

“4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.”

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4-H State office - www.4-H.uconn.edu
1-888-FOUR-H-CT (368-7428) toll free state 4-H number

APRIL 2010

- 14 State 4-H Citizenship Day, Hartford
- 24 Fairfield County 4-H Science Day, Bethel- Lego Robotics
- 28 FC 4-H Volunteer Dinner- Newtown

MAY 2010

- 1 Awards, Camperships and College Scholarship applications due
- 1 CT Report Forms due in Bethel Office for state award consideration
- 8 New England 4-H Dog Camp, 1 day, Vernon
- 15 Set up for 4-H Benefit Horse Show
- 16 Spring Benefit Horse Show
- 17 After Show Pizza Party and Jump Pick Up

JUNE 2010

- 1 CT 4-H Recognition Forms due to the State 4-H Office for National 4-H Congress (May 1 to county office)
- 1 Animal verification forms due to county 4-H office for non horse animal projects
- 4 Fairfield County 4-H Recognition Night
- 12 Stony Hill Area Festival
- 20 4-H Benefit Horse Show (Rain Date)
- 25-27 Teen Connection, Storrs

SAVE THE DATE

- June 4 4-H Recognition Night
- June 25-27 4-H Teen Connection Conference at UConn
- July 10 4-H K9 Festival - Bethel

Condolences to

Linda Tomas, whose father recently pass away. Linda is a co-leader of the CT Beardsley Zoo Club.

Congratulations to

Sarah Liska and Claire Fraise who won Best of Show honors at CT Expressive Arts Day.

Ashley Malia, Elli Edwards and Rebecca Puglisi who graduated from the 4-H Red Cross certified babysitting course.

All who participated in this year's Cover Contest for the 4-H Spring Benefit Horse Show

Winner-Sarah Liska

Honorable mention - Shannon Spies

Participants - Holly LoCascio

Thank you to . . .

Alison Rogers, Emily Rogers and Dogs Rule members and Jami Wallace, and Happy Hoofers members Shannon Spies and Rachel Petersen who manned our 4-H booth at the Agway Pet and equine Expo.

Jami Wallace who manned our 4-H booth and taught 4-H creative drama at the Minds in Motion conference in Newtown.

To everyone who sent cards, phone calls, emails, prayers and good thoughts my way on the recent passing of my Dad.

Carol Maida for coordinating the Ad Campaign and to all leaders members and parents who participated.

Welcome to

Donna Liska, our new 4-H Program Assistant.

COUNTY HAPPENINGS

AWARDS

Award applications have been sent to all leaders. All applications are on the county web page. Awards are *due May 1, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.*, at the 4-H Office.

VOLUNTEER and TEENS DINNER, April 24, 2010 MY PLACE RESTAURANT, NEWTOWN

On April 24, we will have our volunteer dinner meeting at My Place Restaurant. Compliments of 4-H. Who should attend? Adults and teens that are in leadership positions in their club and adults and teens who have served on county, state committees and the County Fair Board are invited to attend.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H AD CAMPAIGN

Over \$5,880 was collected!!! The results are in and attached to this newsletter. Even though it was a difficult fundraising year, we did raise more than last year. Thank you and congratulations to all who participated. 4-Hers who submitted their ads late are listed as participating, but are not eligible for awards.

COUNTY 4-H PROMOTION and FUNDRAISING

This year, there are many changes to our county 4-H promotions and fundraising efforts.

As you know, clubs are expected to participate in county fundraising/4-H promotion events and activities. During the last several years, we have added many new events, especially 4-H promotion activities. To prevent overburdening everyone, the Development Committee decided to hire a food vendor for both horse shows and K9 Festival for this year. This should reduce the volunteer needs for each event. To be a club in good standing, it is expected that each 4-Her volunteer for at least one of the following fundraising/4-H promotion events and activities.

May

4-H Horse Show - Bethel

May 15 - Set up for 4-H Benefit Horse Show

May 16 - Spring Benefit Horse Show

June 12 - Stony Hill Area Amber Alert Day - Bethel 4-H promotion booth and face painting – already taken by Newtown Naturalists

July 10 - K9 Festival- Bethel

August 15 - Bethel Garden Fair- 4-H promotion booth and selling bulbs

September

September 11- Set up for 4-H Benefit Horse Show

September 12 - Fall Horse show - Bethel

We will still be holding the bulb sale this summer/fall. We have a new vendor with lots of new choices.

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4-H SCIENCE DAY- new registration deadline

A Lego Robotic workshop will be held on **Saturday April 24, 2010**, from 1:00pm - 5:00pm at the

Fairfield County Extension Center in Bethel. Working in small groups, 4-Hers will build, program and then maneuver their robot through an obstacle course. Interested????? Youth must be at least 9 year old. Non 4-Hers are invited.

Registration is limited; spaces will be filled on a first come first served basis. There is a \$5 registration fee. 4-Hers, their friends and youth enrolled in the 4-H Afterschool are welcomed. Complete and mail the attached registration form. Information is on our webpage www.fairfieldcounty4h.org

FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H K9 FESTIVAL is HAPPENING!!! SAVE the DATE!

July 10th is the date. This Festival offers something for every dog lover. In addition to Match Classes, Agility and Rally clinics, Canine Good Citizen Testing, Cutest Pet Photo Contest, and Dog Fun Classes, the committee has added a stuffed animal pet parade for those under 7 years old and a parade of adoptable pet and those who own rescues. Lots of vendors and demos!! The Festival is open to 4-Hers, their families, and anyone who loves dogs.

4-H AFTERSCHOOL UPDATE

4-H Afterschool is just finishing up a nutrition and fitness unit. At the end of April they will do their last 6 weeks of creative drama.

15 minutes once a week- walking- for every child in the 4-H Afterschool program - for a total of more than **5,000 miles!!!!**

FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H FAIR - FIRST MEETING Coming soon

Teens Rock!!! Want to have a say in the Fair this year? Join the Fair Board. Any teen 13 years and up is invited. Our first planning meeting will be happening soon. Pizza party included. We will be electing Fair officers and committee chairs as well as recruiting adult advisors. We anticipate 5 meetings. Contact Ede if you are interested in being on the Board.

Are you already a Fair Board member? Want to run for office?

The by-laws committee (Gwen Hawkes, Alyssa Marini, and Mark Malia) has developed a by-law draft document. Although this is still a draft, we will be electing officers according to it. Draft by- laws of the Fairfield County 4-H Fair Board state that:

Article 6 – Officers, Elections, and Duties

Section 1 – Elected officers/committee chairs

The elected officers shall be president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and chairpersons and other officers as necessary for the operation of the Fair Board. The duties of these officers, chairs and others will be assigned by the Executive Committee and Extension Educator.

Section 2 – Elections

Officers and committee chairs shall be elected annually at the spring meeting and shall begin

the term of office immediately. An officer/committee chair must have been a member in good standing of the Board for at least one year. (exceptions will be made if no eligible Board members are available) Officers and Committee chairs may serve in the same capacity more than one year.

Officers/Committee Chairs are nominated the following way:

Prior to the first meeting, the Extension Educator will send to eligible Board members a listing of all officers and committee chair positions. Members will nominate themselves for any position(s),

Note: more than one position is allowed.

- At the first meeting, the listing with self nominations will be presented. At this point, nominations will be accepted from the floor.
- After nominations have closed, nominees will give short talks on their qualifications and desires for positions.
- Voting will be paper.

STATE HAPPENINGS

4-H CONNECTICUT RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM COMMITTEE

This committee has been working very hard to edit and revise the current Activity Records and Project Records Sheets. For the 4-H Year starting in October 2010, we will have the new Activity record packet and a new non animal project sheets. The animal related project sheets will be available for October 1, 2011.

2010 4-H TEEN CONNECTION CONFERENCE

Save the Date!! Brochures coming soon!

Teen Connection will be held at the University, Friday, June 25 to Sunday, June 27. **“Passport to Success”** is the theme of the 2010 UConn 4-H Teen Connection Conference. The focus of this conference is careers. Youth attending Teen Connection will have the opportunity to explore various career interests on Saturday, and then on Sunday participate in workshops that foster a positive work ethic. The cumulative activity on Sunday is Reality Check! A simulation where teens finally interpret all the data on what they have learned. They project themselves into the future as 25 year olds to make choices and decisions regarding careers, housing, and other lifestyle options. Will they have enough money for the choices they made? Will they like what they see?

This very exciting conference is fun and provides the chance for teens to build connections: in themselves, to each other, to other adults, to the world, and to the resources provided by the University. While living in dorms, youth will experience “campus life” by participating in activities and workshops throughout the University. This conference offers youth experiences above and beyond what is available at the county level; enhances the personal growth of participants; and offers the opportunity to meet teens from across the state. See attached flyer for details.

**2010 FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H
SPRING BENEFIT HORSE SHOW
AD CAMPAIGN SUMMARY**

The total results of our 2010 Ad Campaign:

Funds generated by 4-H members- \$ 3,940

Funds generated by the 4-H office \$ 1,950

\$ 5,890

4-H Members

Goal: \$5,000

Raised: \$3,940

Highest Overall Seller

Jacob Ford- \$425

Honorable mention

Nathan Allen - \$410

Extra Effort

Gillian Ostrofsky \$285

Sarah Liska \$260

Shannon Spies \$210

Matilda Brady \$210

Highest 7 & 8 year old

Camryn Schilling- \$100

100% Clubs

- Helping Hands, Norwalk- Kristi Allen, Nathan Allen
- Newtown Naturalists –Elizabeth LoCascio, Amanda LoCascio, Holly LoCascio

Participating Clubs

- Pineview Horseman, Oxford- Sarah Liska, Erin O'Brien, Gunnar Williams, Courtney Wabno, Allyson Schneider
- Dogs Rule, Bethel - Mark Malia, Emily Rogers, Elli Edwards
- Force 4 the Future, Bethel – Claire Fraise
- Zoo Club, Bridgeport- Skyler Marini, Cheyenne Ahmad, Alyssa Marini, Jacob Ford, William Tait, Brian Criscione, Erica Criscione, Leslie Brunner, Brendan Williams, Caitlin Neary
- Happy Hoofers, Bethel –Shannon Spies, Allison Valluzzso, Matilda Brady Amy Pruner, Gillian Ostrofsky
- Petstanino!-Camryn Schilling, Sydney Webb, Morgan Webb
- Independent members- Gwen Hawkes, Jonathan Malia

COVER CONTEST

Winner- Sarah Liska

Honorable Mention - Shannon Spies

Participants- Holly LoCascio

Funds Generated by the 4-H Office-

Goal- \$5,000

Raised \$1,950

(Levels and types of sponsorship not available for youth solicitation)

4-H SCIENCE DAY- "Lego Robotics"

Saturday April 24, 2010

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Fairfield County Extension Center

67 Stony Hill Road, Bethel 06801

Registrations due April 16

Please send completed form and \$5 to 4-H Science, 67 Stony Hill Road, Bethel, CT 06801. Questions - edith.valiquette@uconn.edu, (203) 207-3264. Checks should be made payable to Fairfield County 4-H.

Name: _____

4-H Club/Group _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____