



The 4-H Green Sheets

Santa Cruz County 4-H Youth Development Program

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July 2009

4-H'ers Receive 2008 President's Environmental Youth Awards

Clay Ferguson and Chance Boreczky, two middle school 4-H'ers from San Leandro, CA; were among 10 recipients of the annual President's Environmental Youth Awards (PEYA). The PEYA program was established by the White House in 1971 and has been administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since that time. The program recognizes young people across America for projects which demonstrate their commitment to the environment. Winners received a Presidential plaque as well as a trip to Washington, DC in May to accept their awards.

These 4-H'ers winning project was a video called "A Plastic Predicament", to educate the public and to propose pragmatic solutions to the environmental threats associated with use and disposal of plastic products. It also challenges the notion that better living can be achieved through consumerism based on a disposable model.

Through a 4-H environmental stewardship project, "Plastic Eliminators", Clay and Chance learned about the great Pacific trash gyre, a whirlpool of plastic debris twice the size of Texas floating in the Pacific,. Recognizing the significant long-term problems associated with processing huge volumes of waste plastic and with ongoing landfill management, they became interested in educating the public about the gravity of plastic pollution and modeling ways for everyone to reduce their use of plastic.

To learn more about the President's Environmental Youth Awards, or to gather ideas on how you can submit a project for consideration, visit EPA.gov





Leader Information:



State 4-H Leaders' Forum 2009

November 6-8, 2009 at Asilomar Conference Center. Some of the best, most practical learning for 4-H volunteers happens there. You'll come home loaded with ideas and activities and the enthusiasm to implement them. Registrations range from \$250.00 to \$310.00 and are due September 1, 2009. More information is available at <http://www.ca4h.org/conference/slf/>

Funding for Volunteers

4-H club support funding is available through the **Bob and Pat Dean Memorial Legacy Fund** for California 4-H members or volunteers. Funding is intended for activities that meet the following criteria: 1) enable youth to develop citizenship, leadership, or life skills; 2) support the development of new and innovative 4-H projects benefiting 4-H members; 3) increase public awareness of the 4-H Youth Development Program; 4) expand the reach of the 4-H Youth Development Program (new youth, new audiences); 5) provide continuing benefits to the applicant's local 4-H Club or project.

Application information is available at:

<http://www.ca4h.org/citizenship/funding/>

Applications are due **September 15, 2009**

Youth Garden Grants offers awards for schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. The National Garden Association helps youth learn vital life lessons from working in gardens and habitats. Priority is given to programs that emphasize: nutrition or plant-to-food connections; environmental awareness/education; entrepreneurship; and the social aspects of gardening. Applicants must plan to garden with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18 years. Applications are due by **November 2, 2009**. For more information, please visit <http://www.kidsgardening.com/YGG.asp>

Fair Information

San Benito County Fair Pre-fair Ear Tags

If your club has youth attending the Santa Benito County Fair this year, with livestock. One livestock leader from each club needs to attend the mandatory tag and fair orientation meeting on **July 15th, 2009, 6pm**, at the San Benito County Fair office, 9000 Airline Hwy, Tres Pinos. At this meeting the leader will receive the ear tags for their club animals that will be attending the fair this year.

For questions regarding this meeting, please contact the San Benito County Fair office, 628-3421.

To sign up to attend this meeting please contact Stephanie in the 4-H office, 763-8015, by July 14th.

State Fair Outreach Opportunity

Help Staff 4-H Booth at California State Fair
Once again The California 4-H Foundation is recruiting 4-H members and leaders to help staff the 4-H booth at the California State Fair (**August 21 - September 7**). This is a great opportunity for 4-H members and volunteers to publicly share their 4-H experiences, as well as, the wide range of projects and leadership opportunities that are available to youth through participation in the California 4-H Youth Development Program. Small 4-H projects are welcome to accompany you (robots, rabbits, arts/crafts, service dogs, etc.) to give the public a "feel" for what types of projects are available. Examples of service projects also make for good stories to share with the public. Please feel free to bring photo albums or record books with you to show anyone who may be interested in learning even more about your 4-H project. Parking passes and fair admission tickets will be provided to 4-H members and adults who sign up for a 2-hour shift. A maximum of 4 youth and 2 adults per shift will be allowed. Further, each shift must have an adult or older teen in the booth at all times. To sign-up, please visit <http://www.ca4h.org/wrp/statefair/>.



Member Opportunities:

4-H Grants

California 4-H Service Learning Grants

Do you need money to carry out your service project? Each year the California State 4-H Office provides funds to members and volunteer leaders for service-learning projects through the **California 4-H Service Learning RFP**. Groups can request up to \$5,000 to fund activities that address significant environmental, economic and/or social issues affecting California's youth, families, and communities. The Service Learning RFP application and information is available on the web at: <http://www.ca4h.org/citizenship/funding/index.asp>. Examples of past projects are also listed.

The application is due **September 15, 2009**.

Any Ideas for a Countywide Service Learning Project?

This year, our program would like to submit a proposal for another service learning grant with countywide participation, but we would like input from 4-H families regarding what their interests would be.

Some great ideas have been suggested already;

1. Build aquatic robots, some with waterproof cameras, to retrieve trash from area sloughs, rivers and harbors. 4-H youth could partner with MBARI, Watsonville Wetlands Watch and other local water quality agencies. These robots could also be used to collect water samples for bacteria/quality testing.
2. A year-long partnership with a convalescent home and gardening therapists to build/plant/maintain raised planter boxes. Youth could work alongside the elderly, giving seniors much appreciated companionship.
3. Partnering with County or State Parks Department to remove non-native plants for habitat improvement. The project could also include developing informational signs along trails to educate park visitors about native vs. non-native plants and local ecosystems.

Please discuss these ideas - and your own - with your Club, or phone the 4-H office 763-8015 to talk to Stephanie about service learning grants.

State 4-H Activities

Upload your 4-H Story to earn a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate

Upload your "My 4-H Story" from your Record Book by July 31st, 2009 to enter a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate. Ten gift certificates will be awarded.

The California State 4-H Office is collecting 4-H stories to use in a variety of activities:

- 4-H Marketing by posting and photo on the State 4-H website.
- By The California 4-H Foundation in fundraising efforts
- By the 4-H Center for Youth Development Program

For more information and to submit stories please log onto: <http://www.ca4h.org/wrp/recordbook/>

Submitted materials become the property of the California State 4-H Office and may be used to Market the 4-H Youth Development Program.

Cooking Event for Youth

Youth ages 10-15 are invited to attend the **3rd Annual Kids Culinary Convention and Conference, September 19, 2009** in Sacramento, CA. Youth and parents may register starting Aug. 15. The conference is an opportunity for youth to experience and learn about food, from preparation, hands-on cooking to the benefits of healthy eating habits.

Visit: <http://www.jrchefcentral.com> for more information.

For Youth - Zine-a-thon Contest: Tell an entire science story in art and text on a single 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper folded to make a mini-magaZINE. You can zine about anything in science -- from pigeons to earthquakes to neutrinos as long as they are aligned with one of the Year of Science themes. One top zine contributor will receive a \$500 grand prize and two will receive \$250. Zines are due November 1, 2009. More information is available at <http://www.yearofscience2009.org/about/zine-contest.html>



4-H News & Resources



Project ideas

Celebrate Astronomy! Ever hear of a quadricentennial? Well, astronomy is one of the oldest sciences and 2009 marks the 400th anniversary of Galileo's use of a telescope to study the skies. The **International Year of Astronomy 2009** is a global effort initiated by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and UNESCO to help the citizens of the world rediscover their place in the Universe through the day- and night-time sky, and thereby engage a personal sense of wonder and discovery. To get involved or to start a 4-H project around astronomy, visit:

http://www.yearofscience2009.org/themes_astronomy/celebrate/

Design, build and evaluate lunar plant growth chamber! Plant growth will be an important part of space exploration in the future as NASA plans for long-duration missions to the moon. Educators can order cinnamon basil seeds that have flown in space on the STS-118 space shuttle mission. Students can compare plants grown from both space-flown and Earth-based control seeds, and test the designs of the lunar plant growth chambers. <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/plantgrowth/home/>

Club Project Animals

Goats:

- Saanen Doeling 3 mos. Old
- Dehorned, Vaccinated, Tattooed, Registered
- Great Conformation \$300
- Call Beth Kraft (831) 335-2669

Special Events

Rare Behind-the-Scenes Tour of Monterey Bay Mushrooms!

Join Matt Fuller (Corralitos 4-H volunteer), on Saturday, July 18, at 10:00am, for a tour of the Monterey Bay Mushrooms, Inc. growing, packing & shipping facility. Children should be accompanied by a parent or other adult.

Because of moving equipment and high vehicle traffic throughout the facility, children on the tour must have the ability to cross a busy street by themselves to qualify for participating in this tour. All participants should wear sturdy, close-toed shoes. Please RSVP by Friday, July 17, to Matt Fuller if you plan to attend the tour: 274-5545



NASA Space Shuttle Endeavour will take a 4-H flag into space on mission **STS-127**, scheduled for July 11, 2009. While it was originally scheduled for June 13, the mission was scrubbed due to a hydrogen gas leak.

"The inclusion of the 4-H flag on this mission is reflective of the commitment 4-H has to building young leaders in science, engineering and technology," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "As the global economy expands, these leaders will strengthen the United States' global competitiveness and leadership in these fields." Azeem Ahmed, 17, who is an avid space enthusiast and 4-H member from Alabama and President of the Alabama 4-H Council, made the original request to NASA to have the flag flown with a future space shuttle mission. More information may be found at: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/newsroom/news/2009news/06111_4h_space.html

How to Incorporate SET

As SET is becoming more and more known there is one question that a lot of people seem to have in common. How do you incorporate SET into 4-H? There are many ways that SET can be incorporated into 4-H. SET can be taught at conferences and with projects or as its own project. An example of SET curriculum being taught as its own project is the robotics project that Soquel and La Selva Beach 4-H clubs are teaching together.

While teaching SET as it's own project seems pretty easy, teaching it with an already existing project seems almost impossible. But it's actually easier than you may think, all you have to do is look at the different aspects of the project and see if there is something science related to it. Let's take cooking for example. When people think about cooking and SET they may not see how the two could go together. When most people think about cooking, they think about recipes, different cooking techniques and health. What most people don't think about is the science that happens while cooking. The SET curriculum called "The Science of Cake Baking" explores the science behind cooking and why cakes rise in the oven instead of staying flat. SET curriculum can be added to almost every project to help kids learn about and become more interested in science.

If you have any questions, or would like to check out some SET curriculum, contact Lynn at lschmittmcquitty@ucdavis.edu or Emily at eturnquist@ucdavis.edu

-Emily Turnquist
SET Intern

UPCOMING TRAININGS

Are you interested in developing a program to encourage girls' interest in technology and science? The **Chabot Space & Science Center's Techbridge Summer Training Institute** will be held in Oakland, CA from August 3-5, 2009. This 3-day workshop will give participants strategies and curriculum for inspiring girls in technology, science and engineering.

http://www.techbridgegirls.org/programs_institute.asp

CURRICULUM

NASA/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) present the **SciJinks Weather Laboratory**. Youth in grades 4-8 will learn about weather through interactive games, illustrated text, and fun facts. More than 20 ideas for weather-related science fair projects are described on weather-related topics and posters on clouds, satellites, global weather patterns, and ocean science. <http://scijinks.jpl.nasa.gov/weather/>

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Council Officers
 President: Dorothy Chittenden-Williams
 Vice President: Greta Steinbruner
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 Treasurer: Randy Turnquist
 The Green Sheets is the newsletter of the University of California Cooperative Extension Santa Cruz County 4-H Youth Development Program.
 Deadline for newsletter articles is the third Thursday of every month

4-H Youth Development Staff
 Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty: Youth Development Advisor
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 Stojanovic, Lorna: 4-H Program Representative
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Hours:
 Wednesday: 7:00am-12:00pm
 Friday: 1:00pm-6:00pm

July 2009
 No County Council Meeting
 4 Independence Day-Office Closed
 16 Newsletter articles due
 24-27 4-H Summer Camp
 31 2008-09 Club Secretary & Treasurer Books due to 4-H Office
August 2009
 6-9 State Leadership Conference-UC Davis
 8 All entry forms due for Santa Cruz Co. Fair
 12-16 Monterey County Fair
 16 How To Build a Feature Booth
 21 County Council Meeting
 21 Newsletter articles due
 4pm Harvest Building, S.C. Fairgrounds
 Aptos Grange, Aptos
 To 4-H Office
 Camp Loma, Santa Cruz Mountains
 To 4-H Office



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Important Information for
4-H Members, Leaders and Families.
PLEASE READ!



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