work with current researchers, and present recommendation on how to solve key global challenges. Participants must first submit a research paper on a global food security issue by Feb. 1st. Learn more by visiting the Morris County 4-H website.

4-H State Rabbit, Cavy, Small Animal, Herpetology and Poultry Educational Symposium
February 27, 2016
4-H members involved in the rabbit, cavy, small animal, herpetology and poultry 4-H project areas will participate in a variety of educational events all in one day. Activities and events planned include: rabbit hopping contest, art show, avian bowl, animalology quiz bowl, skill-a-thon stations, reptile workshop, and poultry and rabbit showmanship workshops. Visit http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/events/ to learn more.
Citizenship Washington Focus
Applications
Deadline: March 1, 2016
Event Date: July 10-16
4-H teens in grades 9-12 can apply to represent Morris County 4-H at this national event held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD. Participants will meet their delegates, learn about government, and learn how they can become engaged citizens. This is a great opportunity to become active in 4-H and government at the national level. Contact the 4-H office to learn more.

Morristown St. Patrick’s Day Parade
March 12, 2016
Join in the fun by marching with your 4-H club in the Morristown St. Patrick’s Day Parade! Members are encouraged to dress up and march with their club banner. Have an idea for the 4-H float? Be sure to join the 4-H float committee. Interested in marching or serving on the 4-H float committee? Contact the 4-H office at 4hmorris@njaes.rutgers.edu or 973-285-8301.

Discover the Leader in You!
March 19, 2016
4-H members in grades 6-8th will have fun, meet new friends and develop leadership and personal development skills that they can utilize at home, in school, in their 4-H club, and in their community. The conference will be held at Rutgers University Cook Campus in New Brunswick. Contact the 4-H office for more information!

7th Annual Morris County 4-H Science-sational Day
March 26, 2016
Get ready for fun with science! Youth in grades K-6th are invited to the County College of Morris for a day of hands-on scientific discovery. Workshops are led by adult and teen volunteers with a passion for science. Volunteers are needed to run workshops, assist with registration, help guide participants, and answer parents’ questions. Contact the 4-H office to sign-up!
Rutgers Day &
4-H State Dog Show
April 30, 2016
10:00-4:00pm
Enjoy animal shows, garden and nature tours, live performances, lectures from scientists, programming for children and so much more! Cheer on the Morris County 4-H dog club members at the 4-H State Dog Show. The show will be held on the Cook Campus. Visit www.rutgersday.rutgers.edu.

Host Families Needed for 4-H Japan Exchange
4 Weeks, July-August 2016
Host an international youth delegate and bring the richness of the world to your home! Open your home to a Japanese youth (ages 12-16) or adult chaperone this summer. Host families will receive training and support prior to their guest’s arrival. No special activities need to be planned. These youth want to experience American culture, make new friends, and improve their English by staying with your family. For more information, contact the NJ coordinator, Michele Mathews at mmathews@co.burlington.nj.us.

4-H Summer Camp Registration Now Open!
Early Bird Registration Ends March 12, 2016
Since 1951, L.G. Cook 4-H Camp has offered hands-on learning for youth and families through a variety of traditional camp activities. Swimming, boating, hiking, crafting, shooting sports, and campfires are just some of the many activities available to campers. To learn more about 4-H Camp and to sign up for this year’s fun visit http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/.
**Science-sational Day**

**Call for Workshop Proposals**

**March 26, 2016**

**Proposal Due Date: January 22, 2016**

Be prepared to present a 50 minutes workshop to groups of 10-20 youth.

You may be asked to present your workshop 1-3 times, depending upon attendance

1. **Lead Facilitator**  □ youth  □ adult

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2. **Please add additional presenter names here.**

________________________________________________________________________□ youth □ adult
________________________________________________________________________□ youth □ adult
________________________________________________________________________□ youth □ adult

Science-Sational Day is for youth in grades K-6. Select the appropriate grades for your workshop.

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3. **Workshop Title:**

4. **Proposal Description.** Include the information below in your proposal description. Please use headings!

   - **Workshop Objectives:** List the knowledge and/or skills workshop participants will learn.
   - **Detailed Description:** What exactly will happen during your workshop (an outline or list of activities). Please be as detailed as possible.
   - **Resources:** What kind of resources or curriculum you are using.

*The workshop selection committee will give priority to proposals that have an educational focus, incorporate hands-on activities, and will be something that participants will enjoy.*

5. **Budget.** Please include a list of materials, and how much they will cost. Also include a break down of cost per child (plan to work with 60 youth). There is a limited budget available for each program. Include any materials that are being donated as well.

*Proposals must be postmarked, received electronically (email), or faxed by January 22, 2016 to the Morris County 4-H Office. If you have questions, please contact the 4-H office.*
Spring Ahead to Public Presentations on May 6, 2016

This year Public Presentations will take place at the County College of Morris at 6:30pm. Presenters should arrive early to sign in on time. In anticipation of the event, it is strongly encouraged that you prepare in advance.

For some public speaking comes naturally; for others it takes lots of practice.

You may choose to do a demonstration, give an illustrated talk, performance or formal speech. The topic can be of your choice. You can do a presentation on an animal, a country, your family traditions, or whatever floats your boat.

Cloverbud members should prepare to present for at least 1—5 minutes. First time presenters should plan for about a 5 minute presentation. Presenters in eighth grade and up should prepare for at least 8—15 minutes. Dogs and other animals are welcome to be a part of your presentation. Please be sure to have your animal on a leash or secured in a carrier at all times.

We ask all presenters to bring a snack to share while we wait for the judges' scores. Award ribbons will be distributed at the conclusion of the evening. All Cloverbud members will receive a Participation Ribbon for their efforts.

There is also a need for volunteer judges. If you know someone who might be interested in being a judge, please let us know their name and contact information. Training will be provided.

All those in 8th Grade and up who receive excellent on their Presentation on the county level are eligible for State Public Presentations in June held at Hickman Hall, Cook/Douglass Campus in New Brunswick.

Key advice for Public Presentations:

1) Choose a topic you are familiar with: By choosing something you know about, you already create a “comfort zone” and will have an easier time delivering your speech in three to five minutes.

2) Practice, Practice, Practice: Remember that practice makes perfect. When you practice at home in front of an audience (mom, dad, sibling, friend, your dog) you will quickly feel at ease and be prepared to handle your topic with ease on presentation day.

3) Don’t Stress: Public Presentations are fun! Everyone there watching is rooting for you and truly interested in what you’re going to say. So take a deep breath and relax! You’ll do great!

4) Sign Up Early: There is a public presentations sign up sheet on Page 4 of this newsletter. Parents: please take the time to help your Cloverbud fill it out and hand it in no later than April 10. Public Presentation Day is scheduled for May 1, in Cohen Hall at Morris County College. Give yourself plenty of time to arrive and register. Plan to park in the upper Parking Lot closest to Dover Chester Road. It is Parking Lot # 8.

Please refer to the Public Presentations Registration Form on the next page!
4-H PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM

May 6, 2016
County College of Morris
Dover-Chester Road, Randolph, NJ
All 4-H Members (Including Cloverbuds)

Please arrive at 6:00 to check in; Presentations begin at 6:30 p.m.

Return by: April 22, 2016

Check which type of presentation you are giving:

______ Demonstration
______ Illustrated Talk
______ Formal Speech
______ Performing Arts

Return to: Morris County 4-H Office
Attn: Public Presentations
P.O. Box 900
Morristown, NJ 07963
Fax: 973-605-8195
Email: 4hmorris@aesop.rutgers.edu

NAME: ___________________________________ CLUB: ____________________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS: __________________________________ Phone #: __________________________

GRADE: ___________ BIRTHDATE: _________________ YEARS IN 4-H _______________________

PREP MEMBER ______ NUMBER OF PAST COUNTY PRESENTATIONS GIVEN ________________

TITLE OF YOUR PRESENTATION ________________________________________________________

BRIEF EXPLANATION ___________________________________________________________________

________________________________________ ____________________________________________
LENGTH OF PRESENTATION: ________ MINUTES (suggested times: Cloverbud 1-5 min, 8th Grade & Up 8-15 Min, others 3-15).

*8th Grade & Up* mandatory 8-15 Minutes long with an Excellent Speech for State Eligibility.

WILL USE SMALL ANIMALS: ______ Yes ______ No Kind: ___________________________________

(smallest animal, dogs acceptable)

EQUIPMENT: 4-H member is responsible for providing all equipment needed for the presentation.
If you need special assistance, call the 4-H Office (973-285-8300) before April 8, 2014.

MY LOCAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IS: (Please give the name of your weekly newspaper)

________________________________________ ____________________________________________

Please bring a tray of snacks, hors d’oeuvres or other finger food for refreshment at the Awards Ceremony. (i.e. cheese and crackers, veggie platter)

Grades 4-13, Check one: _______ Yes, I would like to be a host/hostess.
_______ No, I would not like to be a host/hostess.
Board of Directors
Election Results
We are pleased to report the election results for 2015:

Mic McWilliams and Glen Zdroik were elected to continue serving on the Board for another term. New to the Association Board of Directors are Melissa Baumgartner (4-Footed Leaders), Megan Piazza (Freedom Fields), and Valerie Pipoli (Shutterbugs).

Winter Meeting Schedule
January 14—Board Meeting 7 pm
February 18—Board Meeting 7 pm

Financial support for
4-H Members and Volunteers!
Don’t let costs deter you from attending an event. The Morris County 4-H Association’s Board of Directors wants to support club members and volunteers interested in pursuing educational opportunities to grow themselves and the 4-H program.

Major national trips for older 4-H’ers, like National 4-H Conference and National 4-H Congress, will be 100% paid for by the Morris County 4-H Association. North Jersey Teen Conference will be funded at 60%. Even Winter Camp will be funded at 50%.

Also, if you enter in a state 4-H competition that has an entry fee, like the Horse Bowl or the State Small Animal Show, the Association will pay the entry fees.

Money is available for volunteers, too. Volunteers who are required to complete specific training as a condition for volunteering, like Shooting Sports volunteers, will have that training completely paid for up to $100. Leader Forum attendees will also receive substantial support.

If you want to request financial support from the Association, please contact the Association president Glen Zdroik (portside2@yahoo.com) or the 4-H office.

4-H Leader’s Association
Holiday Party Report
The 4-H Association got into the holiday spirit on Dec. 10th at the home of Board member Mic McWilliams and wife Robin. Everyone in attendance agreed that this special Leaders Appreciation get together was so nice and enjoyable. It was fun catching up on club news and program successes.

A brief meeting was held to recap Awards Night and learn about upcoming events. The group also reflected on the recent passing of long time 4-H volunteer, Jan Dimichino, and voted to make a donation to the family.

The meeting was followed by a 4-H themed gift exchange game. Each leader and board member received a gift after sharing a little about their involvement in the Morris County 4-H program.

A special thank you to Mic and Robin for opening their home to us.
Lance Corporal
Andrew W. Lubrano
4-H Scholarship

This scholarship is available to High School Seniors who have been involved in 4-H during their four years of high school. Completion of record books is NOT required. This award of $1,500 is intended to recognize an active, well-rounded 4-H member. We encourage all who qualify to apply. Please make sure that you give your leader plenty of time to write the required recommendation to meet the deadline. This scholarship was established in memory of Morris County 4-Her Andy Lubrano who grew up in Randolph Township. Andy’s accidental death in 1991 at age 20 in the Marine Corps left friends and family with memories of his fun loving personality, his ease in making friends, and his love and respect for family. Applications are available from your leader or the 4-H office. Entry deadline is March 15.

In Sympathy

Morris County 4-H extends sincere condolences to the Cronin family for the loss of their mother and grandmother, Helen Dean.

Morris County 4-H extends sincere condolences to the Dimichino family for the loss of their wife and mother, Jan Dimichino. Jan was a 4-H alumna of the Essex County Bridal Spurs 4-H horse club. As an adult, she supported her daughters 4-H activities by volunteering at many Morris County 4-H events. Because of her experience in horsemanship, she started and led the Roxbury Riders 4-H horse club. In 2012, Jan was named the Morris County 4-H Alumna of the Year.

The Morris County 4-H community keeps the Cronin and Dimichino families in our thoughts.

Seeing Eye Scholarship

The Seeing Eye offers an annual scholarship to recognize members in The Seeing Eye Puppy Raiser Program with a $1,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. This scholarship is open to high school seniors that have raised two or more puppies, the second having been during the junior or senior year of school. Students can be currently raising their second puppy. Applications will be available in late January from Seeing Eye leaders.
Holiday Caroling

Thanks to all 4-H Club members, leaders and family for participating in Holiday Caroling on December 5th. We had huge turn out with many new clubs and members joining in this long-standing Morris County 4-H tradition. Participants enjoyed singing and visiting with the residents at Morris View Nursing Home. 4-H members handed out holiday cards to residents to brighten their rooms with cheer. A big thanks to our song leaders and group helpers and to our many project animals (including dogs, small animals, and chickens) who delighted the residents. Thank you to everyone who brought yummy cookies and treats. And a big THANK YOU to everyone who attended and made this year’s Holiday Caroling Party a big success!

4-Footed Leaders
Bonnielee DiCola
Caleb Fornes
Elaine Fornes
Ellen Trasente

Be the Change
Hema Bharadwag
Jill Pasquino
Mary Pasquino
Johanna Pipoli
Michael Pipoli
Valerie Pipoli

Board Members
Mic McWilliams

Buckaneers
Frank Giambattista
Hope Giambattista
Ariane Grevesen
Michele Grevesen
Paytan Grevesen

Dogs R’ Us
Kristen Briney
Katherine Dodge
Kayla Mlynarski
Kathy Murarik
Dawn Riley
Corrine Rybarski
Holiday Caroling

Feathered Friends
Clayton Zdroik
Glen Zdroik
Wade Zdroik

Guests
Gianna Masherelli
Liliara Papputerra
Lizuette Pappaterra
Jo Wade
Rachel Wade
Meghan Wyse

Knit Wits
Janet Dodge

Mad STEM Scientists
Dorothy Velez
George Velez
George Velez, Jr.
Vicki Velez
Gavin Carra
Jen Carra
Ty Carra
Reagan Carra
Gunjan Gupta
Mahi Gupta
Myra Gupta
Rashi Patel
Abigail Preuss
Adam Preuss
Angela Preuss
Hayden Preuss
Ian Preuss

Phoenix Horses
Laura Graham

Teen Council
Kelly Dziak

Wing Nuts
Caitlin James
Gemma James

Shutterbugs
Holt Englander
Karsten Englander
Caroline Hwang
Mia Hwang
Sarah Hwang
Abby Killion
Marybeth Killion
Britt Wagner
National 4-H Congress

Morris County 4-H is proud to report that we sent two representatives to the annual National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia held November 27 to December 1, 2015. Shannon Rauter (Teen Council 4-H Club) and Miranda Meade (Puppy Tails and Morris Marksmen 4-H Clubs) were part of 15 state delegates selected to represent 9 New Jersey counties. Congratulations, Shannon and Miranda, for being selected to represent the Morris County and New Jersey 4-H program. Below is their report and photos from the event.

"Over our Thanksgiving break, Miranda Meade and I traveled to Atlanta, Georgia for the 94th National 4-H Congress. We participated in workshops, listened to speakers, attended events, and did some touring with about 1,000 other 4-H’ers from across the country. We attended workshops on service learning, pilates, robotics, nutrition, and leadership. Our speakers included Barbara Chamberlin of New Mexico State University, Miss Delaware 2010 Kayla Martell, Stedman Graham, Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell, and Dan Clark. We participated in amazing events such as international night, an evening of culture at the Atlanta History Center, and the Congress gala and dance. Miranda and I also enjoyed a bus tour of Atlanta landmarks on our way to tour CNN headquarters. My favorite moment of the trip was learning ballroom dances from the Civil War era at the Atlanta History Center, while Miranda loved international night and the gala. Overall, National 4-H Congress was a unforgettable experience. Miranda and I are grateful for the opportunity and would highly recommend that other Morris County teens apply for the trip." - by Shannon Rauter
Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign

We are pleased to report that our Fall Paper Clover Campaign was a huge success! A very special thank you to Jim Newquist for manning the table for countless hours and promoting 4-H! Thank you to all 4-H members, club leaders, and families who represented their clubs at the store.

Paper Clover Campaign Report

On Sunday, October 11, the Furry Friends and Just Kid ’n’ Around 4-H clubs greeted customers at Tractor Supply in Flanders. The purpose was to raise money for the Paper Clover Campaign. We showed our project animals, answered questions, and collected donations for 4-H. Not only did we raise money, we increased awareness of 4-H and recruited some potential new members. The customers were very interested in our animals and enjoyed speaking with us. The Paper Clover Campaign ran from October 7th through the 18th.
- By Brandon Lauchnor

Be the Change

Be the Change, the new 4-H club, is off to good start. We had our first informative meeting with a good mix of 4-H members, leaders, parents and a few new to 4-H.

We ran a pajama drive at Awards Night and we want to thank everyone for donating. We left with a full box. We continued the collection at Century 21 in Morristown. We have lots of upcoming community service projects in mind for the 4-H year. If you would like to join us and feel great about helping your community you can email us at bethechange4hclub@gmail.com.
- By Johanna Pipoli
**The Buckanears are Busy**

At the beginning of the 4-H year the Buckanears club was busy having fun. At the October meeting we had a Halloween party. There was a costume contest with silly awards. We ate candy and listened to Halloween music.

In November, the Buckanears club was invited to the NJ Pet Expo by Tammy Steele of Allikat’s Bunnies to help with set up and clean up and a petting table, but the best part was the Rabbit hopping.

Rabbit hopping is similar to horse jumping but, of course, much smaller. There was a rabbit hopping competition where we earned medals. Our rabbits did very well. We met another 4-Her all the way from Canada. We learned how to put on a harnesses and encourage our rabbits over the jumps.

Walking around the expo there were pigs to pet, interesting dog performances, friendly alpacas and all sorts of unique pet things to buy.

The Buckanears club would like to extend our gratitude to Tammy for getting our club into the Pet Expo we all had a wonderful time.

- By Johanna Pipoli

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**Rutgers Science Saturday Report**

I went to Rutgers Science Saturday with my friend, Will. We learned about light. My favorite part was the actual experiments and making rainbow ghosts. I thought the lunch was awesome and we went home with a science goody bag to use at home. I would recommend these classes and I would go again.

- By Michael Pipoli

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**Paws and Claws Spreads Joy by Sharing Their Love for Animals**

On September 12, 2015, the Paws and Claws 4-H club celebrated Mine Hill Day with a popular boardwalk game, an adorable bunny for people to pet, and lovely volunteers to help raise awareness to their new club and 4-H. Through the rain and cold, the members fought against Mother Nature and stayed to the very end, showing how dedicated these club members are to 4-H. People’s love for animals grew and smiles were shared all around.

- By Heather Doherty
**4-H Club News**

**Dogs 'R' Us & Shutterbugs Clubs Party Together**

On October 26th the Shutterbugs and Dogs R Us 4-H clubs met at the Morris View Nursing Home. The two clubs had a Halloween parade and party. Shutterbugs club members took pictures of residents with the dogs in their costumes. Kathy Murarik announced each kid and their dog to the residents. The residents enjoyed the parade so much that the Shutterbugs club will make a photo album to present to the residents over the winter holidays.

The Dogs R Us club also had a fun party and the Shutterbugs club members stayed to enjoy it and take pictures. At the party, members brought food to share. There was also candy and dog treats for trick-or-treating. There was bobbing for apples for kids and bobbing for biscuits for dogs, which many dogs really liked.

Both clubs were happy to get to know each other and make the residents happy.

- By Mia Hwang (Shutterbugs) and Johanna Pipoli (Dogs R Us)

**Dogs 'R' Us Election Results**

The Dogs R Us 4-H Club had their voting meeting on Nov. 10th. We are happy to announce our club officers for the 2015-2016 year:

- **President**: Corrine Rybarski, **Vice President**: Morgan Sanchez, **Secretary**: Kristen Briney, **Vice Secretary**: Gabriella Kaufman, **Treasurer**: Eva Gianella, **Vice Treasurer**: Kayla Mlynaski, **Reporter**: Johanna Pipoli, **Health Officer**: Savana Moore

Congratulations to everyone. The club is looking forward to the rest of the year with our new officers.

- By Johanna Pipoli

**Kids4Kindness**

Club members supported their community seniors by raking leaves creating emergency storm kits, and playing Bingo. This is a very busy club with new projects happening all year. Contact the 4-H office if you’d like to join in the fun!
Feathered Friends Learn More

The fall has been a busy time of learning for Feathered Friends. At the October meeting we had a guest speaker from Nutrena. Bryanna Reis, the local sales representative attended our meeting and gave a mini seminar on winter flock care. The lecture was fun and informative. The following week at Tractor Supply Company there was another great educational chicken event call Flockober. Several feathered Friends members were in attendance. It has been a great and educational start to the 4h year. - By Charlize Sinko

Just Kid 'n' Around

Just Kid N Around started the 4h year off right with a visit from large animal veterinarian Dr. Jane Farrell. Dr Jane covered many topics all about goat care. She went over feeding, hoof care and all about worms! The entire club including leaders learned a great deal.
- By Kailey Sinko

Mad STEM Scientists

Starting the 4-H Club we did many things over the past months and I am going to talk about some….now.

We made flashlights out of little boxes, wires, lots of tape and light-bulbs. It was really hard. For some it was easy, but we had a great time and learned about electricity and circuits.

We went to the planetarium and learned about the constellations and galaxies. It made us feel like we were moving up, down and all around.

In conclusion, I just think it was so amazing all our meetings have been!
- By Gavin Denise
The Morris Marksmen have had a very busy fall in 2015. With competitions in September through November for many different disciplines, seniors participating had a busy few weeks beforehand practicing and readying equipment to compete. In September, senior members attended the small bore and air rifle competitions and did very well; the following month was the archery competition, where again those participating did very well. The shotgun competition was held in November, to which we only had one member attend and represent the club. Overall, the competition season was a lot of fun and those who participated have improved a lot since last year—the club even had its first members qualify for the National competition! Even though they cannot attend in the upcoming year, the club is very proud and is looking forward to doing even better next year.

The club recently had a group pumpkin shoot in which we celebrated the fall season and had a blast shooting pumpkins with air rifles, .22 rifles, and bows and arrows. Everyone who attended had a fun time shooting and bonding with fellow members.

Many club members won awards at the 2015 4-H dinner, being recognized for achievements such as teen leadership, personal development, and best club record book. Members of the club are looking forward to learning, growing and experiencing even more this year!

- By Miranda Meade
Awards Night
## Awards Night

### 4-H Leaders Years of Service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Leaders</th>
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</table>
| **1 Year** | Robert Bartnick—Morris Marksmen  
Phil Cavallo—Morris Marksmen  
Joseph Celentano—Claybusters  
Shannon Cicero—Furry Friends  
Kelly Degan—Shutterbugs  
Debbie DeRosa—Lil’ Squealers  
Nancy Doherty—Buckaneers & Paws and Claws  
Dan Dokus—Nature’s Keepers  
Lynee Dokus—Nature’s Keepers  
Caroline Hwang—Shutterbugs  
Kristine Kaufmann—Morris Marksmen  
Casey Masterson—Wing Nuts  
Denise Masterson—Wing Nuts  
Stacie Miller—Buckaneers  
Laura Owens—Feathers Together  
William Russell—Lil’ Squealers  
Maryellen Soriano—Feathers Together  
Terry Stella—Freedom Fields  
Marilyn Witts—Freedom Fields |
| **3 Years** | Michael Dollar—Claybusters  
Colleen Hamilton—Morris Marksmen  
Renee Dollar—Morris Marksmen  
Kelly Dziak—Teen Council  
Andrea Harris—Herpetology Heroes  
Jessica Crespo—Picatinny 4-H Club  
Elyse Sinko—Feathered Friends, Furry Friends  
& Just Kid ‘n’ Around |
| **4 Years** | Arlene Cronin—Claybusters  
Megan Piazza—Freedom Fields  
James Scanlan—Claybusters  
Glen Zdroik—Feathered Friends |
| **5 Years** | Arlene Cronin—Claybusters  
Megan Piazza—Freedom Fields  
James Scanlan—Claybusters  
Glen Zdroik—Feathered Friends |
| **6 Years** | Janet Dodge—Knit Wits  
Laura Graham—Phoenix Horses  
Gary Heller—Claybusters  
Rosanne Oblen—Feathered Friends, Furry Friends, Just Kid ‘n’ Around, Lil’ Squealers, & Seedlings |
| **7 Years** | Gary Rauco—Claybusters  
Keith Small—Claybusters  
Terri Yost—Teen Council |
Awards Night

4-H Leaders Years of Service

12 Years
Lyn Danson Smith—Allegro School 4-H

13 Years
Stan Firer—Karing Kids of Morris County

17 Years
Jennifer Carberry—Amazing Artists
Linda Kabis—Puppy Tails

23 Years
Beverly Hahn—Dogs “R Us
Kathy Murarik—Dogs “R Us

Teen Leadership

Kimberly Cronin—Teen Council
Robert Curtis—Feathered Friends
Chris DeRosa—Furry Friends & Seedlings
Justin Fiumefreddo—Teen Council
Patrick Grenz—Claybusters
Devon Hallihan—Feathered Friends
Ethan Hamilton—Morris Marksmen
Kurt Heller—Claybusters
Mary Johnson—Teen Council
Parris Johnson—Teen Council
Elizabeth Kaufmann—Puppy Tails
Miranda Meade—Morris Marksmen & Puppy Tails
Gary Rauco, Jr.—Claybusters
Shannon Rauter—Teen Council
Corrine Rybarski—Dogs R Us
Maria Russell—Furry Friends & Seedlings
Brian Scanlan—Claybusters
Danny Scanlan—Claybusters
Billy Small—Claybusters
Clayton Zdroik—Feathered Friends & Teen Council

New Club Leaders

Eunice Boyd—Kids 4 Kindness
Michael Dodge—Knit Wits
Alan Gerber—Morris Marksmen
John Johnson—Teen Council
Mackenzie Kratzsch—Regal Rabbits
Celia Longendyck—Morris Marksmen
Victoria Peterson—Buckaneers
Valerie Pipoli—Shutterbugs
Dorothy Velez—Mad STEM Scientists
George Velez—Mad STEM Scientists
4-Her of the Year is awarded to an outstanding 4-H member who has shown deep commitment and significant involvement in the 4-H program through club, county, state and national activities. The recipient also demonstrates leadership and service to others through their 4-H involvement. For these reasons, Shannon Rauter was recognized as the 2014 4-Her of the Year.

When Shannon Rauter joined the Teen Council club, she took every opportunity to get involved in 4-H events outside her own club. Within her first year, Shannon became active in 4-H at the county, state, and national levels. When there is a need, Shannon is one of the first people to offer support and always with a smile.

Shannon is one of few 4-H members in NJ who has been selected to attend all three national 4-H events for teens including Citizenship Washington Focus, National 4-H Conference, and later this month she will attend National 4-H Congress.

What makes Shannon an outstanding 4-H member is her natural talent for bringing the best out of her fellow club members. She takes extra time to get to know each member, encourages others to try new things, and personally invites shy members out of their comfort zones. At the same time, she assists more energetic members by creating a plan of action to accomplish goals. Shannon’s welcoming attitude, helpful nature, and desire to pursue new opportunities are what make her an outstanding 4-H member in Morris County.

Congratulations 2015 4-H Member of Year, Shannon Rauter!
Hats off & Kudos

Congratulations “I Dare You” Award Winner

Maria Russell’s love for 4-H started when she participated in the Fair with her tiny hamster. This experience inspired her to join the Buckaneers and Feathered Friends clubs where she made many new friends. She collaborated with club leaders and other teen members to strengthen the club experience for younger members. She later joined the Teen Council club where she strengthened her leadership skills with fellow club members. This past year, Maria helped start two new 4-H clubs, the Lil’ Squealers pig club and the Furry Friends small animal club.

Maria eagerly seeks out new opportunities to grow in 4-H and to positively impact the 4-H program. At the Fair, she has led the Watermelon Eating Contest, Pet Show, and other fun activities for kids. She has also participated in several state teen 4-H events and was selected to represent NJ 4-H in the national 4-H photo shoot. This year, Maria represented Morris County 4-H in the NJ Agricultural Ambassador Contest. She was our county’s first ambassador ever to compete in this event which included a written essay and formal speech to the Ag Fair Association.

Maria’s enthusiasm for 4-H, dedication to make the best better, and welcoming attitude make her a valued member of the Morris County 4-H program.

The “I Dare You” Award was created by William Danforth in 1941 to recognize young people who have demonstrated qualities of constructive leadership. The award recipients strive to achieve their highest potential and positively influence others through their service. For these reasons, the 2015 “I Dare You” Award recipient is Maria Russell.

Congratulations 2015 “I Dare You” Award winner, Maria Russell!
Awards Night

Clover Award Winners

**BUCKANEARS**
Angelina Butarascu
Danielle Doherty
Heather Doherty
Ariane Grevesen
Paytan Grevesen
Caroline Matthews
Elizabeth McNaughton
Jenna Muszelik
Johanna Pipoli
Maria Russell
Cassandra Verge
Elizabeth Verge
Hannah Vivian

**FEATHERED FRIENDS**
Amelia Alfano
Deanna Cohen
Cameron Cruger
Robert Curtis
Christopher DeRosa
Devon Hallihan
Charlize Sinko
Kailey Sinko
Kadyn Young
Clayton Zdroik

**JUST KID 'N' AROUND**
Deanna Cohen
Christopher DeRosa
Ava Farley
Devon Hallihan
Jacob Krijger
Brandon Lauchnor
Charlize Sinko
Kailey Sinko
Adriana Totten
Natalia Totten
Cassandra Verge
Elizabeth Verge

**DOGS R' US**
Erin DeBiasse
Katharine Dodge
Johanna Pipoli
Corrine Rybarski
Morgan Sanchez
Erin Tlack

**FURRY FRIENDS**
Christopher DeRosa
Shauna Hudson
Charlize Sinko
Kailey Sinko
Maria Russell
Kadyn Young

**KNITS WITS**
Jennarose Bergamini

**LIL' SQUEALERS**
Christopher DeRosa
Maria Russell
Awards Night

Clover Award Winners

NATURE’S KEEPERS
Gabriel Dokus
Julianna Fugere
Abbey McDonald
Gage Weckenmann

SEEDLINGS
Nicola D’Amico
Raquel D’Amico
Christopher DeRosa
Maria Russell
Elizabeth Verge
Cassandra Verge

TEEN COUNCIL
Kevin Cronin
Kimberly Cronin
Halle Damiano
Erin DeBiasse
Katharine Dodge
Jason Fiumefreddo
Justin Fiumefreddo
Mary Johnson
Parris Johnson
Jessie Rynolds
Corrine Rybarski
Morgan Sanchez
Shannon Sanchez
Clayton Zdroik
Jessica Zhang

PAWS AND CLAWS
Erica Chwazik
Danielle Doherty
Heather Doherty
Mahi Gupta
Karli Lardieri
Johanna Pipoli

SHUTTERBUGS
Ross Bancken
Celia Degan
Miranda Degan
Holt Englander
Karsten Englander
Mia Hwang
Sarah Hwang
Amber Ippolito
Abby Killion
Johanna Pipoli
Michael Pipoli

PAWS AND CLAWS
Gianna Antonacci
Joseph Antonacci
Douglas Hoeflin
Gemma James
Rylan Masterson
Luca Morelli
June Perigo
Johanna Pipoli
Avery Thieleman
Cricket Vanderploeg
Elizabeth Scheibner

PUPPY TAILS
Edie Brazil
Heather Drury
Katie Drury
Mia Hwang
Sarah Hwang
Elizabeth Kaufmann
Miranda Meade
Gianna Olup
Sophia Olup
Chiara Ricupero
Giovanni Ricupero
Justine Stubbs
# Awards Night

## ACHIEVEMENT

### GRADES 4–8
- Devon Hallihan of Feathered Friends
- Devon Hallihan of Just Kid 'n' Around
- Ethan Hamilton of Morris Marksmen
- Elizabeth Kaufmann of Puppy Tails
- Jenna Muszelik of Buckanears
- Johanna Pipoli of Buckanears
- Johanna Pipoli of Shutterbugs
- Charlize Sinko of Feathered Friends
- Erin Tlack of Dogs R Us
- Hanna Vivian of Buckanears
- Kadyn Young of Furry Friends

### GRADES 9–13
- Robert Curtis of Feathered Friends
- Parris Johnson of Teen Council
- Shannon Rauter of Teen Council

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

### GRADES 4–8
- Deanna Cohen of Just Kid 'n' Around
- Julie Gerber of Morris Marksmen
- Mia Hwang of Shutterbugs
- Brandon Lauchnor of Just Kid 'n' Around
- Johanna Pipoli of Dogs R Us
- Charlize Sinko of Furry Friends
- Kailey Sinko of Furry Friends
- Kadyn Young of Feathered Friends

### GRADES 9–13
- Katharine Dodge of Dogs R Us
- Shauna Hudson of Furry Friends
- Mary Johnson of Teen Council
- Maria Russell of Lil' Squealers
- Maria Russell of Teen Council
- Clayton Zdroik of Feathered Friends
- Clayton Zdroik of Teen Council
- Jessica Zhang of Teen Council

## CLUB SCRAPBOOK AWARD
- Buckanears 4-H Club

## CLUB SECRETARY'S BOOK AWARD
- Shannon Rauter of Teen Council

## INDIVIDUAL SCRAPBOOK AWARD
- Jessica Zhang of Teen Council

## CLUB TREASURER'S BOOK AWARD
- Clayton Zdroik of Teen Council
Awards Night

WINDOW DISPLAY CONTEST

Best in Show
Shutterbugs
Honorable Mention
Buckaneers

Participants:
Feathered Friends
Furry Friends
Just Kid ‘n’ Around
Lil’ Squealers
Puppy Tails
Seedlings
Teen Council

Great job, 4-Hers!
# State and National Events

## Awards Night

### NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS
- Kimberly Cronin

### NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE
- Shannon Rauter

### NATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT ON HEALTHY LIVING
- Jessica Zhang

### STATE 4-H GOAT EXTRAVAGANZA
- Charlize Sinko
- Kailey Sinko

### STATE 4-H GOAT SHOW
- Brandon Lauchnor

### STATE 4-H DOG SHOW
- Katelyn Baumgartner
- Mark Dempsey
- Bonnielee DiCola
- Crystal Mencia
- Katharine Dodge
- Morgan Sanchez
- Kent Sanchez
- Kristin Kabis
- Kristin Miike

### STATE PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
- Tyler Braunstein
- Kevin Cronin
- Nadine Ghebreal
- Mary Johnson
- Parris Johnson
- Elizabeth McNaughton
- Jessica Zhang

### TEEN WINTER CAMP
- Erin DeBiasse
- Christopher DeRosa
- Katharine Dodge
- Kate Dollar
- Jason Fiumefreddo
- Justin Fiumefreddo
- Mikayla Harris
- Mary Johnson
- Elizabeth McNaughton
- Sophia Pettine
- Maria Russell
- Morgan Sanchez
- Anna Sikes
- Robert Szumski
- Samantha Zarzycki
- Clayton Zdroik

### NORTH JERSEY TEEN CONFERENCE
- Kimberly Cronin
- Kevin Cronin
- Halle Damiano
- Erin DeBiasse
- Christopher DeRosa
- Katharine Dodge
- Jason Fiumefreddo
- Justin Fiumefreddo
- Mary Johnson
- Parris Johnson
- Elizabeth McNaughton
- Maria Russell
- Morgan Sanchez
- Samantha Zarzycki
- Clayton Zdroik
- Jessica Zhang
Awards Night

FRIEND of 4-H
Bob Cook
Morris County Motor Services

FAIR ‘WORK AND WIN’ WINNER
Arianna Salmon

SEEING EYE BEST FRIEND AWARD
Caleb Fornes
Elizabeth Kaufmann

2015 HOLIDAY CARD CONTEST WINNER
Miranda Meade

Holiday Card Contest Participants

Amelia Alfano  Maggie McDonald  Shane Oblen
Cameron Cruger  Sammy Oblen  Richie Pealmar
Chris DeRosa  Roegan Pearma  Maria Russell
Sierra Durham  Ava Schaffenhauer  Kailey Sinko
Shauna Hudson  Charlize Sinko  Marissa Spokare
Matthew Landis  Derek Maggio  Abbey McDonald
Kiera Louie  Maggie McDonald  Kiley McDonald
Alex Maggio  Maggie McDonald  Bella Zaki

Thank you to all that entered!
Awards Night

Fair Photo Contest

Grades 4-8
1st Place
Cassandra Verge
"Guinea Pig Hugs"

2nd Place
Heather Doherty
"Mr. Moosome"

3rd Place
Heather Doherty
"A Mooving Moment"

Grades 9-13
1st Place
Elizabeth Verge
"Meeting New Friends"

2nd Place
Shauna Hudson
"Hot Days, Cool Friends"

3rd Place
Elizabeth Verge
"Cassandra with a Chick"
Best In Show
Shannon Cicero
"Winning Smiles"

Adult
1st Place
Shannon Cicero
"Winning Smiles"

2nd Place
Nancy Doherty
"4-H Spirit"

3rd place
Linda Kabis
"Oh my! Two butterflies!"

Honorable Mention
Bill Brunner
"Chickens on Parade"

John Doherty
"Whee!"

Debi McDonald
"Morris County 4-H has it all!"
CLOVERBUD PARTICIPATION
Kailey McDonald
Emma Krijger
Emmalee Miller

GRADES 4-8

DOG CARE AND TRAINING
Abbey McDonald
Johanna Pipoli
* Best Record Keeper: **Johanna Pipoli** *

FOOD AND NUTRITION
Gabriel Dokus
* Best Record Keeper: **Gabriel Dokus** *

GENERAL PURPOSE
Jennarose Bergamini
Johanna Pipoli
* Best Record Keeper: **Jennarose Bergamini** *

GOATS
Deanna Cohen
Devon Hallihan
Jacob Krijger
Charlize Sinko
Kailey Sinko
* Best Record Keeper: **Jacob Krijger** *

PHOTOGRAPHY
Mia Hwang
Sarah Hwang
* Best Record Keeper: **Mia Hwang** *

POULTRY
Logan Hallihan
Devon Hallihan
Charlize Sinko
Kailey Sinko
* Best Record Keeper: **Charlize Sinko** *

RABBIT, CAVY, AND SMALL ANIMAL
Jenna Muszelik
Johanna Pipoli
Charlize Sinko
Kailey Sinko
Hannah Vivian
Kaydn Young
* Best Record Keeper: **Jenna Muszelik** *

SEEING EYE PUPPY
Edie Brazil
Gianna Olup
* Best Record Keeper: **Edie Brazil** *

SHOOTING SPORTS
Sophia Cavallo
Brian Bartnick
Kyle Donahue
Michael Forrest
Julie Gerber
Ethan Hamilton
Seth Hamilton
Elizabeth Kaufmann
David Longendyck
Alec Rybarski
* Best Record Keeper: **Ethan Hamilton** *
Awards Night

Project Book Awards

GRADES 9-13

DOG CARE AND TRAINING
Katharine Dodge
Morgan Sanchez
Corrine Rybarski
Kent Sanchez
* Best Record Keeper: Corrine Rybarski *

POULTRY
Robert Curtis

SEEING EYE PUPPY
Mark Dempsey
Miranda Meade
Caleb Fornes
Elizabeth Kaufmann
* Best Record Keeper: Mark Dempsey *

SHOOTING SPORTS
Kate Dollar
Miranda Meade
* Best Record Keeper: Miranda Meade *

TEEN LEADERSHIP
Erin DeBiasse
Kevin Cronin
Mary Johnson
Parris Johnson
Jessica Zhang
Katharine Dodge
Maria Russell
Shannon Rauter
* Best Record Keeper: Parris Johnson *

GENERAL PURPOSE
Maggie McDonald
Halle Damiano
Maria Russell
Samantha Zarzycki
* Best Record Keeper: Halle Damiano *

GOAT
Brandon Lauchnor
*Best Record Keeper: Brandon Lauchnor*

RABBIT, CAVVY, & SMALL ANIMAL
Shauna Hudson
* Best Record Keeper: Shauna Hudson *

CONGRATULATIONS
4-H’ers!!
My 4-H Story

Jenna Muszelik
Grades 4-8

The best thing about memories is making them.” I have made some of my best memories with 4-H and the friends I’ve made through it. I am part of the Buckaneers club, and this year was a very powerful and interesting in 4-H, not only for me, but my club members too. One of the best parts of this year was the fair. It has always been an exciting highlight but this year was exceptional. One of the unique things that was different at the fair this year, were the number of new members we had. They did a great job, and the older members were really great mentors to the newer kids. Another thing my particular club did, was something called Safety Patrol. During Safety Patrol, all of the members helped out the visitors, and our animals as well. We did this to keep all our animals safe, as last year we had continuous problems involving the visitors. Additionally, going back to the new members, it was fun to show them the ropes of the fair. Some of the things we helped the new members with, were showing them around, explaining how the shows work, how to sign up for shifts, and the list goes on! It was neat to see how much they learned in such a short amount of time. It brought back memories of when we were them. The new club members, Safety Patrol, and all of the amazing people at the fair, made this one to remember.

As the old members find new hobbies, change clubs, or become new leaders, there is only one way for the club to keep up its numbers. That is with new members. This past year, we have had more new kids join than any year I can remember. We have a variety of kids and teens, but we all share one common interest that brings us together. That is the love for 4-H. When we all share that common passion, we come together and always have a great time. As I said before, this year we have had our numbers increase greatly. These new members have widened the variety of the club, and the new members have also allowed us to make new friends. The power of these wonderful kids is amazing. These great kids have been welcomed into the 4-H family. Without these new members, our club would not be complete.

We all have opinions, so why not share them? Sharing my opinions was just one of the many important things I learned this year. I learned that sharing my thoughts helps the club, and lets me know that I contributed. I also learned that I have to state them respectfully, so that I can get my point across, without sounding rude. When we share our thoughts, we share our passion for 4-H and small animals. When we all share our love for 4-H, it is fun and a great learning experience for everyone. What I mean by this is, for example, one of the new members needed help cutting their rabbit's nails. One of the more knowledgeable members helped them by speaking up and showing them how. And that’s only the beginning. When we offer to help and mentor other people, we help them and ourselves at the same time. Again, this is only one of the many important life lessons 4-H has taught me this past year. “The best thing about memories is making them.” the positive effect 4-H has had on me and my club members, has led me to make new memories and friends that will stay with me forever.
My 4-H Story

Robert Curtis
Grades 9-13

This past year in 4-H, I learned many lessons that will help benefit me for the rest of my life. The past year was my first year in 4-H and the first year I owned chickens. There were many things to learn and experience. I found that some experience stood out from others and helped me as a new member of 4-H.

My independence grew by making the new decision to own chickens. Choosing to join the 4-H poultry club also gave me a chance to participate in a positive way with a group that raised chickens. I had to learn about basic chicken care and feeding. At the meetings I joined in discussions and asked questions. As I chose the breeds that I wanted to own, I researched each breed and learned about the breed traits for that bird. I knew that I wanted birds that would be good layers, friendly, and somewhat cold hard. Before the chicks arrived I constructed a brooder out of a Rubbermaid tub and prepared for their arrival. When my chicks arrived I applied what I had read to their care. Heat lamps, electrolytes and proper chick feed ensured that they would thrive. I made time each day to feed, clean and handle the chicks. Watching them grow was entertaining and rewarding. It was my responsibility to manage their care and well being. It was very fulfilling to hand raise them to the age that they were ready to move out to our coop. Real success came when I found my first egg. Being a member of the 4-H gave me a chance to not only participate in a club but also grow as a person.

Belonging to 4-H has allowed me a chance to grow as a public speaker and experience people of different ages, cultures, and point of view. I am proud of the fact that I was elected as secretary for the poultry club in my first year. My respect for others grew as I listened to different opinions and also shared in a positive way my opinions and thoughts. During our meetings some of the younger members needed guidance and understanding as they tried to voice their thoughts. It was important to me not only to respect others but to be respected by others through my actions and words. I feel that I did grow in this area during the past year thanks to my 4-H experience.

During the past year my understanding of generosity has grown. I found way to make positive contributions in different situations. During each meeting I worked with and participated in discussions with children younger than me and adults. I found that my efforts to include others and be included in our club were very rewarding. One such event was the cookie sale at the local Tractor Supply. Helping the younger members correctly make change, answering questions by the public and earning money for our club was very fulfilling. Another event was the 4-H fair. Volunteering my time to help set up for the fair, spending my own time to help run some of the booths and being responsible to help manage and take care of our birds for the entire weekend was both exciting and tiring. I found a greater understanding of community service and education. I am proud to have been a part of this event and found how important it is to be generous with my time and that I can make a difference.

In this past year my master of independence, belonging, and generosity has helped me understand myself better. I am proud to have set goals and met them. My own character helps guide me through new situations. Only I can be responsible for how my actions and words affect others. Both in a positive and negative way. I was very proud to show my chickens for the first time at this year’s fair. I was even more excited when my rooster won Best in Show. His winning was amazing but, I realized that being too proud and bragging could be hurtful to others. Each member worked hard to show their birds and were proud of what they had done. I tried to be gracious but not boastful. It was a great experience to share with my friends and family.

4-H has helped me grow as a person in character and experience. I am proud to be a member.
Charlize Sinko
HM Grades 4-8

My name is Charlize Sinko and I am 12 years old. I have been in 4-H for five years and involved in three clubs. This year was the second year in the Morris County’s goat club, Just Kid ‘n’ Around, which I served as President. The most important thing that I learned this year in 4-H is hard work and dedication.

In April of 2015 over 200 animals were rescued from a farm in Warren County, NJ. Most of the animals were emaciated, sick and lived in deplorable conditions. The Barnyard Sanctuary received most of the animals and they were overwhelmed. At the April meeting of Just Kid ‘n’ Around the massive rescue was the topic of conversation. Most could not believe something so horrible could have happened right in our own backyard. Quickly the talk turned to what we could do as a club. We discussed selling goat milk soap at the Fair again, but Barnyard needed money now. The club took a vote and came up with the idea to host a garage sale and donate all the profits. It seemed like a monumental task in a short amount of time. There was so much work to be done to have a successful sale. Rosanne Oblen, the club leader, agreed to have the sale at her farm, and asked her other clubs to pitch in and help. For the next month, we all worked hard on the garage sale. Everyone pitched in, making signs, collecting items to sell and spreading the word around about the fund raiser. The day of the sale was a huge success. Many people just showed up to donate money. In the end we raised over $500!

Even though the goal you set might seem like it will never come together, I realized that with hard work and dedication to the task at hand you can accomplish your goals. If you just keep going and stay focused there is nothing in this world that you cannot do.

Shannon Rauter
HM Grades 9-13

My second year in 4-H was remarkably different than my first year. I got involved in so many more events and activities and was able to meet lots of new friends as a result. Awards Night kicked off my year with a bang because I was fortunate enough to receive the “I Dare You” Award. The award and the book that came with it made me realize that all of my hard work from the previous year had paid off, which made me determined to work even harder in the coming year.

Teen Council’s ongoing service project that I was a part of this year was with CareOne, an assisted living community in Whippany, NJ. Our club’s goal with the service projects was to create fun activities that would engage the residents at CareOne and spice up their time there with something unique. I organized a project in which Teen Council and the Care-One residents could take part in a game night together in order to get to know each other and have some fun. Although unfortunately my project didn’t go exactly as planned (the events coordinator at CareOne wasn’t able to make it), as a club we were still able to go around CareOne and meet with some of the residents one on one. It was a re-
warding experience because I was able to learn so much about some of the people there and what they had accomplished in their lifetimes.

I made a larger effort to get involved on the state level by attending the North Jersey Teen Conference, which turned out to be one of the most fun weekends of my life. With a theme as amazing as 4-H World’s Fair, picking workshops to attend seemed an impossible task because all of the options were so great. I ended up taking part in one workshop on cool science, and two workshops on food (and boy was I stuffed by the end). The other highlights of the weekend included our field trip to Dave and Buster’s, our carnival night, and the dance.

Another event I had the privilege to take part in this year was Science-sational day. Although I didn’t run a workshop myself, I enjoyed leading one group of kids around because I got to know them throughout the day and sit in on some cool workshops with them. I took them to activities about entomology, fitness, physics, and mad science, all of which were fun for both the children and myself.

National 4-H Conference was the highlight of my year by far. With 5 other NJ delegates, I traveled to the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD where we stayed for a week. While there, we all worked on different roundtables that had been assigned tasks by various government agencies. I was part of the Food Security and Hunger roundtable where I worked with 15 other 4-H’ers from across the country to prepare a presentation for the Peace Corps. For three days, we researched non-stop in order to come up with strategies that Peace Corps volunteers could use to engage youth internationally in food security issues. My portion of the presentation was specifically about how growth experiments could be used to teach youth about crop and soil science. After our successful presentation, my roundtable had transformed from a group of strangers to a family that was forced to say a tearful goodbye on the last day.

The knowledge I took away from National 4-H Conference regarding food security was way too important not to share, so I gave my public presentation on the future of food security. When I go to college next year, I hope to study crop and soil science so that eventually I can work in a field related to improving food security. With those goals in mind, it was really nice to be able to tie in what I had learned in 4-H with what I had learned on my own in order to give an effective presentation.

Taking a more active role in the 4-H Fair this year was the perfect end to an extraordinary year. In addition to spending lots of time at Teen Council’s Root Beer Float Booth, I served as the crafts division chair and was able to assist in the judging of some amazing craft projects. Besides that, helping out at the Fair in any way I could and just hanging out with my friends made it my best Fair experience yet. With such a great year behind me, I can only hope that the year ahead (my last year as a 4-H youth member) will be even better.
Maria Russell  
HM Grades 9-13

My 2014-2015 4-H Teen Council year was eventful, to say the least. Throughout the year, my peers and I were encouraged to participate in more community service projects and events that inspired us to better our communities. A new project I received the opportunity to participate in was the newly-developed CareOne parties, hosted by our Morris County Teen Council Club. CareOne is a facility for the elderly who are recovering from illness, surgeries, and so on; The elderly at CareOne were in need of seeing some fresh, vibrant and young faces. My peers and I were excited and enthusiastic about participating, as this was taking our community service to the next level, and the event encouraged members to work as a team and cooperate.

I’d decided to volunteer for the first CareOne party that our Teen Council would host, and so along with my fellow project teammates, each of us assigned each other jobs essential to the success of our November holiday party. Organizing accordingly was simple due to the cooperation I received from my partners, so as the party approached, our excitement grew. The night of our November holiday party, my group and I decorated our designated party room and waiting for our guests to arrive. First one, then two, and now over seven special guests were anticipating our Bingo games, prizes, and more. Time flew by as my fellow Teen Council members and I shared stories and bonded with our new friends. As the party ended, Teen Council was confident that our future CareOne parties would be a success, and all of us were proud of our efforts and planning which resulted in the happiness of our guests at CareOne.

What the Teen Council CareOne parties taught me is that community service and giving back to your community should not be seen as a chore or a job. Community service is the hard work and effort that one puts in towards giving back to communities, which often results in individually improved character and finally, the satisfaction of witnessing others experience that joy and delight you indirectly or directly delivered to them. CareOne parties taught me that community service is not only an act of selflessness, but an act of compassion toward others in our communities, and awareness of their needs.

Jessica Zhang  
HM Grades 9-13

I first came across 4-H while looking for volunteering opportunities over the summer. When I first read about Teen Council, I wasn’t sure what to expect, but after attending my first meeting, I was impressed by the efficiency and consistency of the meeting. That was when I knew I wanted to join the Teen Council in bettering the community.

I have changed so much since last summer when I went to my first Teen Council meeting. I’ve learned to step out of my comfort zone to develop not only my leadership qualities, but also my social skills and public speech. My first deep involvement with 4-H was at the 2014 Fair. I’ve never really participated in my community, but
now I take whatever opportunities I can. While walking around the Fair between shifts at the Root Beer Float stand, I discovered so much about Morris County.

I met many new faces and made new friends. What I loved the most about 4-H was that everyone was so understanding and accepting. If someone messed up during a public presentation, nobody laughed, but instead everyone would cheer them on. In 4-H nobody's left behind. Outside Teen Council, I encountered outgoing personalities at the Northern Jersey Teen Conference and National Youth Summit on Healthy Living. I still keep in touch with a few fellow NJ and Iowan 4-H members I met at NYSHL (which definitely means something because I've never kept a lasting long-distance friendship before).

In addition to making new friends, I also learned a lot at the National Youth Summit on Healthy Living. I listened to many inspirational speakers and information presenters. One presentation that really stood out to me was the one on the importance of taking care of your ears and hearing. I personally believe in the importance of eating healthy, but I had never met people who took it seriously until I attended this summit. I didn’t just learn about healthy living while in 4-H, but I also learned about other topics like mummification and how to take care of a skunk at County Presentation Night and knife essentials and how to take care of a horse and chicken at State Presentation Night. Through 4-H activities, I gained so much knowledge on various topics.

In addition to meeting the friendly faces of 4-H, I also developed my public speaking skills. Public speaking had always been a major flaw of mine, and although I knew the importance of public speaking, I would tend to avoid it as much as possible. At NJTC, I volunteered to read off a paper the description of a hospital in front of everyone. It may not seem like a big deal, but as a person who fears public speaking, it was a big step for me, especially because I volunteered, not forced, for that task. On the other hand, in order to stay as a member in good standing, I had no choice but to give a public presentation at the county presentation night. At first I thought about picking an easy topics I already know about, but with the true purpose of the event in mind, I chose a rather complicated topic that I had relatively little knowledge on: Cloning. I challenged myself and stressed about it so much, but once I was up in front of everyone with all eyes on me, I was able to go with what I practiced (and I didn’t even need my note cards!). The experience was worth the stress, and I ended up getting an excellent! The constructive criticism was also helpful in improving my skills without getting embarrassed about my mistakes. Because of these experiences, I am now more comfortable and confident in speaking in public.

Every month, I look forward to seeing the kind, genuine faces of my fellow Teen Council members and leaders. I’ve changed so much for the better in my first year in 4-H from volunteering more to learning how to give a public presentation. I regret that I hadn’t discovered 4-H earlier, but better late than never. I look forward to what my future years in 4-H has in store for me.
Fair Planning Meeting: We’re always looking for volunteers and new ideas for our annual 4-H Fair, 4 days of fun!

Our first planning meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 17 at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in playing a role in helping to make this year’s Fair even better, please come! There’s plenty of jobs to go around!! We look forward to seeing you there!

Goals of the Morris County 4-H Fair
1. Recognize accomplishments of 4-H members during the past 4-H year.
2. Serve as a showcase for the public to observe a wide variety of 4-H projects in action.
3. Present an accurate, contemporary image of 4-H as a relevant, year round non-formal educational program for youth of all backgrounds and interests.
4. Attract 4-H members and adult 4-H volunteers to become involved in the 4-H program.
5. Serve as a medium to educate the public about selected subject matter and issues, particularly those which are related to the expertise of Rutgers Cooperative Extension and the 4-H Youth Development Program.
6. Allow 4-H volunteers to develop and demonstrate their leadership abilities through planning and conducting the fair.
7. Provide a means for governmental agencies and community organizations to interrelate.
8. Provide free family fun as a service to the community.
9. Raise money to support the 4-H program in Morris County.

Please Help out at the Fair
We are so grateful for the many volunteers who help at the Fair each year. Would you like to help out this year? There are many volunteer opportunities. Some of the jobs that need to be filled include:

- Chester 4-H Banner Coordinator
- Hay Ride Driver
- Children’s Country Store Manager
- Literary Division Chairperson
- Cloverbud Corner Co-chairperson
- Parking Manager
- Cloverbud Corner Presenters
- Soda Booth Assistant Coordinator
- Corporate Volunteers Recruiter
- Sponsorship
- Crafts Division Chairperson
- Dress-a-Pet/Cage Coordinator
- Fair Customer Service Manager
- Farmer-for-a-Day Supervisor
- Fine Art Division Chairperson

Call the 4-H Office at (973) 285-8301 if you can help!

4-H Fair Entry Book

Attention all Division Chairs!

Please review the rules for your division in the 2015 Entry Book with the other leaders in your division, make any necessary changes and send them to the 4-H office for inclusion in the 2016 Fair Entry Book.

If you need a copy of last year’s edition, visit our website http://morris.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/Fair.html.

If you have questions, please contact Kelly Dziak at 973 285-8312. We would like all changes to be in the 4-H office by April 1, 2016 so we can have the new edition available to members as soon as possible.

Thanks for your help!
Morris County 4-H Fair July 20-24, 2016

After the Holidays Clean-Up
Children’s Country Store Items Needed

Spring cleaning is the perfect time to clean out your closets and pack up all of those toys, books, puzzles, etc. that are no longer being played with at your house and donate them to the Children’s Country Store at the 4-H Fair. This popular booth sells used games and toys at bargain prices throughout the fair. Last year, thanks to the generous donations of our 4-H families and friends, we saw a profit of over $1,000!

Please pack your items securely in boxes and then put them in plastic trash bags for safe transport. You can bring your items to the 4-H office or directly to the Fairgrounds. Please call Kathy at 973 285-8311 before delivering items to make arrangements with Kathy. This is also a fun place to volunteer for a three hour shift.

Fair Theme Cover Design Contest

The 2016 Yearbook Cover and Fair Theme Contest is open to all 4-H members. Think about what the Fair means to you and come up with a catchy theme and design to reflect your idea. You may enter as many designs as you wish, but each entry must have your name, address and phone number as well as your club’s name on the back. The design should fit on an 8 1/2” by 11” sheet of paper with a 1/2 inch border around the edges.

Please mail your entry to the 4-H Office by Wednesday, April 13th. The winner will be selected by the Fair Committee.

Attention All Clubs!

Don’t forget to start thinking about a Yearbook page.

The 4-H Yearbook is a great way to advertise your club at the Fair. Your page should include pictures of your club members, pictures of the project that your club does, and when and where your club meets. A contact name, number and email is also needed.

Be creative, just remember to use an 8 1/2” by 11” piece of paper and include a 1/2” border around the edges.

Last year’s winning Cover Theme design by Parris Johnson: “Leap into action and fun!”