Small Animal Field Day is a Good Practice Day!

By Gabrielle Billington, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

I am graduating out of 4-H this year, but before I leave I decided to tackle planning, organizing and running Small Animal Field Day as my Emerald Star Project.

Small Animal Field Day was on Saturday, April 22 from 9 am to 2 pm at the UC Hansen Ag Research and Extension Center in Santa Paula. More than 40 members participated in showmanship workshops, knowledge tests and games for cavies, rabbits, pygmy goats and poultry! Families really enjoyed themselves at the beautiful farm while learning new skills, practicing known skills, and helping others do the same.

Kona Ice, the Hawaiian-style shaved ice truck, came out and gave us 20% back of what they made that day for belt buckles! Many clubs and families donated items and gift baskets. All the money that was raised from the silent auction, bake sale and Kona Ice will go toward belt buckles for Small Livestock winners at the Ventura County Fair.

It was a great event! Members got to prepare and practice for when they show at Fair!

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this day possible!
This has been an exciting year in Las Posas 4-H. We have been actively engaging in the community through service projects including pooper scooping in the Camarillo Christmas Parade, volunteering with the Cattlemen’s Association and gathering canned food for Trick Or Treat So Others Can Eat. Most of our members are in the process of getting their animals. The steer group is working hard in showmanship. The lamb project just picked up their lambs last month. The goat and swine projects will be getting their animals very soon.

We have added multiple non-animal projects to the club this year including candy-making, sewing, outdoor adventures with surfing and hiking trips, record book workshops, baking and presentation skills.

Right now we have about 50 members ages 9 through 17. Our club represents the west Camarillo area, but we have members who travel from as far away as Oxnard, Somis and Santa Rosa Valley.

Featured Club for June is Loma Vista 4-H Club. Article is due 5.8.17
Featured Clubs for July/August are Mira Monte & Mupu. Articles due 6.5.17
Featured Club calendar is at http://ceventura.ucanr.edu/Families_ - Communities/4-H/Newsletter/

Ventura County 4-H Presentation Day

By Kate Pinneo, Conejo-Simi 4-H

On March 11, from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm, the Ventura County 4-H presentation Day was held. Presentation Day was a success! Thirty-one members of the Loma Vista, Conejo Simi, Santa Rosa Valley, and Las Posas 4-H clubs participated. Twenty-four separate presentations were done. The presentation categories were demonstrations, illustrated talks, educational display talks, interpretive readings, impromptu, cultural arts, and Share the Fun skit. Some also participated in an interview contest. They were all very fun, entertaining, and educational. I learned a lot about several different topics picked by the participants and had a lot of fun listening to everyone’s presentations. I personally participated in both cultural arts and Share the Fun skit.

For cultural arts my sister, Jadyn, and I sang and played the song Humble and Kind by Tim McGraw. Cultural arts is a presentation where you play music. We both sang while Jadyn played the guitar and I played the piano. It was very nerve racking at first but by the end I felt confident and knew no one would make fun of me if I messed up. It was a great experience that I made with my sister, and I wish I would have participated last year.

After our cultural arts performance I got ready for the Share the Fun skit. Share the Fun skit is a performance where you make up a skit that has to do with 4-H. My sisters Jadyn and Lily, and my three good friends Anna Sorensen, Jane Paris, and Kate Paris all were in the skit with me. Our skit was so fun! It was a 1940’s radio show. We all got dressed up in old time dresses and our mom did our hair and makeup just like women did in the ‘40s. In our skit a guinea pig gets lost at the fair and a detective named Friday has to find where it went. We all had such an amazing time and we got many laughs from the audience. Since I spent so much time with those girls in the skit I now have a very close relationship with them and that wouldn’t have happened without presentation day. I’m so glad I participated!

Overall I think presentation day was a success, the kids learned a lot and had a lot of fun! I think every 4-Per should participate in presentation day and hopefully I can participate again next year.
My Trip to CWF-PI

By Regina O’Brien, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

In January of this year, I attended Citizenship Washington Focus-Presidential Inauguration, also known as CWF-PI for short. CWF-PI, which is normally held in the summer, was a special edition of a program that outlined these special topics: the meaning and importance of our democracy, explore the history of the president, the election process, and the role of the media, discovering the intricacies of the Executive Branch and careers in politics. We got to practice our role as citizens and what citizenship is.

There were 26 delegates in total from our state of California—21 4-Hers and 5 parent chaperones. We attended workshops, sessions, and huddles. We held our own mock election to run for president of CWF-PI, where I ran for election (and no, I didn’t win). The workshops included topics such as the role of our media reporting the facts and being the center of communication that emphasized our 1st amendment right of Freedom of Speech. I also got to attend workshops where we had speakers tell us about how important it is to think beyond yourself and better your own community. I really enjoyed all of our activities in our workshops, such as creating our own front newspaper article. I think what stuck with me the most about citizenship was when one of the speakers defined it as, “what you do with your gum wrapper when no one is looking.” Citizenship is living in a way that is bigger than just me.

I got to meet people from as far as Alaska, and participated in a ‘pin trade’ where we brought stuff with us representative of our respective states and got to bring back with us assortments of trinkets. I got pins from Florida all the way to Wisconsin. We all stayed together at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. I had 3 roommates from different parts of California.

At night, despite many road closures, we got to do some sightseeing in DC and visited the presidential memorials for Thomas Jefferson and Franklin Roosevelt as well as the Martin Luther King memorial. We also visited the Lincoln Memorial, which was set up for the platforms to celebrate President-Elect Trump arriving in DC for the welcome celebration the next day. In addition to the memorials we also went to the National Archives and saw the original Constitution, Articles of Confederation, and Declaration of Independence. Our group split up to go the Smithsonian museums. I chose the Air and Space Museum and got to see a little of the Natural History Museum. My mom chose to go to the American History Museum. A little-known fact is that admission to every Smithsonian museum is free!

The big highlight of the trip, of course, was the Presidential Inauguration. My mom had previously gotten us all tickets to the red area to see the Inauguration in the morning the next day. It was an exciting and historical moment to witness the peaceful transition of power. After the Inauguration, we went to the Newseum to meet up with the rest of our group and enjoy a buffet catered by Wolfgang Puck and a front row seat to the Inaugural Parade. That same night, we went on a dinner dance and cruise on the Potomac where we crossed over into Virginia.

CWF-PI was a once in a lifetime experience and I recommend that other 4-Hrs attend this event in the future.

Southern Area Field Day

By Anna Sorensen – Conejo Simi 4-H

A group of youths from Ventura County attended the Southern Area Field Day on April 1, 2017 at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California. Southern Area Field Day is an event where youth from all counties in the southern region of California come together to compete in different disciplines of public speaking. The event grows every year, and one can also learn about plant science, entomology, do arts and crafts, and various other things. We had a wonderful time competing in public speaking, cultural arts, and fashion revue. Many of us won gold medals and are moving on to State Competitions at UC Davis in May. If you have never tried public speaking competitions, you should check out our County Presentation Day. It is a lot of fun, and one can learn so much.
Council Corner

The Ventura County 4-H Council is comprised of all adult volunteers, and senior 4-H members (14 years old and up) 9th - 12th grade.

The next meeting will be held May 24, 2017 at 7:00pm at the UCCE Office. Executive Committee Elections will be held at the County Council Meeting in June 2017. See page 3 for additional details.

We need your help!

We are looking for volunteers who are willing to serve as Program Development Committee, PDC’s, officers. Program Development Committees serve as standing committees reporting to the Ventura County 4-H Council, specializing in a specific program area. Program offerings, events, project curriculum development and more can be accomplished in these efficient and focused committees. The PDCs needing new leadership are the Following:

• Equine
• Small Animal Science
• Leadership
• Kaleidoscope (working title for a new PDC)

If you are interested in being an Officer on a PDC or have questions, please contact Heather Wray at crayh@verizon.net.

Enrollment Changes

PLAN NOW FOR YOUR CLUB’S ENROLLMENTS FOR THE 2017-18 YEAR!

There are new procedures for the 2017-18 4-H year enrollments. We are moving towards PAPERLESS! And there are new requirements for new and returning adult leader volunteers.

To help implement these changes smoothly, we are asking club to send the Enrollment Specialist AND Primary Club Leader, Co-Leader, or Assistant Club Leader to one of two meetings to launch the new processes. At this meeting, we will cover:

• Changes in Paperwork
• Changes in Club approval process
• Changes in new and returning adult volunteer requirements
• Deadlines for re-enrollments, new enrollments, club-transfers, cross-clubbing, aging-out, club projects, and payment of fees
• Club administration how-tos for Year-End Reporting, Fundraising plans, and project leader lists.

Sign Up For One:

Monday, May 22, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. UC Cooperative Extension Office (669 County Square Drive, Suite 100, Ventura, 93033) http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=20224

Or

Monday, June 5, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. UC Cooperative Extension Office (669 County Square Drive, Suite 100, Ventura, 93033) http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=20225

Calling All Creative Thinkers!

The County Council is looking for someone to enter a booth representing 4-H in the agriculture building at fair. We have budgeted monies to help in putting such a booth together. The booth must represent Ventura County 4-H.

This can be done as a project for a club or even an Emerald Star for a teen member. Putting in a booth requires advanced planning. If you are interested and would like more information, contact Jenean Bass at jenean-bass@roadrunner.com
Trick Or Treat So Others Can Eat (TOTSOCE) Collects About 4,000 Pounds of Food for FOOD Share

By Sean Quinn, Loma Vista 4-H

Ventura County 4-H clubs and community members collected nearly 4,000 pounds of food for the TOTSOCE program during the fall of 2016.

Food was collected during October and November. The amount of food donated totaled 3,911 pounds worth $6,648.70. Every five pounds provides a local family of four with a meal. That’s enough for 782 meals or enough to feed about 40 families for an entire week.

The food drive is a county-wide community service event organized by Ventura County 4-H youth members every Fall for the last 19 years to benefit FOOD Share.

The 4-H clubs that participated in TOTSOCE included:
- Conejo & Simi 4-H Club: 470 pounds
- Las Posas 4-H Club: 415 pounds
- Loma Vista 4-H Club: 692 pounds
- Santa Rosa Valley 4-H Club: 589 pounds
- Sespe 4-H Club: 500 pounds

Hillside Middle School also collected 330 pounds of food.

All the donations from TOTSOCE help individuals and families in need in Ventura County through FOOD Share, which is the non-profit organization that helps feed those in need in our community. FOOD Share serves nearly 75,000 people in Ventura County each month, through all of its agencies and partners.

For the kickoff of the event in the fall, about 15 kids from 4-H clubs around Ventura County toured FOOD Share with Karen Jensen, the Food Sourcing Director. On the tour 4-H members saw how the food is stored, including feeling how cold it is in a really huge refrigerator and freezer. They also learned how much people eat and spend on food in other countries around the world. The kids also got to help sort pears at the end of the event.

For almost 20 years, Ventura County youth have collected thousands of pounds of food donations through this fun seasonal campaign. Any youth or youth group in the county can participate in TOTSOCE. Look for information on how your club or organization can get involved in the Fall of 2017 or email totsoce@gmail.com.

Large Livestock Super Field Day

May 20, 2017 from 9 am to 3 pm

Rancho Santa Rosa Club House, 11701 East Los Posas Road, Camarillo, CA

Activities to include:
- Swine Bowl
- Goat Shearing/Hoof Trimming
- Lamb Shearing
  Bring freshly washed and dried animals please.
- Poster Competition
- Table Setting
- Uniform Exchange

Register by May 10 at https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=20425

- $5.00 entry fee
- Lunch $7.50 (optional)

Mail checks & forms to Virginia Reyes per registration instructions online
County Council Elections:
Seeking Volunteer Officials

The Ventura County 4-H Council is looking for the leadership team to lead them through the next program year. Leaders interested in finding out more or submitting their name, should contact Council President Jenean Bass at jeneanbass@roadrunner.com by Mon., May 15th.

Offices on the County Council Board are:
- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Reporter/Historian
- At Large Directors

The election will take place at the regularly scheduled Council Meeting on Wednesday, June 28th. The incoming and outgoing boards will work together through September to help ease the transition.

Clover Safe Notes

Clover Safe Notes Spotlight for May: SAFELY TRANSPORTING MEDIUM AND LARGE ANIMALS (Note #59). With Tagging Days and Fair just around the corner, transporting goats, sheep, swine, cattle, and horse for projects will be critical. Doing it safely is the number one priority.

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.

State 4-H Field Day

Saturday, May 27, 2017 8:00am - 6:00pm
University of California, Davis - West Quad

The largest and most comprehensive educational event for 4-H youth members (age 9-19) and 4-H volunteer educators, California State 4-H Field Day has more than 1,500 participants annually. Since 2002, 4-H’ers from throughout the state have come together to connect and compete in this statewide event, held annually on the last Saturday of May on the campus of the University of California, Davis.

Each contest and activity is coordinated by 4-H volunteers and youth, with coordination and facility support provided by the State 4-H Office.

The goal of the event is to provide a culminating experience for 4-H members in their year-long 4-H education in public speaking, textiles, plant sciences, photography, interview skills, and entomology.

For registration and more information visit http://4-H.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/SFD/
State Leadership Conference

July 20-23, 2017
University of California, Davis

The annual 4-H State Leadership Conference brings together youth from across California for leadership training, networking, and a memorable learning experience.

This year the conference will be held at UC Davis, one of the top public universities in the United States. The 5,300-acre campus is in the city of Davis, a vibrant college town of about 68,000 located in Yolo County.

Who can attend: Youth ages 13 - 19 and Adult chaperones

What you will learn and do:

Advanced leadership training.

Network and share ideas with other 4-H'ers from across the state.

Experiential education on leadership development, civic engagement, college admissions and other 4-H project areas.

Experience a slice of college life: live in the residence halls, eat in the dining commons, and participate in educational sessions, many of which are taught by University of California faculty and staff.

For more information and to register, please visit http://4-H.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/SLC/

The 4-H Youth Development Programs at the UC Hansen Agricultural Research & Extension Center in collaboration with the City of Ventura Environmental Sustainability Division & Ventura Water Department present

SUMMER CAMP 2017 FOR AGES 9-12

Learn what it means to be sustainable through fun activities based around five major themes: Land, Water, Food, Air, and Energy

June 19-23 • 9 am-12 pm

Where: UC Hansen Agricultural Research & Extension Center located at 14292 W. Telegraph Rd. (corner of Briggs Rd. and Telegraph Rd.) in Santa Paula.

Cost: $45 Includes five days of camp and a t-shirt. Deadline June 2. Register Online at: http://haroc.ucanr.edu

Provisions are available to reduce/cover program fees.

It is the policy of the University of California (UC) and the UC Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources not to engage in discrimination against or harassment of any person in any of its programs or activities. Complete nondiscrimination policy statement can be found at http://ucanr.edu/sites/animal/files/211244.pdf. Inquiries regarding ARS’s non-discrimination policies may be directed to John F. Simo, Affirmative Action Compliance Officer/Title IX Officer, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95616, (530) 750-1397

Contact: awfaris@ucanr.edu or 805-525-9293 ext 206
Healthy Living:

Take a positive approach – add water!

Water is the best option for rehydration when participating in physical activities, and ensures more stamina to complete events. Water contains no sugar, which helps ensure stable energy levels and reduces fatigue. Water is also caffeine-free, so hyper-activity, loss of concentration, and possible behavioral problems are avoided. Oftentimes water is even free! Choosing water when thirsty is a natural, healthy instinct, and should be encouraged.

In 2014, California introduced an amendment to the 4-H Policy Handbook requiring that: (1) drinkable water, without anything added, must be available at all 4-H meetings, activities and events and (2) 4-H fundraisers that include the sale of beverages must include water as an option. To learn more about the new guidelines for beverages in the 4-H Policy Handbook, click here: CA Healthy Beverage Guidelines

Water Activity

The purpose of this activity is to engage participants in a discussion about why they drink water and why water is important to their health.

- To start, place the poster on board or wall that is visible to everyone. Borrow a laminated poster from the 4-H Office.
- Explain that the activity is to think about the importance of being properly hydrated and the importance of water in their daily life.
- Ask the participants to finish the sentence “I drink water because....”
- Pass around post-its and pens so each individual can write their own response and place it on the poster.
- Encourage participants to take a picture of their post-it response and #4-HWaterwed to any social media site.
Pre-Order Your 2017 National Youth Science Day kits!

National 4-H Council and 4-H National Headquarters are pleased to introduce the 2017 4-H National Youth Science Day challenge: Incredible Wearables. Incredible Wearables is a hands-on STEM project that challenges young people to build a wearable fitness tracker that will help people lead healthier lifestyles.

To complete the challenge, kids must work together to design, build and refine a wearable health-tracking device that is low-cost, easy-to-use and aesthetically appealing. Incredible Wearables is perfect for both classroom and out-of-school learning. The 75 to 90-minute hands-on project is highly adaptable and is suitable for 4th-12th graders. The 4-H NYSD kit is now available for pre-sale on the 4-H Mall website. Each low-cost kit can serve up to 10 youth at a time, and is re-usable.

Computer Science for All Ages!! Learn computer science in a fun exciting way! The Hour of Code website provides various computer science activities for all ages. There are various activities where you can learn the basics and broaden participation in the field of computer science. Please visit Hour of Code website here for tutorials and activities.

STEM Highlights will now be featured on our blog: Do you have an awesome STEM program or STEM project in your county that you wish to share with the rest of California 4-H? If so, we would love to share your STEM program/project in our blog. Please send a short description of your STEM program/project along with a picture and link, if available, to cad-4-H@ucanr.edu. This will be a great opportunity to showcase what is going on in your county in regards to STEM! Please submit entries by the 9th of each month.

4-H Library: Got Curriculum?

Learn more about the new 4-H curriculum materials, such as Teen Corps: Developing Youth & Adult Leaders to Strengthen Communities, The Big Book of Cloverbud Activities, ChickQuest: A Classroom Journey Through the Life Cycle of Chickens, 4-H Family Handbook. By attending one of the upcoming webinars. The sessions will include a 30 minute overview by the authors and 15 minute Q&A. Delve into activities included in the curriculum and ask questions about implementation in various settings. All webinars will be recorded.

4-H Office Information

Office Hours by Appointment Only
Closed on UC Holidays
Hansen Ag Research and Extension Center
14292 West Telegraph Road
Santa Paula CA 93060
General Email: uceev4-H@ucanr.edu
Office Fax: 805-525-5475
Annabel Faris
Program Coordinator
805-525-9293 ext. 206
awfaris@ucanr.edu
Susana Bruzzone-Miller
YFC Program Manager
805-525-9293
sbmiller@ucanr.edu

Article Submission

Deadline: first Monday of month for following issue consideration

Email articles to gwvanoni@ucanr.edu.

Include your name, club, name of activity, and if submitting images, please identify those pictured. Remember to hyphenate 4-H and use copyrights where appropriate. All submitted articles and images become the property of 4-H to be used in print and/or online per editorial discretion.

It is the policy of the University of California (UC) and the UC Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources not to engage in discrimination against or harassment of any person in any of its programs or activities (Complete nondiscrimination policy statement can be found at http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/215244.pdf).

Inquiries regarding ANR’s nondiscrimination policies may be directed to John I. Sims, Affirmative Action Compliance Officer/Title IX Officer, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618, (530) 750-1397.

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CALENDAR

5/3 Large Livestock PDC Meeting, 7pm at HAREC
5/15 4-H All-Star Interviews
5/18 Equine PDC Meeting, 6:30 pm @ UCCE
5/20 Large Livestock Field Day
5/22 Enrollment Training, 5:30-7 @ UCCE
5/23 State Leadership Conference Registration Closes
6/3 Swine, Lamb & Goat Tagging Day @ Fairgrounds
6/5 Enrollment Training, 5:30-7 @ UCCE
6/16-20 California Focus
6/21 Small Animal Sciences PDC Meeting, 6pm @ UCCE
6/24-7/1 Citizenship Washington Focus
7/5 Large Livestock PDC Meeting, 7pm @ HAREC
7/14-16 Horse Fair @ Fairgrounds
7/20-23 State Leadership Conference @ Davis
8/2-13 Ventura County Fair

UCCE – University of California Cooperative Extension County
669 County Square Drive, Suite 100, Ventura CA 93003
HAREC – Hansen Ag Research and Extension Center
14292 West Telegraph Road, Santa Paula, CA 93060

For more information on these and other upcoming events, please visit http://ceventura.ucanr.edu/Families_Communities/4-H/NewsMain/

Raise Your Hand and Help
California 4-H win $20,000

The California 4-H Foundation is proud to partner with National 4-H on the “Raise Your Hand” campaign. 4-H is calling on alumni & friends around the world to “raise their hands” and help empower the next generation of true leaders. The goal is to continue to build a California network of connected and engaged 4-H Alumni & Friends. March 1st—June 30th, we are asking 4-H Alumni & Friends to support 4-H youth by “Raising their Hands” and “Paying it forward.”

Simply go to Raise your Hand and sign up for the Alumni & Friends Network. Be sure to choose California to receive updates and event notifications from California 4-H. Pay it Forward and help raise awareness for California 4-H by using social media to tweet or post your 4-H experience and photos using “#4-HGrown.” Tag other 4-H Alumni & Friends, and ask them to “Raise Hand!”

The state with the most hands raised will receive $20,000 to support their state 4-H programs! Second and third place receive $10,000 and $5,000 respectively. California 4-H is excited to build and grow our network!

We hope you’ll Raise Your Hand and join us!

It’s That Time of Year!

- Appreciate your volunteer leaders by taking a moment to say thank you. If saying the words isn’t your style, write a note, send a text, or share a picture of the two of you working together. Volunteers make this program work!

- Is your club nominating committee ready? Club elections are coming up. Take some time to get organized to help it go smoothly.

- Club Leaders: Please make sure you have registered for one of the Enrollment Trainings. See page 4 for more details.