



Revolution of Responsibility Project

by Anna Sorensen, Conejo-Simi 4-H Club

The Revolution of Responsibility Project is a celebration of the Centennial Celebration of 4-H. I chose to do a project that I named "The Gift of a Story." My project was to make cards with wonderful stories for terminally ill children in hospitals then work with the Ronald McDonald House Foundation to match each card with the perfect child. I was able to collect more than 200 stories for this amazing cause and learned a lot during my Revolution of Responsibility Project. I learned that there are so many wonderful, caring people in this world.



The cards made it to their destination, and here are just a few lines from the Executive Director's personal thank-you letter: "These cards are especially meaningful to our regular card-receiving kids who endure frequent hospital stays due to chronic, life-threatening and/or terminal conditions. It also means a lot to the child's family to know someone is wishing them well during the hardest time of their lives. The family of Ariel, who passed away from cancer, chose to bury her with the cards she was given because of how they impacted her. Thanks to people like you, kids at hospitals and Ronald McDonald Houses in all 50 states have received these cards."

I know for sure that these stories can make a difference in people's lives and I am glad that I could be part of it.

Featured Club

Bardsdale 4-H Club



The 40 members of Bardsdale 4-H Club meet on the 4th Monday of each month. We really like parties for holidays and also have bar-b-ques for spring and Fair recap. A lot of members raise swine and beef, but we also offer fun projects like photography where we enter lots of photos in the Kids, Cameras, and Crops contest at the fair. Did you see all of our arts and crafts entries in the 4-H section of the Youth Building?

The Bardsdale 4-H Club also has an active Primary Project with 22 kids led by Alisa Mitchell. The group meets three times each month to learn about farm animals, dogs, baking, sewing, and community service. For the Fillmore Christmas parade the kids dressed as angels, shepherds, and donkeys to present a manger scene to the crowd.



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This year's officers are: President Chloe Richardson, Vice President Kate Johnson, Secretary Chloe Stines, and Treasurer Remy Richardson. They are busy planning fun and educational events for all the members to enjoy. We especially like to play games at each meeting testing our agricultural knowledge to win prizes! Our club wishes your club a happy, healthy, hopeful and hearty 2016!

Upcoming Featured Clubs

FEBRUARY – Briggs and Chief Peak Club (article due the first Monday in January)

March – Citrus Valley and Conejo Valley Club (article due the first Monday in February)

Happy 151st Birthday!

by Amy and Amanda Drews, Las Posas 4-H

On October 25th Las Posas 4-H club volunteered to decorate the Camarillo Ranch House to Celebrate Don Adolfo Camarillo's 151st Birthday. Don Adolfo Camarillo was a prominent land owner, horse breeder, rancher, and philanthropist in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the Ventura County area.



Don Adolfo Camarillo



Build a Bear

by Anna Sorensen, Conejo-Simi 4-H Club

The Conejo Simi 4-H Club Build a Bear Community Service Project, to raise bears for children residing in the Battered Women's Shelter in our county, was again a big success. We received 33 bears that will become Christmas gifts for every child in the shelter. We knew this was a great project, and it warmed our hearts with Holiday spirit when a woman and a small child came up to us and she said "I know what this is all about. We received one of your bears last year for Christmas." She smiled and went to donate a bear right back. We were all so happy because we knew these bears make very big difference.



Project Resources

Consider a Pollinator Project

Contact the 4-H Office vgrant@ucanr.edu for more information and to partner with Extension Specialists and Ventura Fish and Wildlife.

They are interested in partnering with 4-H on the following types of projects:

- Native habitat restoration
- Careers in science presentations
- Community native pollinator habitat
- Santa Clara River Field Studies Program (with Anna Howell)
- Endangered species Trips - protection/outreach/education

New Adult Volunteer Leader Certification

Volunteering is not as scary when you know what the job entails. Ask your club leader or project leader exactly what you can do to help. Attend trainings, and learn more from the job descriptions on the State 4-H website at <http://www.ca4H.org/Administration/Policies/Chapter6/>.

Volunteer positions range from Community Club Leader, Project Leader, other Key Leader, General 4-H Volunteer and/or Enrollment Specialist. Each club's needs are different. Ask your club leader or 4-H staff exactly what you can do to help.

Please use the link next to the Training date below to RSVP.

Monday January 11th 6:30 pm

<https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=16772>

Tuesday January 26th 6:30 pm

<http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=16774>

The trainings will be held at the 4-H Office at 669 County Square Dr., Ventura, CA 93003-9028. The trainings will begin promptly. Due to the large amount of material, please be on time. You must attend the entire training to receive your training certificate.



Council Corner

The next County Council Meeting will be held at 7 pm on January 27, 2016 at the Ventura Cooperative Extension office, 669 County Square Drive, Suite 100, Ventura CA 93003.

Healthy Living



4-H Healthy Living Event Checklist-Assessment

Are you planning a 4-H Event or Club meeting? By utilizing the 4-H Healthy Living Event Assessment/Checklist you can ensure that your events are supporting 4-Hers in forming lasting relationships, dealing with stress and their emotions, making healthful dietary choices, engaging in physical activity to promote optimal growth of minds and bodies, and avoiding unnecessary risks. Download and review the 4-H Healthy Event Assessment/Checklist for your next 4-H Event or Club meeting at http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/

Emerald Star Project

by Nicole Bellmore, Loma Vista 4-H

As part of my emerald star project this year I will be making small backpacks/bags for preschool children being served by the Step Up Ventura preschool scheduled to open this Spring. Step Up Ventura is an organization with an aim of "a community where all children have a chance to form healthy relationships and have access to early childhood education that supports realizing their potential". There are over 6,000 homeless children aged zero to five in Ventura County alone. There will be two sessions at Fabric Town in Ventura where I will show 4-H members how to make the bags. These bags can go from school to home with the kids to carry their books and supplies. I will have all the materials, but please bring your sewing machines and basic sewing supplies (scissors and pins). The dates for the sewing sessions are January 25 and February 22. Both session begin at 6:15 pm and must end by 7:45 pm as the store closes at 8 pm. Fabric Town is located at 2686 East Main Street in Ventura. Please RSVP if plan to attend by emailing nicole.bellmore@gmail.com Also, if you do not want to sew the bags, but wish to donate preschool aged toys and supplies I will be collecting those in spring. Thanks.

Super Field Day Chicken?

by Makena Lawson, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

Super Field Day gives participant an opportunity to compete in the Poultry Obstacle Course. Every participant's chicken goes through a series of obstacles such as going up and down a ramp, going in and out of a nesting box, and walking on a plank. Every poultry member should come to Super Field Day to practice showmanship and the obstacle course. It's really fun and it helps with controlling your bird.

There are also other poultry activities to do besides the obstacle course. Last year we had a "Day in the life of the Judge" activity where you had to determine the best in show out of four modern bantams. We also had a poultry knowledge test that is really good for preparing for showmanship at the fair. Overall it's a great experience and we hope to see more poultry projects this year.



Get Your Dog Ready for Super Field Day

by Tryssa De Ruyter, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H



Although it may seem like the distant future, Super Field Day preparations for the dog project have already begun! At Super Field Day the dog project will hold a dog trick competition and a dog knowledge exam. We have started preparing for the dog knowledge exam by looking at different dog breeds and their jobs. Throughout the year we will also look at dog anatomy and health to prepare. Our dog trick competition is a new event that will take all of the tricks that our dogs will learn over the year, ranging from “sit”, “down”, “crawl” and “jump over a bar” and incorporate them into a numbered course. In this fun event, a dog and the handler will follow signs that have a specific trick on them. The handler will tell the dog to perform the trick on the sign, and once the dog has done the trick, the team will move on to the next sign until the course is completed. The dog and handler teams that perform the greatest number of tricks in the least amount of time will win. We hope to see all of the dog project members come out for this competition.

Parents or leaders can contact Tryssa tryssalovesanimals@pacbell.net for more information on preparing for this part of Super Field Day.

Come Horse Around

by Bella Loza, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

Come join us at our Horse project booth at Super Field Day. You can take the knowledge test, participate in the Horse knowledge bowl, try your hand at Roping and get a photo with our miniature horse mascot. Hope to see you there!

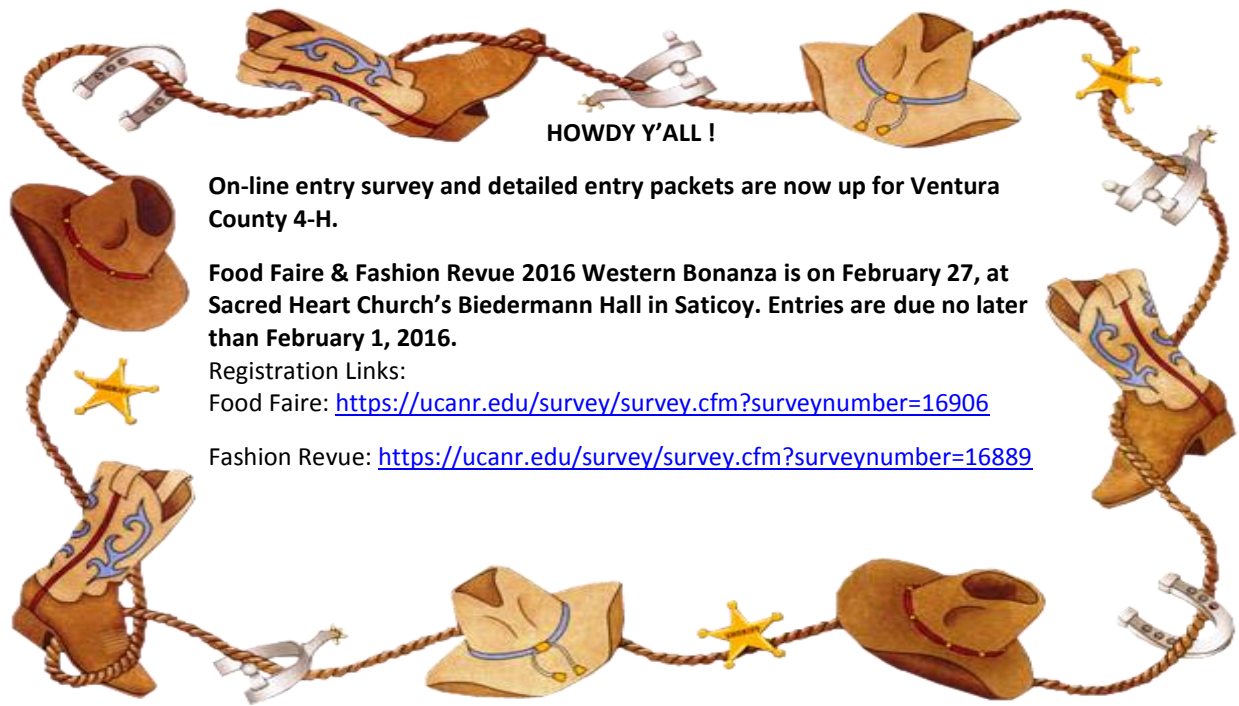
Color Me Green 5K Run



by Audrey Hargleroad, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

Come out and run with your 4-H friends and go home Green! Color Runs are fun so plan on joining us on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at Santa Rosa County Park. You can walk, run or skip along the beautiful Santa Rosa Valley trail system. This is not a timed event. It is just for fun and to get everyone moving. We will have prizes for the best cartwheel, craziest hair, craziest socks, Best hat and tutu and most push-ups.

We are also looking for volunteers to help make this event the best. It will count towards leadership. If you would like to join the Color Me Green committee please contact our All-Star advisor Jackie Larson at jwlarson3@gmail.com.



HOWDY Y'ALL !

On-line entry survey and detailed entry packets are now up for Ventura County 4-H.

Food Faire & Fashion Revue 2016 Western Bonanza is on February 27, at Sacred Heart Church's Biedermann Hall in Saticoy. Entries are due no later than February 1, 2016.

Registration Links:

Food Faire: <https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=16906>

Fashion Revue: <https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=16889>

Super Field Day 2016

Presented by Ventura County 4-H

When: Saturday, April 23, 2016 from 9 am to 2 pm

Where: Hansen Agricultural Research and Extension Center- 14292 South Briggs Road, Santa Paula

Fee: \$15 to participate in 1 or more events. Youth Spectators \$5, adults Free

Showmanship Competitions: Wear your 4-H Uniform and bring your animal. Test your animal Knowledge in the following areas:

Cavy - Learn to play Cavy-oply

Poultry – Name that fowl and try the obstacle course

Pygmy Goats – No butts about it, it's the best

Rabbits – Stick around for the hopping workshop

Swine Bowl Team Competition: Teams of four will participate in Ventura County 4-H's 4th annual Swine Bowl. Teams will be contacted with additional information and questions.

There's more!

Beef Knowledge - Come on down and test your knowledge!

Cupcake Wars - Who can come up with the most creative cupcake on the spot!

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Dairy Goats - Knowledge test and demonstrations

Dog - Bring your dog, crate and favorite dog trick! Earn your CGC.

Horse - Cantor over, test your knowledge and learn to rope.

Lambs - The lambs stay at home, but you can test your knowledge and participate in the fun activities.

Plant Science - Stroll through the gardens and identify plants.

Posters - Compete with your poster for any of the above events.

Speaker's Corner - Make a presentation for your Record Book or proficiency requirement. No competition. No time slots. Just come on over when you are ready.

Extras

Lunch - Bring a blanket and enjoy a picnic lunch. Prepaid Subway lunch is only \$6.

Passport - Take your passport to each section for a stamp. Collect them all and get a prize.

Silent Auction - Bid on wonderful items to raise money for the Small Animal belt buckle at the Ventura County Fair.

Uniform Exchange - Bring outgrown, gently worn 4-H uniforms to pass along to others, or find some for yourself. Free!

Youth and Adult Volunteers are still needed to lead activities! Contact: Terri Hargleroad: thargleroad@aol.com.

4-H Archery Training

by Katie and Julia Cook, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

Over the weekend of November 13 we traveled to Winton, California with my parents and Rebecca Paxson to attend Shooting Sports Archery training. The training was held at River Oaks Range Firearms Training Facility. The range was located on a working dairy where there were buffalo, water buffalo and lots and lots of cows. The training was two days long and we got to stay in a hotel. On Sunday it rained most all of the day so we got to shoot our bows in the rain. It was fun. Part of the training was that we got to shoot recurve and compound bows. I learned a lot about the history of archery over that weekend. We learned how to shoot safely, the parts of both a bow and arrows and the 4-H requirements to be an archery leader. At the end of the training we all received our certifications as 4-H Archery leaders. It was a fun weekend.



A Note from the Fair

Pygmy Goats will now be under the direction of the Small Livestock Department beginning with the 2016 Ventura County Fair, August 3-14, 2016. You are invited to a Meet and Greet on January 9, 2016 in Barn 100 at 11:00 am at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Come meet the Small Livestock Superintendent, Elzie Daniel, who will introduce you to how things will work in the Small Livestock Department as well as listen to your comments and suggestions to make this transition easier for the youth, parents, leaders and of course the pygmy goats!

We look forward to meeting you on January 9. Spread the word! We'd love to meet anyone who raises and shows pygmy goats.

Ventura County Fair Junior Breeding Program

by Kim Leach, Exhibit Supervisor, Ventura County Fair

The Fair is moving the Junior Breeding program to the first week of the fair. Market projects will remain in the second week. The main reason for moving the breeders to the first week is because the livestock program is growing and there may be trouble fitting all the animals in the barn during the second week of fair. By moving the breeders program to the first week they will highlight the program and offer more livestock for the public to enjoy during the entire fair. This is on a two-year trial basis. During the next two years the arrangement will be assessed. If you have anything you would like me to present to the Livestock committee please attend the Large Livestock PDC Meeting on Wednesday, January 6 at 7:00pm at the Ventura Cooperative Extension Office located at 669 County Square Drive, Suite 100, Ventura CA 93003.

The Future of 4-H Starts Today

The 4-H Futures Task Force – a team of 4-H youth members, 4-H adult volunteers, and staff – competed a two-year planning process to identify needs and develop strategies to strengthen the UC ANR 4-H Youth Development Program and increase youth and adult volunteer participation in 4-H. The top five priorities identified were:

1. Increase awareness, visibility, outreach and participation through marketing and public relations.
2. Build and strengthen relationships within and outside the organization among youth, adults and advocates; increase knowledge of 4-H and opportunities in the program; as well as recruit and increase diversity of youth and adult volunteers.
3. Improve communication across the 4-H organization.
4. Increase funding to support 4-H programming and reduce costs for youth participation.
5. At the organizational level, organize 4-H to best meet the growing and changing needs of the members, volunteers and supporters to better position us for growth over the next 100 years.

As part of the implementation process, a State 4-H Management Board will be implemented on July 1, 2016. The State 4-H Management Board will:

1. Add value to statewide and regional programming by aligning priorities and goals across the organizational structure
2. Create more formalized connections, integration and synergy across the state and leverage the expertise and resources of UC ANR
3. Improve communication
4. Increase marketing and public relations
5. Strengthen internal communication; and,
6. Increase funding from different sources.

How you can help make this a success:

Apply for a position as a Director on the Management Board and/or to be on a committee. Applications and position descriptions will be available starting January 1 on our website at:

http://4h.ucanr.edu/Get_Involved/Volunteer_Opportunities/

To learn more about the planning process, State 4-H Management Board, and frequently asked questions visit:

[The Future of 4-H Starts Today.](#)



Clover Safe Notes

Clover Safe Notes Spotlight for January: WORKING SAFELY WITH HORSES (Note #6). U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission data indicate that in 2005 more than 400 youth aged 18 years and younger were treated in hospitals for injuries received while grooming, walking, bridling, or saddling horses. Most injuries occurred when handlers were either kicked or stepped on by horses. Reduce the risk with awareness. Clover Safe Notes can be reviewed and printed from the UCANR website at http://safety.ucanr.org/4-H_Resources/Clover_Safe_Notes_by_Number/. The website has safety training and safety coordinator resources on this page. Clover Safe Notes are useful when incorporated into appropriate projects or shared with the club during monthly meetings.



Club Leadership Session

As a best practice, club leaders looking to exit the role should begin planning their succession 2-3 years in advance. The potential replacements should be approached and consider becoming a co-leader sharing in the responsibility for 6-12 months prior to the previous club leader exiting completely. All new club leaders must be leaders in good standing and approved by the 4-H Office Program Rep/Advisor. It is also recommended that the new leadership meet with the 4-H Office to review the job requirements and enrollment process. Club Leader Position Description is at <http://www.ca4-H.org/files/4771.doc>. Any club leaders interested in discussing a succession plan, please contact vgrant@ucanr.edu.

It's that Time of Year ... We're Halfway There!

January marks the halfway point for the 4-H year. Now is a good time to do a progress check on your goals and the goals of your club:

- Mid-Year Peer Financial Review. This is a completely optional mid-year opportunity to spot any oversights or issues before they become overwhelming. Form 5.2 from the Treasurer's Manual can help guide you through the process. <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/23112.pdf>.
- Check on your club's goals. Review the Planning Guide that your club prepared at the beginning of the year. Are you on track for achieving the goals that you have set? Are there additional action steps that need to happen to get to your end-goal? <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/167444.pdf>.
- Club Officers: Revisit your personal goals set during the Club Officer Training. Which "C" are you working on? <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/167443.pdf>. Make sure your plans are set to meet the requirements of your office. If you are unclear what the responsibilities of your position, meet with your club leader to clarify.
- Plan ahead to get the most out of 4-H by attending upcoming county events and exhibiting at the County Fair. Read CloverLines and check the online calendar regularly so that you can plan to attend and participate in these events.

***The New Year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written.
We can help write that story by setting goals.***



Melody Beattie

Calendar

1/6 Large Livestock PDC – 7 pm at UCCE Ventura
 1/11 New Volunteer Leader Training 6:30 pm at UCCE Ventura
 1/20 Presentation Day Workshop (youth, parents, leaders)
 6:30 pm at UCCE Ventura
 1/26 New Volunteer Leader Training 6:30 pm at UCCE Ventura
 1/27 County Council Meeting, 7 pm at UCCE Ventura
 2/4 Record Book Workshop (youth, parents, leaders) 6 pm at UCCE Ventura
 2/27 Food Faire and Fashion Revue at Sacred Heart Church
 3/2 Preliminary Presentation Day
 3/5 Color Me Green Run
 3/12 County Presentation Day *Note: Date has changed
 3/19 State Small Animal Field Day, Santa Ynez
 4/23 Super Field Day at HAREC
 5/21 Sectional Presentation Day
 5/28 State Field Day at UC Davis

*NOTE: 3/12 County Presentation Day date has changed

**UCCE – University of California Cooperative Extension,
 Ventura County – 669 County Square Drive, Suite 100,
 Ventura CA 93003-9028**

**HAREC – UC Hansen Agricultural Research and Extension
 Center – 14292 W Telegraph Road, Santa Paula, CA 93060**

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ARTICLE SUBMISSION

E-mail articles to vgrant@ucanr.edu.

Include your name, council name, the name of your activity, and if you are submitting images, please identify those pictured. All submitted articles and images become the property of 4-H to be used in print and/or online at the editorial committee's discretion.

Submission Deadline is the first Monday of the month for consideration in the following issue.

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For more information visit:

[http://4h.ucanr.edu/4H_Events/Small Animal Field Day/](http://4h.ucanr.edu/4H_Events/Small_Animal_Field_Day/)