



# Santa Clara County 4-H Timely Topics

## September, 2012



### 4-H Welcomes All Youth and Families

By Fe Moncloa,  
4-H Youth Development Advisor

The 4-H Youth Development Program (YDP) is getting ready to start the 2012-13 program year. Several clubs are holding enrollment picnics and gatherings to encourage returning and new families to enroll (or re-enroll) and participate in this great youth program.

The 4-H YDP is to be open and accessible to participants, regardless of their individual ability to pay. All brochures, marketing, or other communications of the 4-H YDP should include a notice of such. A [Request for 4-H Program Fee Waiver/Reduction](#) form is available from your club leader and should be filled out by the parent/guardian of the youth.

Families whose monthly household cash income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty guidelines qualify for the fee reduction. If your child is eligible for/enrolled in free or reduced price school breakfast or lunch you meet this criteria.

(Reference:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/notices/iegs/iegss.htm>

A sample statement to include in all recruitment materials is: *ANR programs are open to participants, regardless of their ability to pay. Program fees will be waived or reduced for eligible youth. Please contact (4-H club or the 4-H Office ) if you have any barriers to participation or any special needs.*

In addition to the fee reduction, 4-H offers financial assistance to youth to participate in county-wide events such as Leadership Overnight and Summer Camp.

### SCC 4-H Calendar

*September, 2012*

- 9/1** State Leaders Forum Early-bird Registration deadline
- 9/11** Full County Council Meeting Auditorium, 1555 Berger Dr
- 9/15** Club Officers Training Auditorium, 1555 Berger Dr 5:30 pm Pizza/Potluck

*October, 2012*

- 10/6** Mega Field Day/Harvest Festival Emma Prusch Farm Park
- 10/13** Awards & Recognition Celebration Location to be announced

***For more information on upcoming 4-H events visit us at [scc4h.org](http://scc4h.org) on the 4-H Events page***

## OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE

The 4-H Office will be closed Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday Enjoy!

# ARTICLES SUBMITTED BY 4-H'ERS



## The Homesteaders Pumpkin Hole-Digging Crew

By Evelyn McGarry

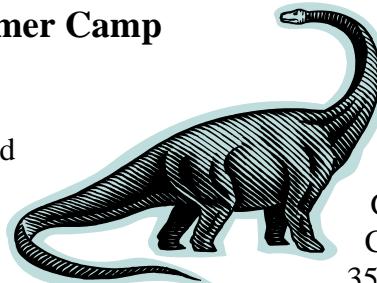
June 14<sup>th</sup>, was a very hot day; however, that did not stop the Homesteaders Pumpkin Hole-Digging Crew from putting down holes for soon-to-be- planted pumpkin seeds and laying out a watering system for Homesteaders annual pumpkin patch. Come October there should be a fine harvest of pumpkins ready for our school ranch visits.



## 2012 Pre-Historic 4-H Summer Camp

Holly Davis  
Sr. Camp Director

Butano Creek camp location turned out to be a beautiful back drop to our prehistoric theme this year. For the first time in recent history our 4-H Alumni members Sarah Pence, Jason Bombardier were allowed to offer their expertise and fun spirit by directing camp and Aaron Teagle taught archery. It was very nice to see alumni volunteering at summer camp as 4-H Volunteers. Camp Youth directors Becky Kirby and Jesse Clemons did a fantastic job managing our camp youth staff. All of our teen staff did a fantastic job taking responsibility for their assigned positions making camp run very smoothly.



Thanks to Susan Weaver and her cook crew we all were fed extremely well. No one ever goes hungry at our camp. Joe Walters and Lipti Oh lead hikes and stargazing. Mike Davis, Holly Davis and Hank Riley taught riflery. Jennifer Graybeal and Jennifer Smith volunteered at Arts and Crafts. And we couldn't have had camp without our 35 volunteer adult chaperones taking their personal free time to help out everywhere needed and participate inthe camp fun. Eileen Hails earned her Happy Camper of the year t-shirt and award by having great camp spirit and enthusiasm.

All of us adults were very impressed by all of our youth directors and staff taking charge and meeting the challenges of leading our 4-H youth at camp. Thank you everyone for making my first camp director experience so wonderful

## Cavy Showmanship

By Lauren Oliver  
Pleasant Acres 4H



## 4-H Fashion Models

by Paula Piva  
Coyote Crest 4-H

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, our Sewing Project went to Santana Row to go on a field trip at Burberry's. The Burberry employees had a yummy breakfast prepared for us. Once we were done, one of the Burberry employees talked about the store history, some of it was, that Burberry's trademark was the check pattern, and that Mr. Thomas Burberry invented the trench coat. After our history lesson we got to try on some of the store's clothes and make a look for ourselves. I had such a great time that when I put on my own clothes I felt like Cinderella at midnight when all the magic left her.

What is cavy showmanship? Cavy showmanship is a process where you perform a detailed health check on your cavy. It takes a lot of practice, but it surely is worth it! I had been practicing with my cavy Reepicheep for a long time when the Fair came along. I competed against others in my level and got 2<sup>nd</sup> place! I was really afraid in the morning: afraid of the judge, afraid of failure. But when I actually did it, I realized there was no reason to fear! The judge was nice, and was there to help.

If you have a cavy and want to learn how to check their health, then you should learn this! Cavy showmanship covers checking ears, eyes, nose, teeth, legs, gender, hair, and body. For example, your cavy might have excessive ear wax or flesh spots on/in their ear.

A way that I have used showmanship in real life is when Reepicheep started squealing loudly. He shook from side to side, but nothing was touching him. I'll admit, I was scared. I didn't know what was wrong. But I suddenly had the strangest desire to open his mouth to check his teeth. When I looked at his teeth, they were misaligned. Looking back, I'm so thankful that I learned how to do that. Turns out, he had been separated from my brother's cavy Galaxy (his true love) and was sad. As a result, he didn't eat as much and his teeth weren't wearing down enough.

Find someone in your 4H Club to teach you showmanship. Even if you don't have a cavy, you can use someone else's. It's a lot of fun to learn!

## Great Show! Great Opportunity!

By Santiago Piva  
Coyote Crest 4-H



Horse Project members from Coyote Crest, El Sereno, Rolling Hills, and San Martin 4-H clubs had the opportunity to attend a great show. On July 17<sup>th</sup>, 4-H was invited to attend the Media Preview of Cavalia. The acrobats, the live music, and the horses were amazing. My favorite part was when the women were holding on to the men that were riding the horses. It was nice that the artists stayed after the show and answered the questions that people had. I am glad that, because I am in 4-H, I got to attend!!



## Coyote Crest Rifle Project Members Take Statewide Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals

By Mike Davis, Coyote Crest 4-H, shooting sports project leader

With 789 participants, nine different events, and 1,331 entries, the **2012 4-H Statewide Shooting Sports Match** was the largest and most competitive match in its 28-year history.

Congratulations to the Coyote Crest 4-H members who earned medals and ribbons in the Match:

- April Alger earned two gold medals, one in sporter air rifle and one in .22 Rifle with open sights
- Paula Piva earned a bronze medal in .22 rifle with open sights
- Santiago Piva earned a silver medal in .22 rifle with open sights
- Cameron Vincze earned a bronze medal in .22 rifle with open sights
- Brianna Kemlo earned a participant ribbon

Participating parents included:

- Jenel Vincze earned a bronze medal in standing air rifle
- Tracy Kemlo earned a bronze medal in .22 rifle with open sights
- Colin Kemlo and Holly Davis both earned participant ribbons.

Complete match results are available from the California state 4-H website:

<http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/SET/ShootingSports/>.

If you're interested in participating next year, sign up for the next SCC 4-H countywide shooting sports project. Details are published elsewhere in this month's Timely Topics.



## Sign-Ups Now Open for the 4-H County-Wide Rifle Shooting Sports Project

By Mike Davis, Coyote Crest 4-H, shooting sports project leader

Coyote Crest 4-H and the Santa Clara Valley Rifle Club will offer two 4-H rifle shooting sports projects this year. The project focuses on firearms safety and marksmanship skills in Olympic-style rifle shooting. Projects are open to 4-H members 10 years old and above.

Each project meets for two hours per month, on the second Monday of every month from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The first project will be from October 2012 through January 2013. And the second project will be from February 2013 through May 2013.

Each project is limited to ten members. To sign up for either project, or for more information, contact Mike Davis by email at [DavisFamilyFarm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:DavisFamilyFarm@sbcglobal.net) or phone (408) 693-5852.

# From the desk of Fe Moncloa, 4-H Youth Advisor

## Youth Promoting 4-H to Youth

By Fe Moncloa, 4-H Youth Development Advisor

Every year, 4-H Club participates in several community events during the year to recruit new families into the program. We reach out to thousands of families, yet in the end, no more than 50 families join each year. How can we do a better job of recruiting families into the program?

Many families call the 4-H Office asking how to join the program. I explain that 4-H is a volunteer organization, that parent participation is what makes it work, and all of the short and long term benefits the program has to offer. Then I help families locate the club that will best meet their need. When I ask them how they learned about 4-H, people respond that either they knew about 4-H for a

long time, or that they talked to one of our 4-H members, and their kids connected with a 4-H'er. Parents are always impressed with the poise, knowledge and friendliness of 4H'ers. Kudos to the 4-H'ers in Santa Clara County!!

Recently, a parent who lives in Campbell called to inquiry about joining her children in 4-H. Her kids had spoken with a young 4-H'er at the Fair and wanted to join to be just like her. It is this connection and welcoming that facilitates the recruitment of more youth and families into 4-H. Let's continue to put this to work at our future community events!!

## 4-H and the World of Financial Administration

By Fe Moncloa, 4-H Youth Development Advisor

4-H is a program of the University of California Cooperative Extension. Hence 4-H clubs and Council do not have status as a legal entity. As such, 4-H Volunteers, Clubs and Council are not allowed to pay for labor or hire employees (such as judges or the pay for labor for upgrade of electrical systems in a ranch facility). However, there may be times when the services of a limited term employee or contractor are needed to conduct the business of the 4-H club or council. In these rare cases, 4-H Volunteers must contact 4-H staff (Jenel Vincze or Fe Moncloa) and staff will facilitate the process.



Similarly, 4-H councils, club and adult volunteers are not allowed to sign or enter into contracts of any kind on behalf of the UC, nor otherwise obligate The Regents of the University of California in any way. All agreements and/or contracts must be executed by the county director. When service contracts such as transportation and facility agreements, independent contractors or purchase orders are needed to conduct the business of a 4-H council or unit, 4-H volunteers must contact 4-H staff.

*What happens if a 4-H Volunteer signs a contract?*  
If a 4-H Volunteer signs a contract, the contract is between the other entity and the individual that signed the contract, not the 4-H program or the University of California. Thus the individual is liable for the terms of that contract.

## Teaching a 4-H Project the “4-H Way”

By Fe Moncloa, 4-H Youth Development Advisor

What is the “4-H Way” you may ask? Well, before I delve into those details, a project or teen leader needs to plan their project first. Things to consider into planning your project are:

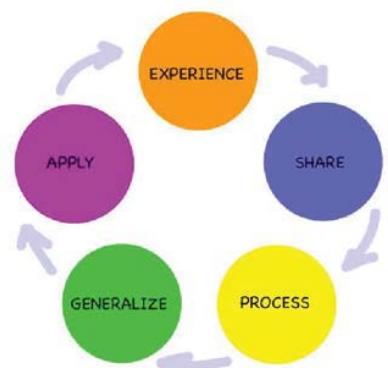
1. Plan for 6-8 project meetings per club year. Consider field trips, guest speakers and judging opportunities to add variety to meetings.
2. Engage teen and junior leaders early to help with planning and delegate responsibility as appropriate.
3. Align your project plan with the Life skill wheel. You will need to work with all members to set goals for the project like community service, giving a demonstration to the club, entering the county fair or an open show
4. Identify the curriculum and/or materials for projects and related expenses (fundraising possible and note that project members bear expenses)
5. Think safety: Medical forms, emergency contact info, how to report injuries or accidents.
6. Keep track of project members and their interest. If youth leave the project, please find out why.
7. Develop a project attendance form and a process to approve “replacement work” when a member can’t make a meeting
8. Model meeting management skills – engage all, start and stop on time, discourage interruptions, enforce 4-H code of conduct, review action items, etc.
9. Use Proficiency guides (if available for your project) to plan your year and help youth set personal goals.
10. As much as you can, stand back and let the youth do it.



Teaching a 4-H Project the “4-H Way” translates into the following:

1. Youth learn experientially. This is slightly different than “youth learn by doing” because the experiential learning cycle starts with “doing” and then the project or teen leader guides youth through the process of describing, relating and applying what they learned in the “doing” part. [Refer to the experiential learning cycle on the next page]
2. Juniors and Teen Leaders. Encourage and provide opportunities for Junior and Teen Leaders to assist or teach the project. It is up to the Project Leader to identify the teens who will serve in these roles with the intention to give different youth the opportunity to serve each year.
3. Integrate the development of leadership, citizenship and life skills development into each project.
  - a. Community Service of Service-Learning activities are part of the project. The idea is for youth to identify the service that will be conducted, and for youth in partnership with adults to organize the event or series of events. Check out the Revolution of Responsibility for grants up to \$1,000 to support Service-Learning projects. <http://www.ca4h.org/Support/RoR/>
  - b. Peer mentorship: Older youth can mentor younger youth, or more experienced youth can mentor less experienced youth.
4. Youth-Adult Partnerships: Youth and adults develop a relationship where each other’s strengths are combined to create a successful project. Youth-adult partnerships take place when youth and adults plan, learn and work together, with both groups sharing equally in the decision-making process.
5. Keep a record: Maintaining a “record book” is not a requirement in 4-H, but keeping some kind of record where youth can reflect on what they learned is part of the experiential learning cycle.
6. Recognition. Celebrate the accomplishment of youth throughout the program year. The proficiency guides are helpful tools to do this.

### Experiential Learning



At the end of the program year, 4-H’ers are eligible for the following pins that may be awarded at the club level:

Year achievement pin  
Year stripe  
Officer pin  
100 percent attendance pin

Star ranking  
Club record book pin  
Jr. or Teen Leader emblem and pin  
4-H Thrive pin

At the county level, youth may be eligible for:

Proficiency pin  
County record book pin

All-star emblem  
Emerald Star emblem and pin.

Adults are recognized at the county level after their first year of serving as a 4-H Volunteer. Special recognition pins are given to 4-H volunteers for their exceptional contributions to the 4-H program

***This years County Achievement & Recognition Night is tentatively scheduled for October 13, 2012, location to be announced***

The standard practices that define the **experiential learning cycle** are

**EXPLORATION:** In this step 4-H members “*Do an activity*”. Youth do this activity with little to no help from the Project/ Teen Leader such as making products or models; role-playing; giving a presentation; problem-solving; playing a game.

**SHARING:** “*What Happened*”

In this step, youth share talk freely about the activity they just did. Some of the questions to ask are:

- i) What did you do?
- ii) What happened?
- iii) What did you see, feel, hear, taste?
- iv) What was the most difficult? Easiest?

**PROCESSING:** “*What’s Important?*”

In this step, Project/Teen Leaders facilitate a discussion with youth, and help them analyze and reflect on the experience. Discuss how the experience was carried out. Discuss how themes, problems, and issues are brought out by the experience. Discuss how specific problems or issues were addressed. Discuss personal experiences of members. These are *examples of processing questions*:

- i) What problems or issues seemed to occur over and over?
- ii) What similar experience(s) have you had?

**GENERALIZING:** “*So What?*”

In this step, Project/Teen Leaders help youth connect the experience with real world examples. The following are *examples of generalizing questions*:

- i) What did you learn about yourself through this activity?
- ii) Why is (life skill) important in your daily life?
- iii) How does what you learned relate to other parts of your life?

**APPLICATION:** “*Now What?*”

In this step, Project/Teen leaders help youth apply what was learned to a similar or different situation; learn from past experiences and practice. In the discussion youth figure out how this new learning can be applied to other situations or in the future. Project/Teen Leaders help each 4-H member feel a sense of ownership for what was learned. *Example questions about applying the experience*:

- i) How can you apply what you learned to a new situation?
- ii) How will you act differently in the future?
- iii) How could you apply the life skills learned through this practice in the future?

Are 4-H members learning how to raise animals experientially? Are they learning beekeeping this way too, or is the Project Leader telling them what to do and then doing it for them? Are parents of 4-H members assuming the roles of 4-H youth and feeding animals, cleaning the pens, and going to the breeders without youth members?

References: Retrieved from the California 4-H webpage at  
<http://www.experientiallearning.ucdavis.edu/default.shtml>

## **Who Is Celebrating Your 4-H Volunteer Service?**

The 4-H Youth Development Program recognizes all 4-H volunteers for their outstanding contribution to the 4-H program.

We celebrate all 4-H volunteers for their service to the 4-H program. Your sense of volunteer pride and appreciation may come from a tender note from a 4-H parent, a smile from a child after accomplishing a new task or receiving your first 4-H volunteer certificate or pin. Many counties hold a 4-H Volunteer Recognition Program honoring volunteers for years of service with certificates, pins and other items.

This year, Santa Clara County will honor volunteers for the following years of service (1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, etc).

In addition, you may nominate yourself or a fellow 4-H volunteer, teen or adult, for one of four special Santa Clara County 4-H Volunteer Awards. Each of the following awards recognizes how youth and adults worked in partnership with each other. Only one award will be given for each category at the

**Submit your nominations to Jenel Vincze, [jvincze@ucanr.edu](mailto:jvincze@ucanr.edu) by September 15, 2012  
An announcement will be forthcoming in the yahoo-group with instructions on how to nominate and recognize youth and adults.**

County Achievement Night to be held October 13, 2012. The award categories include:

**Innovator Award** - recognizes adult and youth who have developed new programs, county projects, or activities.

**Recruitment** - recognizes adult and youth who have undertaken recruitment efforts that attracted new membership.

**Leadership Development Award** - recognizes adult and youth who have demonstrated and displayed an ability to develop leadership in youth.

**Community Service** - recognizes adults and youth who have collaborated or cooperated with other community or 4-H groups, or undertaken service projects and activities within their own 4-H club or group.

The following award will be given in recognition of the special efforts of our friends in the community that go out of their way to support 4-H.

**Friend of 4-H Award** - recognizes an individual, family, business or corporation that has greatly supported or currently supports the Santa Clara County 4-H Program, in a charitable manner at the county, state or national level.

**Congratulations to Hilltop 4-H Club Co-Leader, Jill Bright**



Jill Bright is going to be a new swine co-chair with Vince and Carly Revino. Jill's responsibilities will be primarily with the 4-H program and she will also help Vince and Carly with the Fair shows. Vince and Carly will mainly help with the Fair and will leave most 4-H activities to Jill. Jill is interested in planning 4-H educational programs and field days for the swine program. She will also continue in her position as County Market Goat Chair. She is also a member of the Fair Committee.

# **News from the State Office...**

## **Archery Leader Certification Training**

Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14

Humboldt County UCCE Office

5630 South Broadway, Eureka, CA 95503

Attendees must attend both Saturday (9AM - 5 PM) and Sunday (8:30 - 12 noon) to be certified as a 4-H adult, teen or junior leader. The cost will be \$30 for training and a binder of resources. There will be a lecture, hands on practice and a test. To register, complete the "Request for Training Form" at <http://www.ca4h.org/files/2123.pdf> and mail with your payment to Sandy Sathrum at 5630 South Broadway, Eureka, CA 95503. Make checks payable to Humboldt County 4-H. Participants are responsible for all transportation, overnight lodging and meals. If you have any questions, call Sandy at 707-445-7351.

## **Shooting Sports Leader Trainer Course Muzzle Loading Discipline**

5 Dogs Range - Bakersfield, CA

Saturday, October 20, 2012 – 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 21, 2012 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Upon successful completion of this course, 4-H leaders will be certified in the shooting sports discipline of muzzle loading. They will be certified as leader trainers and are eligible to serve as shooting sports leaders for clubs or counties and they may also instruct and certify shooting sports volunteers. Class size is limited. There is no fee for the course. However, if you wish to receive National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association instructor certification there is a fee of \$40. To get more information or register for the class contact John Borba at: [jaborba@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jaborba@ucdavis.edu) or telephone 661-868-6216.

## 4-H Volunteer Reflection

Hats off to 4-H volunteers, teens and adults, committees too – you are the greatest!  
Expect the unexpected in order to BEST prepare for what is expected.  
Accomplish goals, acquire skills, and achieve rewards to attain 4-H successes.  
Decide to be a part of the future – join a 4-H Committee, be a Camp Counselor!



Hear those praises for your 4-H volunteer service, heartfelt thanks from a smiling child.  
Enthusiastic members + Energetic Volunteers = Excellent 4-H Experiences.  
Attract new members and assist new volunteers in joining the 4-H FUN!  
Reach for the Stars – apply to be a 4-H Club of Distinction.  
Try attending a training workshop and ask someone to join the volunteer TEAM!



Help 4-H clovers sprout into project members...what better way to grow!  
Allow members to lead meetings and make decisions to build leadership skills.  
Never give up working towards achieving your 4-H volunteer dreams.  
Develop lasting friendships by attending the State 4-H Leaders' Forum or State Leadership Conference  
Satisfaction comes from knowing you gave it your all and did your 4-H best!



Happiness lies not with the final 4-H project, but on the road to get there!  
Express thanks to 4-H members, teens, parents, volunteers and Extension staff.  
Accept differences and applaud 4-H committees that work to make a difference.  
Lead by example, be a good sport inside and outside the 4-H judging ring.  
Take time to help with 4-H – you will reap the benefits for years to come.  
Hurry not to the end of another 4-H year, but to the beginning of a new one!



*Adapted by Fe Moncloa, from Patty House (The Ohio State University Extension)*

**University of California Cooperative Extension**  
Santa Clara County  
4-H Youth Development Program  
1553 Berger Dr. Bldg. 1  
San Jose, CA 95112

[SCC4H.org](http://cesantaclara.ucdavis.edu>Youth Development</a><br/><a href=)  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Monday thru Friday

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Fe Moncloa, Editor  
4-H Youth Development Advisor  
(408) 282-3107  
[fxmoncloa@ucdavis.edu](mailto:fxmoncloa@ucdavis.edu)

**All meetings and events are open to EVERYONE! Please come**

**Contact the office for special accommodations for disabled persons**

Jenel Vincze, Design and Layout  
4-H Program Rep  
(408) 282-3119  
[jvincze@ucanr.edu](mailto:jvincze@ucanr.edu)

**Deadline for articles is the 15th of each month.**