



Backpacks for Kids



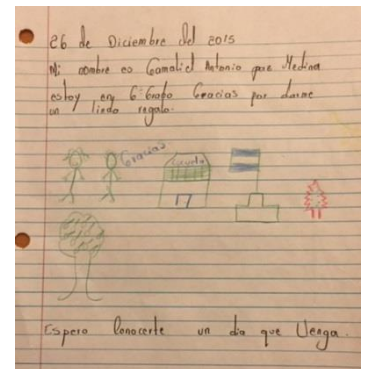
by Adler Striegel, Loma Vista 4-H Club



As the Community Service Officer for the Loma Vista 4-H club, it is my job to create a community service project for our members to participate in each month. For the October project I created “Backpacks for Kids” with Elizabeth Cornejo of “Just Lovely Alterations” in Ventura. The project goal was to fill a backpack with school supplies and shoes for kids in need in Quilali, Nicaragua, Elizabeth’s home town. The club’s response to this was AMAZING! Thirty-five backpacks filled to the brim with school supplies and the majority included flip-flops. It was so exciting that so many 4 H’ers wanted to help those in need so far away.

A few members of our club helped to pack the backpacks and supplies into a giant box and mailed them off to Quilali. It took over a month to get there and Elizabeth and Deborah Maragopoulos (a nurse volunteer) arrived to distribute them in December. They returned excited with so many stories about the kids, parents and teachers. The most heart-warming was when she gave a backpack to a boy with ripped clothes and very few belongings. He was so excited to receive the Spiderman backpack and when asked what he would like to be when he grew up, he said a teacher so he could help others. Maybe by giving him a backpack with school supplies it will be a little bit easier to help him fulfill that dream and rise out of poverty.

Elizabeth made sure to tell all that the backpacks and supplies were donated, not by her, but by Loma Vista 4-H’ers. Many decided to write beautiful thank you letters using their school supplies. The photos she shared with us are heartwarming and it made the whole project more “real” since we are able to see the supplies we donated received. I hope to grow this project next year and get many more supplies to help these kids improve their lives.



Featured Club

Conejo-Simi 4-H Club



This is our first year as Conejo Simi 4-H, and we have 29 members and growing. We have a wonderful group of parents and volunteers that helped get this club up and running. We are offering various fiber arts projects, various food projects, photography, bees, club Newspaper, outdoor adventure, arts and crafts, pet projects, small and large livestock projects, and song leading. We are embracing the “Healthy Living” movement and are

focusing on community service and outreach. Our current president is Anna Sorensen, our treasurer is Regina O’Brian, our secretary is Natalie O’Brian, and we are adding new board positions as we speak. Our club meets every third Tuesday of the month and we had our first Holiday party last December. We are looking forward to participating in many county and state 4-H events, and hope to make this club a welcoming and inspiring after school learning experience, where wonderful friendships are formed, and great ideas take root and bloom.



Upcoming Featured Clubs

Featured Club for April is Del Norte 4-H

Featured Club calendar is at http://ceventura.ucanr.edu/Families_-_Communities/4-H/Newsletter/



Calling All-Star Applicants

If you are 14+ and have achieved your Gold or Emerald Star rank, consider applying for All-Star, Ventura County's highest star rank. (Unsure of your star rank? Check with your Club Leader.) All-Stars act as visible 4-H members role models for their fellow 4-H members, their county, and their community. The All-Star rank recognizes members' leadership abilities, but it is also a working honor. Besides their regular projects and activities, All Stars assist with county events, develop a plan of action, and perform service projects.

For more information and application, visit http://ceventura.ucdavis.edu/Youth_Development/4-H/MemberOpps/All_Stars/

Applications are due May 1st.

Ventura County 4-H Presentation Day

COME SEE & SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW 4-HERS!

Presentation Day's held at UCCE Ventura County Office, 669 County Square Dr., Ventura.

Educational Goals

- ✓ To help 4-H members develop good communication skills
- ✓ To help members develop creativity, self-confidence, and leadership
- ✓ To provide an opportunity for members to share what they have learned

1. **Preliminary Presentation Day – Wednesday, March 2, 2016** between 2:30 pm and 6:30 pm
2. **County Presentation Day - Saturday, March 12, 2016** between 9:00 am and 2:30 pm

4-H Set



SciGirls Seven: How to Engage Girls in STEM

The SciGirls Seven is rooted in what research has revealed engages girls in STEM. These strategies have also been proven to work with all learners, including underrepresented youth. For more information visit:

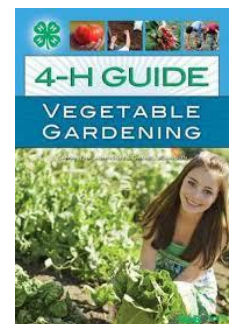
<http://scigirlsconnect.org/page/scigirls-seven>



4-H Library

National 4-H is hosting a series of webinars on new 4-H curriculum. If you're interested in learning more about our 4-H curriculum, sign up for our webinars. For more information visit:

<https://event.on24.com/>





2016 Super Field Day **Saturday, April 23 • 9:00 to 2:00**

Hansen Ag Research Ext. Center • 287 Briggs Road, Santa Paula
\$15 to participate in one or more events / youth spectators only \$5 / Adults Free

Showmanship Competitions (in 4-H Uniform) – Must be enrolled in the animal project. Bring your animal, compete in showmanship, and test your knowledge on your species and breeds.

- Cavy – Join the fun learning to play Guineaopoly.
- Poultry – Have fun with your chicken on the obstacle course.
- Pygmy Goats – We love to see these cute little goats!
- Rabbits – The rabbit hopping course is great fun!

Team Competition (Team of 4) – Participants must be enrolled in 4-H swine project.

- Swine Bowl – Take part in the coveted 4th Annual Ventura County Swine Bowl.

And There's More! (Participants must be enrolled in related 4-H project.)

- Archery – Bull's-eye! Just how well do you know archery?
- Beef – Don't have a cow, just mooove on down to test your knowledge on beef.
- Dairy Goats – Test your knowledge and check out the dairy goat prep clinic.
- Dogs – Bring your dog and its crate to compete in the dog trick course
- Horse – Canter over, test your equine knowledge and learn to rope.
- Riflery – Aim high and take this knowledge test.

Try something new – Open to all 4-H members:

- Livestock Judging – You be the judge! Judge large livestock conformation from photos.
- Plant Science – Stroll through the Farm's garden, and check your plant expertise.
- Vegetable Judging – If you can tell a radish from a rutabaga you can win this one!

Extras

- Posters – Compete with your educational poster for any of the above projects. Please laminate your poster and add grommets on all four corners for display. You can also enter your poster at Ventura County Fair, so do your best!
- Speakers Corner – This is your opportunity to make a presentation for your Record Book or proficiency. No competition; no time slots; come on over whenever you're ready.
- Medals and Ribbons will be awarded to junior, intermediate, and senior winners. All primary entrants will receive ribbons.
- Passport – Take your passport to each station for a stamp. Collect them all to win a prize!
- Food – Drinks and snacks are available for sale. Bring your blanket and your own picnic lunch, or pre-purchase a Subway lunch for \$6. Proceeds to benefit the Equine PDC.
- Demonstrations – Demonstrations of goat milking, animal care, and more throughout the day.
- Silent Auction – Come and bid on wonderful items of all kinds to help the Small Animal Sciences PDC raise funds for Fair belt buckles. (Your donations to the Silent Auction would be appreciated.)
- Uniform Exchange – Bring your outgrown 4-H uniforms to pass along to others, and find something new for yourself – for free!

Details for your events will be sent to you when we receive your registration.

Register online by April 15 at <https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=16744>

Healthy Living



[My Preparedness Story: Staying Healthy and Resilient Video Challenge](#)

Submission Dates: Jan 04, 2016 - Mar 29, 2016

Taking action in the event of an emergency can help individuals, families, and communities fully prepare to prevent or minimize potential health impacts. Young people can help their families, friends, and communities become stronger by protecting their health during disasters and every day. This contest invites young people between the ages of 14 and 23 to create a short video, 60 seconds or less, that answers the question, “How are you helping family, friends, and community to protect their health during disasters and every day?”

Clover Safe Notes

Clover Safe Notes Spotlight for March:

Spring is full of baby animals and time for us to think about keeping the public and animals safe. This safety note describes controls for the prevention of disease transmission or physical injuries at petting zoos. This is helpful for any time we bring our animals in contact with people.

#17 - [Organizing and Operating a Safe Petting Zoo Event](#)

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.

We Need Volunteers!

Volunteers serve in a variety of roles in a 4-H club:

- **4-H Community Club Leader** - Provides administrative support for the 4-H clubs.
- See [Sample Adult Volunteer Position Description-Organizational Unit Volunteer \(Club Leader\)](#) for position description.
- **Project or Program Volunteers** - Have expertise in particular areas which they teach to participants, parents/guardians, or special interest groups. See [Sample Adult Volunteer Position Description-Project Adult Volunteer](#) for position description.
- **Activity or Event Volunteers** - Provide leadership within a specific, short-term project or activity. These activity volunteers work with 4-H members to make preparations for the activity, obtain relevant literature and distribute it to adult and youth participants, and coordinate the activity or community event. See [Sample Adult Volunteer Position Description-Activity or Event Adult Volunteer](#) for position description.
- **Resource and key volunteers** - Have expertise in club organization, planning and conducting activities, or specialized subjects projects. See [Sample Adult Volunteer Position Description-Resource Key Adult Volunteer](#) for position description.
- **Other Adult Volunteers** - Help with transportation, management, or recruitment. They may also serve as elected or appointed officers or committee members for the county council.



Ventura County 4-H Council

The Ventura County 4-H Council is comprised of adult volunteers and senior 4-H members (14 years old and up in 9th - 12th grade). The Executive Committee is made up of officers, including president, vice president, etc. The job of the Executive Committee is to consider and recommend to the County Council 4-H Youth Development Program policies as well as other guidelines governing the county and local 4-H programs.

Council Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 7 pm at the UCCE Ventura County office, 669 County Square Drive Suite 100, Ventura, CA 93003.

Council Meetings for 2015-16

3/23

5/25 Budget Presentation/Slate of Officers

6/22 Budget Adoption/Elections



Program Development Committees (PDCs) serve as standing committees reporting to the Ventura County 4-H Council, specializing in specific program areas. Program offerings, events, project curriculum development and more can be accomplished in these efficient and focused committees. If you would like to join a committee, serve as a council board member or add an agenda item, please contact Valerie Grant, YFC Education Specialist at vgrant@ucanr.edu.

- Agenda items should be received at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting for inclusion. All leaders, parents and members are welcome to attend. Leaders and members 14+ vote on business at the meeting.
- The Council's page on the VC 4-H website is
- http://ceventura.ucdavis.edu/Youth_Development/4-H/Ventura_County_4-H_Council

We hope you will join us!

PDC Updates

Large Livestock March 2, May 4, and July 6, 7pm the UCCE Ventura County Office

Small Animal Science March 2 at the UCCE Ventura County Office

Equine March 23, 6 pm before council meeting, at the UCCE Ventura County Office - Guest Speaker TBD

Home Arts Meeting TBD

Volunteering - Sectional or State Level

Want to volunteer at the Sectional or State Level?

New State 4-H Management Board Director positions now open

Please consider using your time and talents as a Management Board Director.

All youth aged 16 by July 1 and adults are encouraged to apply.

Positions available:

- Chair •Vice Chair •Secretary •Treasurer •Resource Development Director
- Marketing and Public Relations Director •Four 4) Area Directors representing different areas of our state

Apply [online](#) or [download the application](#) and mail it to the State 4-H Office. Encourage your 4-H'ers, adult volunteers, 4-H parents, and program partners to apply too. For job descriptions, selection process and much more visit:

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

Applications are due March 31st.

We are also recruiting for youth and adults to join the [Management Board Committees](#) and our [Statewide 4-H Advisory Committees](#). We encourage youth members ages 14-19, 4-H adult volunteers, and program partners to apply. Applications for these committees are **due May 31, 2016**. Through participating on these committees you can help shape the 4-H Youth Development Program and make the best better!

March: It's that Time of Year ...

- If you are 14+ and have achieved your Gold or Emerald Star rank, consider applying for All-Star, Ventura County's highest star rank. For more information and application, visit http://ceventura.ucdavis.edu/Youth_Development/4-H/MemberOpps/All_Stars/ **Applications are due May 1, 2016**.
- Start looking for Silent Auction Items for the Small Livestock Fair Buckle Fundraiser at Super Field Day. Look for things in your home you might donate and talk to your local merchants (feed stores, restaurants, etc.) to see if they might provide a donation.
- Consider joining the Super Field Day Committee. This amazing event needs volunteers to help put it together, this year and next. Contact Terri Hargleroad at thargleroad@aol.com for volunteer openings/ needs.
- Teens are needed to assist with project areas at Super Field Day. Count it in your Record Book and help younger members learn from your experience.
- Project Leaders: Look at the tangible items produced in your project. Are these going to be entries at the Ventura County Fair? Talk to members about showcasing their project learning at the Fair by entering in as many categories as eligible.

Animal Science Symposium, May 25-6

The Animal Science Symposium will take place at the UC Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine. The symposium is a train-the-trainer professional development approach for 4-H staff, key 4-H volunteers, and FFA supervisors/teachers on important topics and skills related to animal welfare and animal health. The event will provide foundational training on the new Animal Welfare Proficiencies. The symposium is not open to 4-H youth members, but a career fair will take place during the evening of May 23. 4-H youth are invited to attend to learn about potential careers in the animal science and agricultural industries. Registration for this event will opened in February, 2016. For more information visit:

http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/Symposium/.





4-H GROWS HERE

Ventura Fair Information

The 2016 Quality Assurance dates have been set:

April 16

May 21

June 4

June 11

They will all be at **6:00 pm** in **Barn 100** (next to Uncle Leo's Barnyard)

2016 Entry Dates

April 9: Market Steers

June 4: Market Lambs, Market Goats, Swine DNA

July 8: Breeding Livestock (entry forms must be in to the administration office by 5 pm)

Check the fair website <http://www.venturacountyfair.org/fair/entryguides/> if you have questions entry dates or regarding requirements to take the class to qualify for the 2016 Ventura County Fair.

Smart Thinking

Visit [California 4-H Scholarships for Higher Education](#) for Scholarships and Grants like these:

[The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes](#)

Deadline: April 15

[Karma for Cara Foundation Micro-grants for Service Projects](#)

Deadline: Rolling

[Home Depot Impact Grants](#)

Deadline: Rolling

[Start a Snowball Grant](#)

Deadline: Rolling

[The Awesome Foundation Grants](#)

Deadline: Rolling

The 2016 Ventura County Chapter of California Women for Agriculture (CWA) Scholarship application is now available online: www.cwaventura.com. Completed applications and all supporting documents must be postmarked no later than March 14.

Calendar

3/2 Preliminary Presentation Day at UCCE Ventura
3/2 Small Livestock Meeting 6pm at UCCE Ventura
3/2 Large Livestock 7 pm at UCCE Ventura
3/5 Color Me Green Run
3/12 County Presentation Day *Note: Date has changed
3/19 State Small Animal Field Day, Santa Ynez
3/23 PDC Meeting 6 pm at UCCE Ventura
3/23 Council Meeting at UCCE Ventura
4/23 Super Field Day at HAREC
5/4 Large Livestock 7 pm at UCCE Ventura
5/21 Sectional Presentation Day
5/25 Council Meeting Budget Presentation/Slate of Officers
5/28 State Field Day at UC Davis
6/22 Council Meeting Budget Adoption/Elections
7/6 Large Livestock 7 pm at UCCE Ventura

*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**

4-H Office Information

Office Hours by Appointment Only
Closed on UC Holidays
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.

The University of California prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (covered veterans are special disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, Vietnam era veterans, or any other veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized) in any of its programs or activities. University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal Laws. Inquiries regarding the University's Nondiscrimination Policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin St., 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607, (510) 987-0096.

California 4-H Horse Classic

Register your show at http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/Horse_Classic/Equine_Qualifier_4-H_Events/ for it to be considered a qualifying show for the 2016 California 4-H Horse Classic. Please submit show results on the Classic Qualifying Show Results Sheet, which can be found at: <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/162863.xlsx>.

Looking for a qualifying Horse Show for the 2016 California 4-H Horse Classic? Visit http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/Horse_Classic/Equine_Qualifier_4-H_Events/.

