Piru 4-H, the City of Santa Clarita, and Oprah are on a mission! They all want to spread the word that hundreds of people, both youth and adults, are injured or killed each month due to auto accidents that could have been easily avoided. These unnecessary accidents were caused by people texting or talking on cell phones while driving, driving under the influence, or other reckless acts. Piru 4-H member Brandon Piña submitted the article below that he wrote after visiting the Santa Clarita Youth Grove with other 4-H members, leaders, and parents. Here is what he wrote:

“kNOw More”

“Our children are our most precious gifts. They are our sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, loved ones, and friends. Vow today that... No more will lose their lives because we drive too fast. No more will die because we drive under the influence. No more will perish because we lapse in attention for just one moment. No more will be lost because of reckless acts on the road. Join us in a cry that NO MORE names will be added to this memorial. No More.”

This quote is from a memorial in Santa Clarita, The Santa Clarita Youth Grove, which is a grassroots effort supported by the City of Santa Clarita and the Blue Ribbon Task Force. It is dedicated to Santa Clarita youth (24 years old and younger) who have died in traffic-related incidents, and provides a safe, centralized location for young people and community members to remember these youth. Piru 4-H went as a group to show some of our teen members how important it is to drive safely.

It is a pretty emotional way to see it, as I was told by most of the parents. The city of Santa Clarita lets you use iPods that has an eleven minute video that gives a little bit of information on why the city made this memorial along with stories about each of the young people remembered there. The Youth Grove has an overall effect on the parents mostly because it is the worst thing any parent can possibly think of. It has over seventy half cut tree stumps. If you can’t tell why they decided to go with the half cut trees, it is because once a tree is cut it cannot grow anymore so each one of them represents a life that cannot grow to its full potential.

This is a wonderful experience for any club or family. For information or to arrange a group visit including the use of the iPods, contact Tess at the City of Santa Clarita, Central Park, 27150 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, phone: (661)250-3708.

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Recently, Oprah Winfrey focused an entire show on the dangers of texting and talking on cell phones while driving. She has started the “Oprah's No Phone Zone Pledge”, which says: “I pledge to make my car a No Phone Zone. Beginning right now, I will do my part to help put an end to distracted driving by not texting or using my phone while I am driving. I will ask other drivers I know to do the same. I pledge to make a difference.” Her website has more information about this pledge.

Please be safe while driving and encourage your family and friends to also drive safely.
The next Featured Club Happenings! will include articles from Briggs 4-H and Chief Peak 4-H.

**Agoura 4-H**

by Joy Harrison

Agoura 4-H meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Agoura Bible Fellowship

Club Leader: Joy Harrison and Donna Flint

President: Kala Randazzo, age 16

Agoura 4-H started off the year with 18 returning members and 10 new members. A big “thanks” to the five new volunteer leaders who have gone through the certification process. Members are excited about new projects offered this year such as: Vet Science and Eco Warriors (combining hiking and community service with beach and trail cleanup).

The Horse project meets on a weekly basis to practice riding and grooming skills. Rabbit, Chicken and Goat continue to be strong projects with emphasis on breed selection and showmanship. The Sewing project will start working on the Vest Challenge for the Fashion Revue soon. A fun project for the spring will be Gardening in a Wheelbarrow. All time favorites continue to be Rocketry, Cake Decorating, Scrapbooking, Photography and Arts & Crafts.

A local parade called Reyes Adobe Days in October has been a fun way for 4-H members to participate in community outreach. This year members were encouraged to bring their pets. Emily Ellingwood rode her horse. Hannah Walker, Peyton Rogoff, Claire Andrew, Rhett Magee and Johnnie Cariste brought their dogs on leashes. Lily Andrew carried her chicken while Josh had his snake in a cage. All pets were well taken care of before, during and after the parade and it was fun to see the audience’s reaction to the animals.

Since Halloween fell on a Saturday this year it was a perfect time to Trick or Treat at the Westlake Senior Home for community service. In December the 4-Hers helped sort, bag and deliver food to needy families in the area. At every meeting we continue to collect food for Manna (a local food bank), magazines and books for the Veterans, blankets and towels for the Agoura Animal Shelter. 4-Hers enjoy making Thanksgiving and Valentines cards for the Veterans after the general meeting.

In November members had a chance to practice their judging skills by rating everyday items such as pumpkins, leaves, graham crackers, candy, and pencils to determine the best. A family holiday potluck and gift exchange was fun in December. Board members will be giving a science presentation on Bio-Fuels in January. All members are encouraged to give a demonstration based upon one of their projects in February and March. We look forward to hearing from photographer guest speaker Jeffery Davidson to learn more about cameras and animals.

As always 4-H is a time to have fun, learn, and try new things as we use our Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

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**Bardsdale 4-H**

by Cindy Klittich

Bardsdale 4-H meets the 4th Monday of each month 7:00 p.m. at the Fillmore Memorial Building

Club Leaders: Cindy Klittich and Cindy Stines

The 35 members of Bardsdale 4-H are looking forward to a busy 2010 with over 18 projects offered in their club. New projects this year include cake decorating, baking, entomology, and photography. Our recent entry in the Fillmore Christmas Parade featured personalized “stockings hung by the chimney with care” on a decorated float plus lots of pygmy goats and pajama-clad kids. For a new community service project, the Gardening members beautified downtown Fillmore by replanting some of the standing planters with succulents. We hope to have lots of entries at the Fair in addition to our great animals including crafts, photos, bugs, wood crafts, cakes, table settings, scrapbooking and plants. Head into 2010 with a Happy Heart and busy Hands!
VENTURA COUNTY PRESENTATION DAYS!

Presentation Days will soon be here. Giving a Presentation is a great way to showcase your project skills and share what you have learned with others.

Preliminary Presentation Day will be Tuesday, March 9th at the 4-H Office from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to give your Demonstration, Illustrated Talk, Prepared Reading or Speech to judges who will give you valuable suggestions to improve your Presentation. Attending the Preliminary Presentation day is not required, but highly recommended to give you practice and a critique before County Presentation Day.

County Presentation Day will be March 27th at the Oak View Park and Resource Center in Oak View. Check-in will be at 9:00 a.m. Presentations will be in the morning and Share the Fun events will be in the afternoon or at the conclusion of the Presentations.

PRESENTATION ENTRIES ARE DUE MARCH 5th and Share the Fun Entries are due March 19th to Elaine Fowell. Complete information, guidelines and entry forms were e-mailed to club leaders.

The Presentation committee needs help to put on this event. Please contact Fern Vacca at 642-2531, if you can help or have questions.

We look forward to seeing you at Preliminary and County Presentation Days.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Program

This year a total of twenty-four scholarships will be available, six at $1,500.00 each, one at $1,250, five at $1,000.00 each, seven at $750.00 each, three at $500.00 each, one at $250 and the outstanding candidate receiving $5,000.00 from the Ironstone Concours Foundation.

This program seeks to motivate well-rounded, high academic achievers in pursuit of their careers and life goals. Preference will be given to individuals with broad personal, civic and academic experience. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of their personal commitment and goals established for his/her chosen field, leadership potential, civic accomplishments, qualifications for category entered and the completeness of his/her application packet.

For more information and application:
http://www.bigfun.org/pdfs/competitions/Scholarship_APP.pdf
Ventura County 4-H Small Animal Science PDC’s

SUPER FIELD DAY
Avian Bowl to follow
A Multi-County Invitational with Medaling Events

Saturday March 6, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Ventura County Fairgrounds

Featured activities and workshops include:

- Knowledge Bowl, Judging, Educational Posters medaling events.
- Live Breed ID
  - Be ready to test your knowledge of anatomy, illnesses, husbandry, and breed ID for rabbit, cavy, poultry, and dogs.
  - Enter an educational poster explaining care or species knowledge.
  
  NOTE: Only SAS project members may enter medaling/trophy events.

- Rally-O. Dogs need to be crated and on leash when not in crate.

Showmanship workshops for rabbits, cavies, and poultry
- Bring your showmanship animals in cages w/ water & food
- Bring your showmanship tools, ie: walking stick, etc...

Uniform exchange—Bring your outgrown 4-H uniforms to pass along to others
- Coloring, crafts, and word games, door prizes and more... …

Please wear your 4-H uniform. You do not have to be in a SAS project or entering a fair to attend. All are welcome, and please RSVP soon.

Please bring a picnic lunch!

Please mail the entry form, code of conduct, medical form & check to:
Elaine Fowell, D.V.M.
952 Via Ondulando, Ventura, CA 93003  Please mail by: February 20, 2010
805-644-9448, cpkpsmom@roadrunner.com

Make check payable to “Ventura County 4-H” for $10.00 each child.

Note: SAS PDC Super Field Day on check memo line. Thank You!

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VC SAS PDC SUPER FIELD DAY #4 entry form:
Name: ___________________________ Age (as of Jan 1, 2010) ________ Grade ________
Address: ________________________________
Phone: _______________________________ E-mail: _______________________________
4-H Club: ___________________________ County: ___________________________

Project(s) enrolled, CIRCLE those that apply: Rabbit Cavy Dog Poultry NONE

Will you be participating in the Knowledge Events? Rabbit Cavy Dog Poultry NO

( Remember, you must be enrolled in the project: Please CIRCLE all that apply)

Will you be submitting a poster for judging? YES NO (CIRCLE one)

If yes, please list: Specie________ Title:_________________________Are you entering Rally-O?______

Specie________ Title:_________________________

Specie________ Title:_________________________

Before mailing: Is Entry Form Completed? ____ Have you included: Code of Conduct? ____ Medical Release Form? ____

Check made out to Ventura County 4-H? _______ THANK YOU!!

Look for entry form and information on Avian Bowl soon!
Ventura County’s Small Animal Science Fur & Feathers Show was a great success!

On Saturday January 16, the small animal 4-H members and parents hosted Fur & Feathers III. This show provides 4-H members enrolled in Poultry, Cavy and Rabbit projects to participate in a breed show, showmanship and an educational poster show. It also offers the members a chance to help organize and volunteer at the show. The following members helped make this show possible;

Josh Finch, Mupu 4-H: Set-Up
Ashleigh Clendening, Mupu 4-H: Poster Clerk
Meghan Woodard and Kyla Vinson, Conejo Valley 4-H: Snack Booth
Glenda and Melissa Marshall, Loma Vista 4-H: Cavy Breed Show Clerks
Karen Payne, Loma Vista 4-H: Cavy Showmanship Judge
Nicole Peterson, Santa Rosa 4-H: Poultry Breed Show Clerk
Sarah Bobardt, Tierra Rejada 4-H: Rabbit Breed Show Ram Rod
Hanna Finch, Mupu 4-H: Rabbit Showmanship Clerk
Kathy Bass, Conejo Valley 4-H: Rabbit Showmanship Judge

CAVY SHOWMANSHIP
Primary Participants: Genevieve Valenzuela and Keegan Reeder, Mupu 4-H

Novice Showmanship: 1st: Sarah Alamillo, Mupu 4-H
2nd: Lauren Alamillo, Mupu 4-H

Junior Showmanship: 1st: Eleanor Cumming, Fairmont 4-H
2nd: Joshua Finch, Mupu 4-H
3rd: Bethany Valenzuela, Mupu 4-H
4th: Hayden Hargleroad, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H
5th: Audrey Hargleroad, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

Participant: Morgan Levine, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

Intermediate Showmanship: 1st: Amanda Penicks, Norco Mustangs 4-H
2nd: Elizabeth Paxson, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H
3rd: Glenda Marshall, Loma Vista 4-H

Participant: Becky Bender, Trabuco Trailblazers 4-H

Senior Showmanship: 1st: BJ Bender, Trabuco Trailblazers 4-H
2nd: Samantha Rogers, Fairmont 4-H

CAVY BREED SHOW
Best of Breed: (Abyssinian) Elizabeth Paxson, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H
(Abyssinian Satin) Hannah Finch, Mupu 4-H
(American) Sarah Alamillo, Mupu 4-H
(American Satin) Karen Payne, Loma Vista 4-H
(Peruvian), (Silkie), (Teddy), and (Texel) Elizabeth Paxson, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H
(White Crested) Sarah Nagel, Loma Vista 4-H

Best Opposite Sex: (Abyssinian), (American), (American Satin), and (Peruvian) Elizabeth Paxson, Santa Rosa Valley 4-H

BEST IN SHOW: SARAH ALAMILLO of Mupu 4-H with her Golden Agouti American
RESERVE IN SHOW: ELIZABETH PAXSON of Santa Rosa Valley 4-H with her Texel

RABBITS SHOWMANSHIP
Senior: Sarah Bobardt, Tierra Rejada 4-H
Intermediate: Spencer Wittrock, Loma Vista 4-H
Juniors: Eleanor Cummings, Fairmont 4-H

Novice: Gillian Rabasciotti, El Camino 4-H
Amanda Ullman, Santa Rosa 4-H
Jenna Moore, El Camino 4-H

Article continues on the next page, please continue . . . . . .
FROM THE STATE 4-H OFFICE

The 2010 State 4-H Field Day will be held on May 29, 2010 at UC Davis. The State 4-H Field Day is the largest California statewide 4-H event, open to 4-H members, siblings, parents, 4-H volunteers and staff. In 2010, 4-H SET will be featured with many hands-on science, engineering and technology activities and challenges! Your 4-H Club or project can help! Educational displays constitute a unique aspect of the State 4-H Field Day. These exhibits are a great opportunity to share knowledge, interact with youth and adults, and engage people in new activities. Possibilities for displays include hands-on activities, community service, informative booths, etc. Applications are due April 2, 2010 and the form is available at http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fieldday/SFD-App-Form2010.pdf. More information is available at http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fieldday/

Attention 4-H members: Mark your calendars and plan to attend the 2010 4-H State Leadership Conference will be held July 29 - August 1, 2010 at UC Davis. The conference - "Operation 4-H" - will provide over 500 high school aged youth and adult 4-H volunteers with an opportunity to engage in hands on learning experiences while developing citizenship and leadership skills. Additional information will be coming in the next few months. Watch for it!
Looking for a new, exciting project? Check out these new possibilities!

- **CRIME SCENE: The Case of the Missing Computer Chip** - In this activity for grades 6-12, a simulated crime scene is presented for teams of youth to solve. Using clues received piecemeal, youth adjust hypotheses as more clues are found and discussed. The elements of the nature and process of science are recognized through discussion of the crime solution metaphor. Find it at the Evolution & the Nature of Science Institutes (ENSI) website at [http://www.indiana.edu/~ensiweb/lessons/crime.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~ensiweb/lessons/crime.html)

- Order your free *Teacher’s Guide from PBS’ engineering reality competition series, Design Squad!* Developed for middle school science and technology educators, Design Squad’s latest guide blends hands-on engineering challenges with 3 core science concepts: Force - youth build their own blimps; Electricity - youth design electronic games; and Sound - youth make and play instruments. The challenges use low cost, readily available materials. Order your free copy of the Design Squad Teacher’s Guide at [http://pbskids.org/designsquad/engineers/newsletter.html](http://pbskids.org/designsquad/engineers/newsletter.html)

- You can't win NASCAR races without getting the science right. NASCAR teams push science to its limits to eke out the tenths or hundredths of a second that separate the winner from the also-rans. *The Science of Speed*, produced for the National Science Foundation (NSF), explains the scientific principles that are so essential to the NASCAR experience. Viewers learn how science makes cars powerful, agile, fast and safe--and how these same principles affect their own cars. View the videos at [http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/sos/?WT.mc_id=USNSF_51](http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/sos/?WT.mc_id=USNSF_51)

### 4-H Library

**SERIES - Ridges to Rivers: Watershed Explorations Junior High**

**Topic Area:** Environmental Education  |  **Audience:** Youth grades 7 - 9

Hands-on activities designed to teach young people about watershed concepts. Each curriculum features activities that develop an awareness of land as a watershed and encourage exploration of erosion, surface water pollution, movement and contamination of groundwater, and what kids can do to help. **Junior High:** For ages 12-15. Hands-on activities on erosion, topographic maps, groundwater models, and creek creatures!
February

4-H Calendar

2/1  Briggs 4-H & Chief Peak 4-H Featured Club Happenings! articles due to the 4-H Office
2/6  Winter 2010 4-H SET Professional Development Workshop; various locations
2/12 National Ag Day Essay Contest submission deadline http://www.hpi.com/agdayessay
3/1  Citrus Valley 4-H & Conejo Valley 4-H Featured Club Happenings! articles due to the 4-H Office
3/6  Small Animal Science Field Day @ the Ventura County Fairgrounds
3/9  Preliminary Presentation 2:00-5:00 @ the 4-H Office
3/27  County Presentation Day check-in @ 9:00 a.m. Oak View Park and Resource Center
4/5  Del Norte 4-H & Las Posas 4-H Featured Club Happenings! articles due to the 4-H Office
4/18 Ventura County 4-H Mini Rodeo 9-2 @ the Ventura County Fairgrounds Morgan Arena
4/24-25 2010 State 4-H Horse Events @ Reedley College
5/3  Loma Vista 4-H & Mira Monte 4-H Featured Club Happenings! articles due to the 4-H Office
5/10  4-H State Fashion Revue registration due
5/16 Ventura County 4-H Gymkhana Clinic 8-2 @ the Ventura County Fairgrounds Morgan Arena

5/29  4-H State Fashion Revue @ UC Davis
5/29  2010 State 4-H Field Day @ UC Davis
6/7  Mapu 4-H & Piru 4-H Featured Club Happenings! articles due to the 4-H Office
6/13  Ventura County 4-H Equine Field Day 8-2 @ the Ventura County Fairgrounds Morgan Arena
6/24-27 Championship Horse Show @ the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds

6/25-29 California Focus
6/27-7/5 Washington Focus I; Road to Democracy
6/27-7/3 Washington Focus; Heritage Trail I
6/30 Program Year ENDS
7/1  New Program Year BEGINS
7/11-21 Washington Focus II; Global Journey
7/11-17 Washington Focus II; Heritage Trail II
7/16-18 Horse Fair
7/29-8/1 2010 4-H State Leadership Conference @ UC Davis
8/2  Santa Rosa Valley 4-H & Sespe 4-H Featured Club Happenings! articles due to the 4-H Office
8/4-15 2010 Ventura County Fair!
9/6  Shadow Hills 4-H & Somis 4-H Featured Club Happenings! articles due to the 4-H Office

To help ensure you receive e-mails from us, be sure to add to your Safe/Green/Accept e-mails lists: sygloeckler@ucdavis.edu, tifisher@ucdavis.edu, 4hOnline [mailto:no-reply@4hOnline.com], and sagriffin@ucdavis.edu

http://calendar.ucanr.org/ (change “Location” to Ventura County & “Category” to 4-H/Youth Programs, Click “Go!”)