


FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H
DREAM and ACHIEVE

PROGRAM NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

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

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www.fairfieldcounty4h.org**

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

OCTOBER 2010

- 8 Fairfield County Fair Board meeting
- 23 Fairfield County 4-H Fair

NOVEMBER 2010

- 5 Fair Evaluation Meeting
- 26 -30 National 4-H Congress, Atlanta, GA

DECEMBER 2010

- Fairfield County 4-H Ad Campaign Starts
- Ad Campaign Cover Contest Starts

Save the date

Public Speaking- Bethel Site – Sat, Jan 29

New Haven Site – Sun Feb 6



THANK YOU TO ...

- Fall Benefit Horse Show organizer Jami Wallace and all the people who volunteered that week-end
- Spring Flowering Bulb coordinator- Donna Liska
- Fairfield County Farm Bureau who recently donated \$250 to our 4-H program
- Record Book evaluators-Alison Rogers, Ray Steiger, Teresa Williams, Joanna Malia, Ken Forcier, Jami Wallace, and Donna Liska



CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Kristi Allen and Mark Malia who were selected as a CT delegate to National 4-H Congress in Atlanta!

The 4-H Fair cover contest winner Sarah Liska.

The 4-H Fair winning slogan    which was submitted by Gwen Hawkes.

Those 4-Hers who completed a project record this year: Brian Criscione, Erica Criscione, Cheyenne Ahmad, Leslie Bruner, Albert Ferraro, Liz LoCascio, Amanda LoCascio, Holly LoCascio, Gwen Hawkes, Kristi Allen, Nathan Allen, Mark Malia, Jonathan Malia, Ashley Malia, Brendan Williams, Sarah Liska, Emily Rogers, Gunnar Williams, Shannon Spies, Alyssa Marini, Sarah Brady, Elli Edwards, Nick Kovalik, Skyler Marini, William Tait, Nicole Cennamo, Russell Brodin, Madisen Carly, Amanda Connelly, Christopher Jossick, Larry Luizzi, Robert

Luizzi, Dylan Meade, McKenna Morgan, Colton Prancuk, Devion Prancuk, Noah Prancuk, Carl Osowski, Camryn Schilling, Courtney Wabno, Morgan Webb, and Sydney Webb



DID YOU KNOW???

Fairfield County 4-H has received a \$28,000 grant from JCPenney's through the National 4-H Council to fund 62 afterschool slots in Danbury.

COUNTY HAPPENINGS

PET TECH COURSE – NOVEMBER 14, 2010 from 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Are you an animal lover? This may be the one-day course for you. Newtown Parks and Recreation is offering a Pet Tech, First Aid and Pet Care course. This is an eight hour, hands on, comprehensive pet first aid class. Topics include healthy lifestyle, priorities and concerns of emergency, restraining and muzzling, primary pet assessment, rescue breathing, CPR, bleeding, shock, fractures, heat and cold injuries, insects and snake bites, poisoning, injury and wellness assessments, vitals, first aid and emergency preparation kits.

Why learn Pet First Aid? First aid is the immediate care given to a pet that has been injured or suddenly taken ill. It is estimated that up to 60% of animal hospital visits are emergency in nature and it is the leading cause of death among pre-senior dogs and cats. The more you know about your pets health, the better chance you have of keeping a simple problem from becoming a large one.

This class is appropriate for anyone, ages 12 and up. The fee is \$170. However, the course instructors and the Parks and Rec Department are offering a \$30 discount to 4-Hers. The Fairfield County 4-H Development Committee is providing activity scholarships (your horse show ad campaign and bulb fundraisers at work) of \$100. **The actual cost to Fairfield County enrolled 4-Hers is \$40.**

If you are interested in this course, you must register in person at the Parks and Rec Department or mail in the registration form. Make sure you mention that you are a Fairfield County 4-Her. If possible, the 4-H Development Committee would like members to pay the \$140 fee and then after the course, the \$100 activity scholarship will be sent to the 4-Her's family. If that is not possible, contact Ede for more info.

WELCOME OUR NEW 4-H ASSISTANT

Hello, my name is Donna Liska. I have lived in Newtown my entire life as has my husband. We have been married 27 years and have three great children. Our daughter Sarah is our youngest. She is a senior at Nonnewaug High School and has been a 4-H member since 2002. She is planning a future in large animal vet science. We have had a menagerie of animals over the years but our collection now consists of one horse, two dogs, two cats, a pot bellied mini pig, three ferrets, four ducks and several rabbits! I have been a 4-H parent, 4-H Development Committee member, and now I will be the 4-H assistant. I will work about 10/hours a week. My main responsibilities are activity organization, new members and leaders and helping leaders through their first year. I really enjoy being a part of the 4-H community.

BULB FUNDRAISER ENDS - We made our goal of \$1,000. Over half was raised on line!! Way to go!!

CLUB ENROLLMENTS - Enrollments will be mailed by October 15. Please try to return them by December 1.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WANTS YOU!!!!!!

The Development Committee is now forming for the upcoming 4-H year. Because the Development Committee makes decisions that affect everyone (budget, awards, fundraising, new programs, etc) our goal is to have every club represented. The Committee meets the fourth Wednesday of the month. There are no meetings in December or the summer. There is also very little work needed to be done between meetings. We are also recruiting parents, teens and alumni for the Committee.

NEW 4-H CO-LEADER OR PROJECT LEADER?

ALL adults who work with 4-H youth must become “Connecticut registered 4-H volunteers.” This requires completion of a Connecticut 4-H Volunteer Application (available from the 4-H Office or the CT 4-H website). Please be sure that any new 4-H volunteers working with your club are CT registered 4-H volunteers.

4-H MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

As we start the new 4-H year, I think it is a good idea to review what it means to be a 4-Her. The 4-H program year is October 1 – September 30. Clubs and individuals **must enroll each year to remain a 4-H member.** Please be aware of these Connecticut 4-H membership guidelines. They are printed in the Connecticut 4-H Volunteer Handbook.

A 4-H member in good standing in Connecticut meets the following guidelines:

- *Must be at least 7 and not yet 19 years of age as of January 1st of the project year.
- *Selects projects for in-depth study.
- *Records what they learn (record books).
- *Attends meetings regularly (if a member of an organized group) and is an active participant.
- *Completes a community service project (or becomes involved in a group project).
- *Participates in some form of public presentation.
- *Has projects evaluated

FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H FAIR UPDATE

The FAIR is OCTOBER 23. **All registrations were due October 6.** The Fairfield County 4-H Fair- organized by TEENS for YOUR pleasure!!!!

- Our new “Under the Clover” for the younger siblings of our 4-Hers
- Making scarecrows
- Good goofy fun, (yup- the pie eating contest is still on!!!)
- Workshops
- Club Banners
- Pumpkins Decorating Contest
- Candy Corn Guessing Contest
- Baking Contests
- Exhibits and RIBBONS!!!!
- And of course our GREAT COMMUNITY SERVICE project- making 40 no sew fleece blankets for Bradysmile - a local foundation that gives the quilts to infants in neonatal intensive care.

What is the Fairfield County 4-H Fair? The Fairfield County 4-H Fair is a one day event, held at the Beardsley Zoo. Youth bring exhibits in the morning. While the exhibits are being judged, workshops and other activities take place. Any enrolled youth can participate. Creative, fun, and great workshops and activities are planned for youth of all ages. And of course our annual candy corn and pumpkin contest will also happen.

Want to go but missed the deadline?

Although it is too late to enter exhibits, you can attend the **Fairfield County 4-H Fair** and participate in the workshops and other fun activities.

Contact Ede for more info.

THE STATE 4-H CORNER

NEW RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM TO START

The Connecticut 4-H Program conducted surveys with 4-Hers, parents, leaders and alumni. The State 4-H Committee on Record Keeping reviewed the results and spent many long hours working to improve and update Activity Records and Project Sheets during the 2009 and 2010 4-H year. The outcome of all this hard work has been the revision of the Activity Record and Project Record Sheets. Additionally *A Guide to Connecticut 4-H Record Keeping* has been developed to help members, leaders and parents understand and use the new record sheet system. A sample of a completed Record Book will also be available for individuals to use as a guide.

Effective this year (October 1 2010), the new non-animal Project Records and the new Activity Records will become the official Record Sheets to use in the CT 4-H program. During this current year, 2010-2011, the committee will be reviewing and revising animal related project records. The goal is to have these records available for October 1, 2011.

The general goal of the Record Keeping Committee is to have 4-H Record Sheets that are easy and clear to complete that also provides a "snapshot or summary" of a year in the life of a 4-H'er. There also seemed to be a clear need for forms that all youth, regardless of ability level will be able to complete.

Here is a sneak peak at the new records.

There are now three versions of the Connecticut 4-H Activity Record

1. Standard Form – to be completed by the majority of 4-H'ers age 9-19. 4-Hers aged 7 and 8 may choose to use this version. If a child is unable to write his/her Record Book due to age or special needs, it may be dictated. However, please note that it must be written *AS* dictated with no edits. A dictated book must be acknowledged as such on the Activity Record. A dictated book will be viewed the same way as a non-dictated one.
2. Alternate Form – to be completed by most 7 and 8 year olds or 4-Hers with special needs.
3. Special - This Record is specific to a child and must be approved by the local 4-H Educator.

The new 4-H Activity Record asks members to record:

- Information about meetings attended
- General 4-H Goals
- Public Speaking Activities
- Leadership Activities
- Community Service Activities
- General 4-H Participation and Promotion Activities
- Recognition Received
- 4-H Member Financial Summary
- 4-H Story
- Pictures (optional)

All Project Records ask questions regarding:

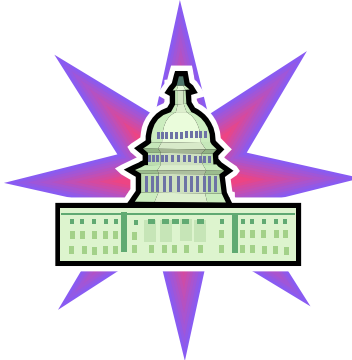
- Project goals
- Project description
- Project activities
- Knowledge gained
- Project financial information
- Project pictures (optional)

Most records will look similar to what we have been using, with a few formatting changes. All forms will be available at the State 4-H web site www.4-h.uconn.edu or at your local 4-H office.

Many thanks to adult and teen members of the State 4-H Committee on Record Keeping: Jenna Castle, Jan Castle, Marie Dube, Janet Ferguson, Aimee Gilbert, Abby Smith, Amy Smith, Sam Smith and 4-H advisor Ede Valiquette.

STATE 4-H EXPRESSIVE ARTS DAY

March 12 is the date. In addition to the Talent Show, State Photography Contest and State Art Contest, the State 4-H Expressive Arts Day, will include the State Textile Arts Contest, State Public Speaking program and the State Fashion Revue. Workshops, lunch and an awards program will complete the day.



CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS

The Connecticut delegation will be participating in Citizenship Washington Focus from June 26-July 2, 2011. Take this opportunity to come together with other young people like yourself to experience our country in action.

Do you want to take your 4-H experience to another level? Meet other 4-Hers from across the United States? Then maybe Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is for YOU!!

- This six-day summer citizenship program is open to youth between the ages of 14-19 years old.
- CWF participants learn about the democratic process and their role as active citizens while they experience Washington, D.C. first hand.
- Learn how our government truly operates by seeing it in action for yourself.
- Activities include meeting legislators on Capitol Hill, educational/ hands-on workshops, field trips into the city, an evening of culture, a talent show, and a dance along with a host of other exciting activities.

College aged program leaders will lead an experience that better prepares you for leadership now and in the future.



To apply to be a CT delegate from Fairfield County, you must complete the CT 4-H Report Form and be 15 by the time of the trip. It can be obtained from the state of CT 4-H web page, www.4-h.uconn.edu. Click forms and scroll to CT Recognition Form. Forms must be sent to 4-H, 67 Stony Hill Road, Bethel, CT 06801 by Christmas. County scholarships are available.