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   Awards Night Highlights
* Look out for January/February Calendar pullouts attached in the back.
** Note Registration forms for Public Presentations and Challenge U are also attached in the back.

Deadlines
Winter Camp Registration
January 18
4-H Workshops Registration
ongoing—Friday before event
Lubrano Scholarship Application
March 17
Public Presentation Registration
April 11
A Note From the Staff

Dear 4-H Families,

Welcome to 2008 !!!

With new clubs starting up, and many other clubs filling to capacity, 2008 promises to be an exceptional year for Morris County 4-H.

4-H SET (Science, Engineering & Technology), is a national 4-H initiative geared to provide youth with hands-on learning experiences fostering exploration, discovery and passion for the sciences. At Morris County 4-H, we are leading the way with our diverse clubs focusing on mechanical science, physical science, and animal science. Keep a look out this year for some great offerings featuring the SET theme. SET related programs include the Challenge U summer day camp, where campers will get to explore many science subjects with hands-on projects and North Jersey 4-H Teen Conference.

Much of the success of our programs is due to the dedication of our volunteers, who willingly share their time and knowledge to making “the best better”. We thank you for all you have done for Morris County 4-H in 2007 and look forward to a great 2008. Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Rachel Lyons          Kathy Murarik          Terri Yost

Remember, 4-H is for Everyone, Everywhere!

The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Morris County. 4-H educational programs are offered to all youth, grades K-13, on an age appropriate basis, without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, or disability.

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.

This mission is accomplished by using the knowledge and resources of the land grant university system, along with the involvement of caring adults.

Discoveries

4-H Member, Parent and Leader’s Newsletter — Bi-monthly Newsletter— Free subscription Upon Request

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It’s Time for Public Presentations Again!

Friday, April 18, 2008 (tentative)
Cohen Hall, County College of Morris
Register by Friday, April 11

Participate in This Year’s Public Presentations

All members should plan to participate in Public Presentations held at the County College of Morris. You may do a demonstration, give an illustrated talk, performance or formal speech. Presentations help you to find out more about your favorite subject, allow you to entertain or teach others, practice speaking skills and learn from the judge’s critique. Most of all they are easy and fun! See the Public Presentation Registration form at the back of this newsletter.

To Prepare for Public Presentations

Come to a Presentations 101 Workshop! This will be offered on February 13, 7 pm – 8:30 pm at the 4-H Office. Come and learn tips and tricks to polish up your presentation!

A Power Point Workshop will be offered on March 5, 7 pm. Learn to use Power Point to give your presentation visual punch!

Workshops will be held at the 4-H Office. To register, call the 4-H Office at 973-285-8300 X3, by February 8.

• Invite the 4-H Staff to your club meeting for an informal workshop.
• Call Rachel Lyons at the 4-H Office for individual help.
• Give a presentation for your club and ask the other members for comments.

Presentation Judges Needed - April 18

You have helped and watched your child or club members do many presentations. You know when they are doing a good job and you know how they can improve their presentations. 4-H needs you to pass along this expertise! 4-H Presentations are April 18 (tentative date). Please call the 4-H Office at 973-285-8300 X3 to volunteer. Training will be provided.
There were approximately 85 4-H members and friends caroling for the Morris View residents in 2007. Holiday Song Leaders were Association Board member Matt Pomel, 4-Footed Leaders member Hope Le Francis, Lafayette Club Leaders Connie Montgomery and Michelle Harris-King and Teen Council members Melissa and Jackie Falzarano. Thank you to Martha Bardin and Jim Newquist for setting up the refreshments.

**LAFAYETTE**
Jonathan Echavarria
Valerie Echavarria
Juan Garcia
Michelle Harris-King
Anthony Hill
JiVaughn Jones
Nahshen Jones
Reene’ Jones
Charleigh King
McKenzie King
Connie Montgomery
Carlos Moreno
Justin Northan
Kyle Northan
Harriet Pierce
Daniel Pierre
Anasia Rudolph
Rachele Shurba
Eunice Simmons
Fran Simmons
Hunter Wilson

**4-FOOTED LEADERS**
Martha Bardin
Gavin Clarke
Elena Holis
Hope LeFrancis
Nicole Meyerkopf
Janice O’Brien
Ethel Skrobala

**NATURE’S KEEPERS**
Gena Blewett
Kim Blewett
Erin Curley
Dominique
Carly Ellis
Jane Ellis
Katie Ellis
Jennifer Kellam
Bridget Knodel
Karen Zarzycki
Samantha Zarzycki

**BOARD MEMBERS**
Matt Pomel
Jo Wade and Rachel
Kathy Zudick

**ROCKET CLUB**
Jim Newquist
Megan Rouse
Meredith Rouse

**GUESTS**
Zeke DuBow
Bryan P. Pruett
Kristen Pruett
Rachel Sheib
Rachele Shubia
Alysha Zarzycki

**DOGS ’R US**
Mimi Bauer-Pulis and
Michele Pulis
Katharine Dodge
Janet Dodge
Julia Flores
Charlotte Kinskey-Lebeda
Danny Kinskey-Lebeda
Kathy Murarik
Rachele Shuba
Hannah Takach
Dee Dee Takach

**BUCKANEARS**
Jan Dimichino
Rachael Dimichino
Rebecca Dimichino
Sarah Dimichino
Julia Kolacy
Melanie Kolacy
Kelly Maegerlein
Kristin Maegerlein
Teresa Maegerlein
Mic McWilliams
Reilly McWilliams
Taylor McWilliams

**PUPPY TAILS**
Brielle Weinstein
Debi Weinstein

**COOK COLLEGE SEEING EYE CLUB**
Nicole Rafferty
Jen Hanke
Chris Parillo
Jaime Heddingier
Marcus Kwasek
Stephanie Siwczak
Sara Stein
Allison Brown
Jenni Fote
Rebekah Verdeieck
Elizabeth Kaufmann
Mike Kaufmann
Stephanie Wittenberg
Tractor Supply Company partners with 4-H!

4-H friends and family joined together on Saturday, December 8 to celebrate the Grand Opening of Tractor Supply Company Inc. in Flanders. 4-H members and volunteers sold hotdogs and baked goods to support 4-H and the Hacketts-town FFA chapter.

-Photo Collage by Rachel Lyons
First we chose jobs for each other. Then the meeting was closed at 7:10 pm. We worked on being healthier and figured out which food group different foods are in. Then we played the exercise challenge. Last we made a snack.

By - Nyasia Petti

Minutes from December 19
At our business meeting we discussed different trips we would like to take and came up with some great ideas! After we closed our meeting, Marla Wetall helped us make different types of Christmas cookies. They were delicious!
Teen Council

Teen Council Members planned and led the Awards Night ceremonies in November. In December we had a holiday party at Samia Jones’ house. Thanks to Samia and her family for their warm hospitality. We all had a wonderful time! Our next meeting is January 14. We will be discussing upcoming plans for Winter Camp and North Jersey 4-H Teen Conference.

Winter Camp

Register by January 18

Winter camp is a fun get away for teens to play in the snow and meet 4-H’ers from other clubs and counties. 4-H’ers in grades 9-13 from Morris, Salem, Gloucester, and Mercer Counties will have lots of fun at L.G. Cook Camp February 1 - 3. This is always a popular event, so get your application in early. The cost for the weekend is $50.00 and includes meals. For more information contact Rachel Lyons at 973-285-8300 X3.

National 4-H Conference Winner Selected

Congratulations Melissa Falzarano who has been selected as one of six delegates to represent New Jersey at the National 4-H Conference March 29 – April 3. This conference held at the National 4-H Center, Chevy Chase, Md. is a working conference in which youth and adults—at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture—assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities. This event brings together approximately 300 youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension staff members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Provinces. We look forward to hearing about Melissa’s experience when she returns!

SAVE THE DATE

North Jersey 4-H Teen Conference

April 11-13, 2008

Days Inn, Bridgewater NJ

All eligible teens (grades 8 and up) will be sent information in the mail in early February

Please keep a look out for future updates and contact Rachel Lyons for more information at (973)285-8300x3
Financial Help for College

Applications are being sent, and acceptance letters are coming soon—but how will you pay for college? Check out these scholarships offered through Morris County 4-H and The Seeing Eye.

**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 2008 from Seeing Eye leaders.

**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 approximately $1,000 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 love and respect for family. Applications are available from your leader or the 4-H office. Entry deadline is March 14, 2008.

**Travel With 4-H**

**Citizenship Washington Focus**

(CWF) is held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Maryland during the summer. This year’s dates will be July 6 - 12. CWF continues to be a powerful learning experience for thousands of 4-H youth throughout the country. Teens in grades 9-12, who are interested can check out the website at: www.4hcwf.org. CWF is an extremely memorable experience and is the highlight of any 4-Her’s membership. Participants attend workshops about politics and government, meet members of Congress on Capitol Hill and see more of the city than some DC residents do in a lifetime. CWF is a fun, educational, and dynamic experience for all youth and adults who attend. Learn More About Citizenship Washington Focus Applications available in the spring!

**National 4-H Congress**

Applications will be due in April. Each year more than 1000 4-H’ers from the US participate in National 4-H Youth Congress. This educational event focuses on social and cultural programs, leadership development and workforce preparedness. Youth grades 9-12 may apply. This event is held in Atlanta, GA, November 28-December 2. It’s the highlight of a 4-H career. Their website is www.national4-hcongress.com. Watch your March newsletter for a due date in April. Call the 4-H office for an application.
Morris County 4-H Fair
July 25, 26, 27 2008

We’re always looking for volunteers and helpers to support our annual Fair. If you are interested in playing a role in helping to make this year’s Fair even better, then contact us. There’s plenty of jobs to go around! Also, be on the look out for the Fair Entry Book and encourage all of your members to enter! Don’t forget to start thinking about a yearbook page and club exhibit!

4-H Fair Entry Book

Attention all Division Chairs! Please review the rules for your division in the 2007 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 2008 Exhibitor Guide. If you need a copy of the ’07 edition or have any questions please contact Terri Yost. We would like all changes to be in office by February 15, 2008 so we can have the new edition available to members as soon as possible. Thanks for your help.

Upcoming Events:

Don’t forget to remind your club members to sign up for the workshops being offered this winter at the 4-H Office:

Recordkeeping Workshop
January 30 from 7-8:30 pm

Officers Workshop
February 7 from 7– 8:30 pm

Public Presentations Workshop
February 13 from 7 - 8:30 pm

PowerPoint Workshop
March 5 from 7- 8:30 pm

Have your club members contact the office if they will be attending.

Registration deadline for Presentations is Friday April 11, and presentations will be given on Friday April 18 (tentative).

These events will help your 4-Hers to grow, learn, and “Make the best better!”

2008 Entertainment Books Available Now

Don’t forget to pick up your 2008 Entertainment Book from the 4-H office! Books cost $25 each and pay for themselves with just a few uses. Proceeds from this sale go to the Lubrano Scholarship Fund.
Challenge U is an energetic 5-day camp for youth. Campers will challenge themselves to grow into independent people through trying new things, learning new skills, and interacting with their environment. Each day will present a new challenge! Youth who attend camp will be involved in teambuilding activities, games, and hands-on learning experiences.

The Challenge U Summer Day Camp program is designed and coordinated by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development program in Morris County. 4-H is a community of young people across America learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. The mission of this camp is to give youth an opportunity to grow and learn while developing these skills.

WHO? Youth who have completed grades 3-5
WHAT? A Week of Fun!
WHERE?: Lewis Morris Park, Morristown NJ
WHEN: June 23-27, 8:30-4:30
Cost: Early Bird (before March 1) $200
      Regular (March 1-April 30) $250
      Late (May 1-June 15) $275
SIGN ME UP! Fill out the application in the back of this issue of discoveries and send it with your payment to the 4-H Office.

Monday, June 23 Challenge: Be Active
Monday will challenge you to try new games and activities, and have fun with your fellow campers.

Tuesday, June 24 Challenge: Explore Your Surroundings
Tuesday will focus on the world around us. We will take hikes, explore waterways, and discover things we can do to protect our environment.

Wednesday, June 25 Challenge: Compare the Past with the Present
Wednesday we will think about how our life would be different if we lived at the turn of the century. This day trip to Fosterfields will give us the opportunity to experience how people in Morris County used to live.

Thursday, June 26 Challenge: Something Different
Thursday’s activities will be a range of games and activities presented by many of our 4-H clubs and teens. All of these activities will give us a chance to learn different skills in a hands-on manner.

Friday, June 27 Challenge: Help Your Community
On Friday we will be exploring different ways to help in our community from recycling to volunteering. Everyone will participate in designing and carrying out a group community service project.
Clip Contest

4-H needs your set of eyes to help look for newspaper articles—“clips”. Next time you open a newspaper be sure to look for any articles regarding 4-H. Cut them out and make sure the name of the newspaper, the date, your name, your club and your phone number are all included. Participants may enter more than one clip, but it may not be the same article. All clips will be entered into a drawing and the winner will be picked at the annual Fair in July during opening ceremonies. The prize (TBA) will be well worth your effort.

Send Clips to: RCE of Morris County
4-H Clip Contest
P.O. Box 900,
Morristown NJ 07963

Media Contest

The 4-H programs in Illinois and northeast Missouri are inviting all youth, ages 8-18 years old to produce their own digital photography, digital audio, digital video or mixed media production that demonstrates their abilities with digital media of all kinds. Top entries may be used in various promotional products. $100 prizes will be awarded. Select your own theme and message. Show the world your imagination and creativity! Create some mayhem! Complete rules and more information at www.4hdmc.org

4-H youth across the nation are invited to participate. This IL-MO partnership involves electronic submissions of any media type. The upcoming deadlines are: January 30, 2008, April 30, 2008 and October 30, 2008. I hope you'll help in sharing this opportunity with youth in your state.

4-H sends our sincere condolences to the family of Beverly Hahn, leader of Dream Horses, co-leader of Dogs ‘R’ Us and member of the 4-H Association Board of Directors.

Beverly’s mother Phoebe Hahn passed away on Friday, December 7, 2007.

We are so sorry for your loss and continue to think of you daily.

Anyone who would like to send a card or letter please write to: Beverly Hahn
964 Mountain Ave
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
E-mail: dances-with-hooves@juno.com

Anyone who would like to send donations please send to:
Berkeley Heights Volunteer Rescue Squad
P.O Box 117, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922

4-H sends our sincere condolences to the family of Terri Baird. Terri has been an integral part of the 4-H Fair for many years. Her Aunt Shirley, who was a great supporter of the 4-H program and fair passed away on November 17th, 2007. We also send our sympathy to the family of Lisa Gambino, who lost her grandmother this November after celebrating her 99th birthday. Lisa is a member of the 4-H Association Board of Directors.
National Photo Contest

National 4-H Council needs winning photos from your state and county fairs (2003-2008) to create the 2010 4-H Calendar. The winning photos will be on display at the National 4-H Conference Center from September 2008 through November 2008 and also posted on our website.

**VERY IMPORTANT** - Submissions will only be considered if they meet these criteria:

1. Full NAME and AGE of person submitting photograph.
2. Affiliation with 4-H.
3. Complete return address (include UPS delivery and USPS First Class Mail).
4. Telephone number.
5. List of awards that each submitted photograph has received (county, state, 4-H or other). If it has not received some prior award or recognition, it will not be considered.
6. The photographer's thoughts about the photograph, in 25 words or less (include title of photograph).
7. Photo submissions should be 8”x10”, in color, and in a horizontal (landscape) format. Vertical shots will not be accepted. Digital photos must be high resolution files (900 x 1200). Black and white photos will not be considered for this full color calendar.
8. Please do not submit photos printed on a home printer, color photo copies, or low resolution digital prints. Have the print developed at a photo processing store or furnish a CD with a high resolution digital file (900 x 1200).
9. Email address (if applicable).

We will return all submissions, if not selected, by late August 2008. Winning photographs will be returned no sooner than December 10, 2008. After final selection we will notify the winners and ask them for a signed release to use the photo in the 2010 4-H Calendar. Both the photographer and parent/guardian must sign the release. We will also request a second photo to be kept at the National 4-H Conference Center.

Please submit photos to:

2010 4-H Calendar
National 4-H Supply Service
6931 Arlington Road Suite T-400
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

How Has Someone In 4-H Inspired You?

National 4-H Supply Service wants you to tell them how someone in 4-H has inspired you and they may use your story for the 2009 National 4-H Calendar. They need 12 stories (one for each month). You could receive a $10.00 gift certificate good towards a future purchase from the 4-H Source Book, just for sending a story. A complete list of details can be found at:


Stories can be submitted to Maria Cascioli at:

mcascioli@fourhcouncil.edu.

Deadline to enter is June 10, 2008.

Join a 4-H Photography Club

Anyone want to learn more about photography???
Then Cuckoo 4-Photos is for you.

Meets: Every third Tuesday of the month— 4-H Office 6:30 p.m.—8:15 p.m. Grades 1-13 (1 year past High School). Camera helpful, but not required.

We learn all the basics, do creative photo shoots, have a lot of fun, and learn about photography.

For more information please contact Vince Cattano at (973)770-9822 or email vcattano@aol.com
Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

St. Patrick’s Day is always a fun celebration here at 4-H. This year the annual Morristown St. Patrick’s Day Parade will take place on Saturday, March 15, 2008. We invite all members and clubs to march with us. Step off is 12:00 noon, and we ask you to be there between 11:00 and 11:30. Meet us behind the Morristown Municipal Building on South Street, across from Kings. If your club will be participating, please contact the 4-H Office to let us know!

State Model Horse Show

This event will take place on Saturday, February 2 at the Hunterdon County Complex in Flemington, NJ. If you are interested in entering any model horses, please contact the office for the official registration packet. Registration materials are due in Hunterdon by January 29.

Somerset County Small Animal, Rabbit and Herpetology

This show will take place on Saturday, February 16, 2008. If you are interested in attending, please contact the office for the registration information.

4-H Workshops

There will be a variety of workshops offered to this winter. These workshops are open to all 4-H members. You must register with the 4-H Office by the Friday prior to the scheduled date of any workshop.

Recordkeeping Workshop
January 30 from 7-8:30 pm

Officers Workshop
February 7 from 7– 8:30 pm

Public Presentations Workshop
February 13 from 7 - 8:30 pm

PowerPoint Workshop
March 5 from 7- 8:30 pm

The 4-H Office reserves the right to cancel any workshop that does not reach the minimum number of attendees registered.

New Jersey Junior Breeder’s Symposium

This event is scheduled for April 5, 2008, at Cook College. Participants will be able to attend different workshops as well as learn about rabbits or poultry if they so choose. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact the 4-H office for registration materials.

90th Annual AG Field Day

Mark your calendar now for the annual celebration at Rutgers! Tour the animal barns, view displays, eat Barbeque, and participate in the State 4-H Dog Show! This event will take place on April 26 at the Cook Campus.
Puppy Tails

On October 21st - we did the ADW walk. Puppies got to meet and have a picture taken with Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen. Congrats to Kristen Miicke and MJ for completing the whole 3 miles!!!

October 16th - we went on a hay ride. It was at the Stony Hill Farms in Chester. We had 77 people and 45 puppies. We also had some of the 4-Footed Leaders club join us.

October 23rd - we did the Petco Costume Contest held @ the Pet Smart in Mount Olive. Kristen Miicke dressed her shepherd as a pirate and Kristen Kabis and Leda dressed as a sack of potatoes. Kristen M. and MJ took 1st place and Kristen K. and Leda took 2nd. Congratulations!

November 17th – Awards Dinner was held at the American Legion in Whippany. Caitlyn Brunner was the winner of the holiday card design/contest. Way to go Caitlyn. Congratulations to our other winners of other contests that were held.

November 20th – elections were held, Congratulations to our new officers!

December 1st – We went to the Morris View Nursing home. The residents really enjoyed the caroling and the company. Kala (our newest addition to the Puppy Tails family), was a big Hit with some of the residents. Way to go Kala!!!

NEW PUPPIES- Brielle Weinstein received Kala, a female golden retriever and the Modugno Family received Kala’s brother Kopper. Both puppies are doing well.

It has come to that time where some of our puppies have to go back:

This time around Nikkon and Nouget are going. We will miss them and Wish them well!!! Many thanks to the families who took such good care

Animal Guardian Angels

Hey everybody! We are a new club, and we’re all very excited. Our group is a veterinarian science group. This means that our members are interested in learning more about what it takes to be a vet, what a vet does and have some fun with the animals. The group leaders, Laura Tarlowe and Liz Carlson, are really great and we are so lucky to have them.

So far our club has eight members: Morgan Hamill, Stephanie Tarlowe, Emillie Boehm, Sarah Boehm, Lindsey Nordstrom, Michelle Mondok, Erika Severud, and Lindsey Severud.

Our club has only had a few meetings so far. We’ve come up with the basics and will be putting our banner together soon. The most exciting was getting to meet Dr. Hodes, our veterinary mentor, who showed us around the clinic and asked us about what we would like to learn in the future. Dr. Hodes will be meeting with our club a lot in the coming months. At his practice, we will get an up close and personal look at veterinary medicine.

Submitted by,
Morgan Hamill and Stephanie Tarlowe
This year’s Awards Night Dinner was held on November 17, 2007. Thank you to all 160 people who attended representing 12 clubs: Amazing Artists, Buckaneers, Cuckoo-4-Photos, Dogs ‘R’ Us, 4-Footed Leaders, Hoofin’ Around, Jefferson 4-H Crew, Lafayette, Mount Olive Rocket Club, Nature’s Keepers, Picatinny, and Puppy Tails.

4-H is very grateful to all the club members, club leaders, the 4-H Association Members, Freeholders, Morris County 4-H Staff and volunteers who participated in this very special night.

The evening started off by recognizing and thanking the many dedicated leaders of 4-H for their years of service. It was such a delight to honor Martha Bardin, who recently completed 40 years of service to 4-H this year!

Freeholders Margaret Nordstrom and Gene Feyl proudly represented Morris County and accepted the “Friend of 4-H” award this year. 4-H is also grateful and continue to welcome the support of former Freeholder, Cecelia Laureys.

One of the best highlights of the evening was watching Preppers graduate and throw their hats up in the air. We congratulate all 58 Prep graduates. There were many other special awards given out such as our Clover, Record Keeping Scrapbook, Achievement, Personal Growth and also the wonderful State, County and Special Awards. Check out all the winners in the next few pages.

The last award of the night was given to a dedicated 4-Her, Melissa Falzarano for “4-Her of the Year”! Thank you Melissa and all other participants for helping to “make the best better”.

Congratulations to all our recipients of this year’s 4-H awards !!!!

Revising Member Recognition Handbook
This year we will be revising the Member Recognition Handbook (a comprehensive list of awards and honors for 4-H members and volunteers). If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to share them with Terri Yost at 973-285-8300 X3 or yost@njaes.rutgers.edu. We are always looking for ways to “Make the Best Better”!

Suggestions Needed
Celebrating Our Leaders

Thank you for all your help and years of service to 4-H!!!

1 year
Christine Gothmann– Karing Kids
Jane Ellis–Nature’s Keepers

2 years
Vince Cattano–Cuckoo 4-Photos

3 years
Eric Pierce–Lafayette
JoyLynn Leech–Hoof n’ Around
Joanna Kaiser–Picatinny

4 years
Kim Blewett– Nature’s Keepers
Arlene Parsons–Picatinny
Heidi Mitchell–Lafayette
Jim Newquist–Palette of Fun,
Science Bridges,
and Mt. Olive Library
Lyn Danson Smith—Allegro

5 years
Lynette Mills–Lafayette
Stan Firer–Karing Kids

6 years
John Stochaj–Nifty Heelers
Renee Jones–Lafayette

7 years
Richard Alston–Lafayette
Loreli Stochaj–Nifty Heelers

8 years
Jen Carberry–Buckaneers and Amazing Artists
Sue Filak–Puppy Tails
Michelle Harris King–Lafayette
Linda Kabis–Puppy Tails

9 years
Sue Elam–Jefferson Crew
Lisa Masi–Jefferson Crew
Connie Montgomery–Lafayette

10 years
Bev Hahn–Dogs ‘R’ Us and Dream Horses
Kathy Murarik—Dogs ‘R’ Us

15 years
Bev Hahn–Dogs ‘R’ Us and Dream Horses
Kathy Murarik—Dogs ‘R’ Us

Martha, 4-H thanks you for being a shining star!
We appreciate your extraordinary service and dedication!!

Martha Bardin
40 years of Service!!
Congratulations Prep Graduates

Picatinny 4-H

Benjamin Armstrong
Andrew Aumick
Corey Bennett
Claudia Berdej
Kate Broderick
Nikkole Burns
Catrina Casale
Thomas Cole
Maiya Deerman
Brianais Delgado
Marlana Ehrhardt
Rebecca Felazzo
Ariana Ferraro
Sheridan Formoso
Stephanie Funcasta
Anna Gelpke
Thomas Herc
Brandon Hilton
Abdullah Jafar
Ted Keeshen
Billy Kerwien
Clifton Laughlin
Michael Leong
Skylar Lewis
Noe Lizotte
Jillian Lukac
Seth Marceau
Joelle Marston
Madisen McConnell
Justice Moses
Connor O’Malley
Joshua Pagnillo
Taryn Peng
Elizabeth Perez-Vega
Mark Plotkin
Jennifer Redington
Alysce Rosario
Eric Sheng
Robert Smith
Priya Tailor
Kristin VanSolkema
Zacharia Yafai

Some of our many Prep Graduates at Awards Night 2007

Palette of Fun/Science Bridges

Nicolas Bermudez
Brendan Koch
Sanaa Abdelmageed
Ashe Replogle

Hoofin’ Around

Amelia Kelson
Juliane Mora
George Rauh

Dogs R Us

Katharine Dodge
Morgan Sanchez

Lafayette

Brittany Alvarado
Anthony Hill
Kyla Nixon
Kyle Northan
A’Nasia Rudolph

Prep Record Books

Mimi Bauer Pullis
Kate Dodge

Puppy Tails

Kayla Eversen
Dog’s R Us

Danielle Baily
Allie Broome
Olivia DeBonaventura
Talia Everett
Zoe Everett
Hannah Takach
Alix Zudick

Nature’s Keepers

Lafayette

Quaron Bacon
Rakaya Downey
Ashlyn Reid

Teen Council

Chris Blewett
Gena Blewett
Carly Ellis
Vivane Nilson
Billy Small
Samantha Zarzycki

Puppy Tails

Tim Bartel
Brian Bartel
Caitlyn Brunner
Donald Ehrigott
Marissa Gilmian
Kristin Miicke
Jessica Stefani
Rachel Straub
Daniel Straub

Teen Council

Katrina Campion
Kelly Elam
Matt Elam
Melissa Falzarano
Samia Jones
Cynthia Onorevole
Alix Zudick
Melissa joined 4-H seven years ago. She started as a member of the Jefferson 4-H Crew, and is now a member of Teen Council. Melissa has been actively involved in all aspects of 4-H. She has served both clubs in many different leadership positions, and is this year’s Teen Council President. However, her work with 4-H is not simply at the club level. Melissa has exhibited in the Fair for the past six years. She has discussed many different topics at Public Presentations, and even served as hostess of her room. Our 4-Her of the year has also attended State Public Presentations for the past two years, and attended the 2007 Teen Leadership Camp. When New Jersey 4-H staff decided they needed to develop programming to help combat childhood obesity, Melissa was quick to step up and be on the planning team. In doing so, she helped to create the position of Food and Fitness Ambassador, and has served Morris County well in this capacity for the past 4 years. Melissa also represented Morris County 4-H at the national trip Citizenship Washington Focus, interviewed with representatives from around the state in hopes of being one of six representatives from New Jersey at National Conference this spring. It is because of all of these accomplishments, and many more that Melissa Falzarano, is this year’s 4-Her of the Year.

Congratulations
Melissa!!!

Melissa Falzarano (far right) is presented the “4-Her of the Year” award by (from Left) Rich Everett, 4-H Association President, Gene Feyl, Freeholder, Margaret Nordstrom, Freeholder and Cecelia Laureys, Former Freeholder.
Holiday Card Contest Winner
Caitlyn Brunner

Thank you
Holiday Card Contest Entrants

Thank you Allie Broome, Julia Kolacy, Katie Sclafani, Melanie Kolacy, Rebecca Dimichino, Sarah Dimichino, Cynthia Onorevole, Cristian Brunner, Kate Dodge, Kristin Miicke, Rachael Dimichino, and Sara Sclafani for your terrific entries!

We encourage everyone to enter next fall!

Fair Photo Contest

Grades 4-8:
3rd place: Melanie Kolacy “Calf with Becca Dimichino”
2nd place: Victoria Cattano “Jonathan, Chrissy, & the Chicks”
1st place: Crista Cattano “Victoria, Mrs. B & Hiss”

In grades 9-13
3rd Daniel Straub “Danny the Jersey Calf #1”
2nd Alixandra Zudick “Hannah Takach, Benny, and Shannon Bailey”
1st Cynthia Onorevole “2”

In the Adult category
Honorable Mention: Jennifer Carberry “The Princess Wave”
3rd Janet Dodge “Unnamed”
2nd Karen Kolacy “Goat w/ Gena Blewett”
1st Karen Kolacy “Ferocious Cavy with Melanie Kolacy and Katie Sclafani”

Best In Show : Crista Cattano
“Victoria, Mrs. B, and Hiss"
State and National Events

State Small Animal Show
Sarah Dimichino
Julia Kolacy
Melanie Kolacy

Get Moving Get Healthy Program
Daniela Aburzzese
Nicole Ehrgot
Kelly Elam
Melissa Falzarano
Jaclyn Falzarano
Amanda Volchko

The 4-H State Dog Show
Allie Broome
Alixandra Zudick
Hannah Takach
Zoe Everett
Brooke Ditta
Katelyn Baumgartner
Katie Skrobala
Peggy Grow
Mary Jane Ryan
Bonnie DiCola
Jean Romano
Kristin Miicke
Joyce Novak
Marlyn Rath

State Public Presentations
Sarah Dimichino
Jacob Harris
Katie Ellis

Citizenship Washington Focus
Matt Elam

Special Awards

Alumni of the Year
Jane Ellis

Clara R. Farst Award
Kevin And Janet Malcolm

Lance Corporal Andrew W. Lubrano Memorial Scholarship
Kelly Elam

Work and Win Winner
Aisling Byrnes

Fair Theme and Yearbook Cover Winner
Kristin Miicke

Window Display Contest
Nature’s Keepers
Child Care
Rachael Dimichino
of Amazing Artists

Fine Art
Becca Dimichino
Rachael Dimichino
Julia Kolacy
Melanie Kolacy
all of Amazing Artists

Food and Nutrition
Record Book
Diana Hamer
Jessica Volchko
both of Jefferson 4-H Crew

General Record Book
Gena Blewett
Carly Ellis
both of Nature’s Keepers

Best General Record Keeper is
Carly Ellis
of Nature’s Keepers

Horse Record Book
Samantha Lara
of Hoofin’ Around

Best Seeing Eye
Record Keeper
Katelyn Baumgartner
of 4-Footed Leaders

Small Animal
Becca Dimichino
Rachael Dimichino
Julia Kolacy
Melanie Kolacy
all of Buckanears

Best Small Animal
Record Keeper
Julia Kolacy
of Buckanears
Project Book Awards
Grades 9-13

Dog Care Project Books
Allie Broome
of Dogs ‘R Us

Teen Leadership Record Book and Best Record Keeper for Teen Leadership Record Book
Katie Ellis
of Nature’s Keepers

Best Record Keeper for Dog Care
Allie Broome
of Dogs ‘R Us

Seeing Eye Record Book
Taylor Farrell
of 4-Footed Leaders

Elena Halis
of 4-Footed Leaders

Kristin Miicke
of Puppy Tails

Janice O’Brien
of 4-Footed Leaders

Food and Nutrition Record Book
Tessa Masi
Amanda Volchko
Jessica Volchko
Melissa Falzarano
Katrina Campion
all of 4-H Jefferson Crew

Fine Art Project Book and Best Fine Art Record Keeper
Sarah Dimichino
of Amazing Artists

Horse Record Book and Best Record Keeper for Horses
Sarah Dimichino
of Buckanears

Best Record Keeper for Small Animal
Sarah Dimichino
of Buckanears

Club Treasurer’s Record Book
Best in Show
Danielle Bailey
of Dogs ‘R Us
Individual Scrapbook
Jessica Stefani of Puppy Tails
Alix Zudick of Dogs ‘R Us

Best in Show for Individual Scrapbook
Jessica Stefani
of Puppy Tails

Club Scrapbook Awards
Nature’s Keepers
and 4-Footed Leaders

Special County Awards

NJ Teen Leadership Project Award
Allie Broome
of Dogs ‘R Us
Melissa Falzarano
of Jefferson 4-H Crew
Tessa Masi
of Jefferson 4-H Crew
Katie Ellis
of Nature’s Keepers

Citizenship Award
Kristin Miicke
of Puppy Tails

Personal Development

Grades 4-8
Diana Hamer
of Jefferson 4-H Crew

Grades 9-13
Alix Zudick
of Dogs ‘R Us
Katrina Campion
of Jefferson 4-H Crew
Katie Ellis
of Nature’s Keepers

Achievement Award

Grades 9-13
Sarah Dimichino
of Buckanears
Tessa Masi
of Jefferson 4-H Crew
Kristin Miicke
of Puppy Tails
Allie Broome
of Dogs R Us
My 4-H Story

By Carly Ellis

This year in Nature’s Keepers 4-H club we had a theme of careers in animals and nature. I was thinking of being a zookeeper. To my surprise, we had Lori Space come in and talk to us about being a zookeeper. Lori Space works at Space Farms. It seemed fun, but it was not the right job for me. You don't get to play with the animals because they're, well, wild. You clean up after them and carry food up to their cage and throw it in. Zoo keeping must be hard work and take a lot of body strength. To some it would be a dream job but to me it is not the right career.

One day at a meeting our leader, Mrs. Blewett, said a Search and Rescue man is coming in with his search and rescue dog to speak with us about his job. I thought this one might be the one for me. In the end it was not the right job for me. Don't get me wrong, the job is nice, but it must be suspenseful. Lives are on the line. Some people do well under that kind of pressure, but I would collapse.

Then I heard a vet was coming in. I already knew I didn't want to be a vet. I don't do well with animals in pain. If I become a vet there would be so much to memorize I would be too worried about forgetting something I really would forget something! By now I was getting frustrated.

One meeting Jill Jaycox came in to talk to our group about the Seeing Eye. After she finished I thought this job might be good for me. No suspense, no animals in pain and no need for a lot of strength. Now that I reflect back on the year, I thought a job with animals wasn't the right fit for me.
My 4-H Story

By Sarah Dimichino

Public speaking is not something that I would have pursued on my own in the past. The idea of talking in front of a group of people has just never appealed to me. And yet, through 4-H, public speaking has become a part of my life, and I have become much more comfortable with it. I find that I actually enjoy it now.

I have been giving a presentation at Morris County 4-H Public Presentations Night at the County College of Morris since I was ten. The first time I dreaded it. I envisioned a huge auditorium full of people, and having to sit through endless dull speeches. By the time it was my turn, everyone would have left. However, I found that it was quite different! Five or six presenters and their families would share a classroom, with a couple of judges sitting in the back. It wasn't a frightening atmosphere at all, it was fun! And the subjects people talked about were anything but dull! You could give a presentation on anything. I gave mine on raising baby goats and brought one of our baby goats to bottle feed.

Since that night three years ago, I have always given a presentation on a topic related to animals because it was fun to bring animals and I knew a lot about them, but this year I wanted to give it on a different subject.

For Christmas this past year, I received a papermaking kit. Shortly afterwards I took it out and started to make paper. Once I made one sheet I was hooked. It was so easy and fun to do, and the finished result was so beautiful! Soon I was recycling every piece of waste paper around the house and adding stuff to it like tea, cinnamon, dried flowers, mint leaves, food coloring and more.

One night as I was making paper, my sister Rachael said, "Sarah, why don't you do papermaking for your presentation?"

"What a great idea!" I said.

Well, I wrote up my presentation and memorized it, and on April 20 I gave it at the county college. I received an Excellent and, since I was in eighth grade, I qualified for State 4-H Public Presentations. I was excited, but also nervous. I had never been to State Presentations before. June 9 seemed ages away, but before I knew it, the day had come. We packed up the car with my papermaking stuff and off I went with my family to spend the day at Cook College.

The presentations started at 10:00 a.m. I found that State Presentations were much the same as County Presentations, only there were more participants, they were older and the rooms were smaller and more crowded. In my room there were presentations on the ancient game of Go, judging Dutch rabbits, going on a really long trail ride, Hereditary Spherosytosis and more. One kid brought his snake in a pillowcase! When it was my turn, I gave my speech from memory and then demonstrated how to make paper. Later I realized with some annoyance that I had said "Tonight I am going to show you...." and it was 10:00 in the morning! County Presentations were always held at night. Oh well.

In our room, all the presenters received Excellent ribbons. Then we all took a break to eat lunch outside. My family and I had a picnic lunch on the lawn and afterwards we walked around the campus until it was time to go inside for the Awards Ceremony. The Awards Ceremony was held in the main auditorium. After a few brief speeches, one by one the Silver Bowl awards were announced. The Silver Bowl winner is the best presenter in the room. When I heard room number 113 called, I held my breath. Then my name was announced - I was thrilled! I walked up to the stage to receive my 4-H pen and photo album. (Whatever happened to the Silver Bowl, I wonder?) We went home shortly after. It had been a really fun day. My younger sister Becca wondered if there was another level to go to with Public Presentations after the State level. I told her yes; after that comes National, World and Inter-Galactic level Public Presentations - where I hope to be going next year!

I find myself speaking in front of a group more and more often. Last year I was president of my 4-H club, which involved speaking in front of the club, and at the Fair this year I hosted the Open Pet Show with my friend Melanie. I was the announcer and introduced everybody and their pets over a microphone. I wasn't one bit nervous! I am very thankful for the opportunities to speak publicly that 4-H provides to me. This is a life skill that is useful to me now and will always be.
DATED MATERIAL