

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

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**JANUARY 2009 HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!**

**Fairfield County 4-H Ad Campaign Continues**

- 5 CT 4-H Recognition Forms due to the State 4-H Office for youth wishing to apply for Washington Focus or National Conference
- 31 Fairfield County 4-H Public Speaking Program, Bethel

**FEBRUARY 2009**

- 2 Due Date for State 4-H Photography, State Art Contest, State 4-H Fashion Revue, State 4-H Textile Art Contest, and State 4-H Talent Show. Entries due to the State 4-H Office
- 7 New Haven County 4-H Public Speaking Program, North Haven
- 14 Fairfield County 4-H Ad Campaign ends
- 14 Fairfield County 4-H Cover contest ends

**SAVE THE DATE**

**MARCH 14 - CT 4-H EXPRESSIVE ARTS DAY!**

**JULY 5-11 - CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS**

**... NEW DUE DATE FOR Record Books, starting this year will be due September 25.**

**THANK YOU TO ¼**

... members of the Happy Hoofers, Pineview Horsemen, Newtown Naturalists, Dogs Rule, who hosted their clubs' exhibits at the Dec 7 4-H Open House for the Bethel and Newtown Public Schools.

**COUNTY HAPPENINGS**

**NOW AVAILABLE - Fairfield County 4-H Brochures, Bookmarks, and DVD**

**We now have new brochures and bookmarks available – call or email Ede if you would like**

some.

**Have new members in your club? Want to orient parents about 4-H? The Fairfield County DVD, A Year in the Life . . . is free and available from the office. This short DVD was produced by 4-Her Mark Malia and explains in pictures, the events and activities that happen throughout the year. You may even see yourself I the DVD!**

#### **4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM**

**Start planning your presentations now! Dates for the county contests are:**

**Saturday, January 31 (Fairfield)      Sunday, February 7 (New Haven)**

Like previous years there will be junior and senior divisions, along with your choice of public speaking (use note cards only, no posters or visuals) or visual presentation (illustrated talk, demonstration, power point presentation). Senior and junior winners will qualify to compete at the CT 4-H Expressive Arts Day, March 14.

**Nervous about the Public Speaking event? Why not do a team demonstration? Teams must be composed of TWO people. Both participants must have an equal role in the presentation. Participants must supply their own props. Registration materials have been sent and are also available on our web site.**

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H AD CAMPAIGN** - Changes have been made to the form to be more user friendly. The campaign will be conducted from Dec 15 to Feb 14. Forms and info are on the web page.

The Spring Benefit Ad Campaign is the major fundraiser for ALL 4-H programs in Fairfield County. Proceeds are used to support programs like the Fair, our web page, Public Speaking, plus scholarships, camperships, Teen Weekend, Teen Connection and awards given at Recognition Night to name a few. Our goal is \$5,000 and 100% participation; please help make this a successful campaign. The second part of our fundraiser is the 4-H Benefit Horse Show, which will be held on May 17, 2009.

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H COVER CONTEST** - The contest will be conducted from Dec 15 to Feb 14. The Entry Form is included in this newsletter.

#### **CLUB ENROLLMENTS- Just a reminder - - -**

Enrollments are due! Do you have them sitting on your kitchen counter or underneath that pile on the table? They should be sitting on my desk! Please send in your enrollments- we do not carry forward mailing lists and must add each year- so your 4-H'ers will be missing out on mailings. If you are an independent member, please mail your forms directly to me. You can get

forms at the state 4-H website or call me at the office and I will mail the forms out to you. We also have record book forms, as well as, secretary and treasurer books for clubs to use.

### **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.

**CHANGES IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY 4-H THIS YEAR- this is a repeat of last newsletter *Grange 4-H Night at the Redding Grange*** - Speaking at the Grange will no longer count towards a mandatory public speaking option for Super 4-Her. It can be counted as a second public speaking opportunity in the elective section of the form.

*The Super 4-Her* application has been revised this year. There are now 6 mandatory activities. Several more optional activities have been added. The new form is to be used in this 4-H program year- 08-09.

*Goal Sheet – NEW THIS YEAR*, Fairfield County 4-H has developed a new goal sheet. The new goal sheet is available in either option 1 or option 2. Each form asks the same information, but in a different format. We are piloting the forms this year. They will be on our web page- [www.fairfieldcounty4h.org](http://www.fairfieldcounty4h.org) or call the office for forms- 203-207-8440

**New Super 4-Her form and the Goal Sheets will be posted on the county web page.  
PLEASE THROW OLD FORMS AWAY**

*Home Economics District Activities-* Fashion Revue - Plans are underway to expand the state Fashion Review to include **any** youth. Information will be sent soon about the program. The District Fashion Revue will not occur this year. It is anticipated that the Nutrition Fair will take place in the Spring.

## **STATE HAPPENINGS**

### **STATE 4-H DAY HAS A MAKE OVER!!!**

March 14 is the date. CT 4-H Expressive Arts Day is the new name. In addition to the Talent Show, State Photography Contest and State Art Contest, the State 4-H Expressive Arts Day, will include changes to the State Textile Arts Contest, State Public Speaking program and the State Fashion Revue. Workshops, lunch and an awards program will complete the day. Packet is

included in this newsletter. **Please note- Registration date is Feb 2.**

### **CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS**

The Connecticut delegation will be participating from **July 5-11, 2009**. 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? Are you ready for the next level in your 4-H journey? Then maybe Citizenship Washington Focus is for YOU!! This six-day intensive 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 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. The form is available from the state of CT web page. Forms must be sent to the County office by Christmas. County Scholarships are available.**

**4-H BENEFIT HORSE SHOW  
COVER CONTEST**

**What does 4-H mean to you? What do you like best about 4-H? Submit a cover and show us. The cover does not have to be about horses- it does have to be about 4-H. The winning cover will be used on the Benefit Horse Show (spring and fall) programs.**

**Send your design to: Virginia Early, 27 South Street, Bethel, CT 06801 by February 14. DO NOT FOLD THE PAGE. SEND IT FLAT. Use BLACK ink or marker ONLY. NO Pencil. Draw your design in the box below. DO NOT INCLUDE DATE AND TIME OF SHOW ON YOUR COVER.**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone (must have)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Town** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_