Hello, my name is Emily G. This summer I went outbound to Japan as a delegate with the 2012 4-H International Exchange Program. This program allowed me to take part in a once in a lifetime experience that I enjoyed very much. Now, I want to share the news of this program with you. During my month long stay overseas, I experienced Japanese culture in many different ways such as: attending school with my host sister, going to summer camp, visiting many temples, and sampling Japanese dishes that I have never tried before. Sometimes it was hard to adjust to these differences from my home life, but it all worked out in the end as I kept an open mind. The 4-H International Exchange program is a way to get out there in the world and make a difference in your life as well as many others. Before I participated in the program, I was not really confident in my ability to act as an independent person away from my friends and family. Now, after my experience, I feel much more confident in myself. I also find myself more accepting of differences that I may not have felt comfortable with before the exchange. Not only this, but I created a bond with my host family in Japan, as well as memories that will last a lifetime. I will never forget the positive impact that this event has had on my life, and want to encourage others to participate in this program in the future. I wish to thank 4-H for helping me on my journey to Japan, and hope that this program will continue to be available to others for many years to come.
Recently I and a seven other members of El Dorado 4H went to State Leadership Conference in San Diego. SLC, as it is called is an opportunity for high school students to build the necessary requirements for being a successful leader. These include teamwork, public speaking and tolerance as well as listening. Before you get to SLC you choose classes that you are interested in. All the classes tie into the building of character and helping make a leader out of you. But what is different, is that the classes teach you these skills through fun activities and projects you enjoy. Now mixed in between all these classes are great guest speakers who are different every year, they talk about their life experiences and the difference it has on leadership and how leadership really does help you in life. The days always conclude with recreation be it a dance, pool party or sports. It gives you a time to meet new friends and reflect what you have learned.

We will be offering a Countywide Leadership Conference Project again this year to help encourage youths to attend conferences and assist in raising funds. The 2013 SLC will be held at UC Davis, July 25-28, 2013. For more information regarding the project or SLC you can contact the County Office or your club leader.

I hope to see more youth come to this event next year!

-William W. and the 2012 SLC leadership team

All Stars
All Star Team Application Information

All Star Applicant Essays are now being accepted for the 2012/2013 4-H Program Year. Note: you must be in high school and have at least your Gold Star.

The deadline for application is September 30, 2011. Bring your completed applicant essay and your up-to-date record book to the El Dorado County 4-H office by 5:00 PM on that date.

—2—
Our Visit with the Exchange Student

By: Elizabeth S. & Meiko D.

Happy Sundowners 4-H Club

Last year our family sponsored in our home for one month, a Japanese Exchange Student through the 4-H International Exchange Program. Her name was Ikumi Y. and she was a 13 year old junior high student from Hiroshima, Japan. During Ikumi’s stay with us we visited numerous historic sites. In addition, along with some of her fellow exchange students were able to witness a Board of Supervisors Meeting. During her one month stay she formed a special relationship with Meiko and our family. The girls along with our families continued corresponding through email and letters. In April of this year we decided to visit Ikumi and her family. While accompanying my mother Tomiko to revisit her native Japan, we decided to also visit Ikumi and her family. We arrived at Narita and took the bullet train (which can travel up to 186 miles per hour) to Hiroshima City. Ikumi and her father met us at the train station and drove us to their home in Takara City. The route took us past Peace Memorial Park (site of ground zero of the dropping of the first atomic bomb). Around the park there were numerous cherry trees in full bloom. Just prior to arriving to Ikumi’s home we passed through miles and miles of flourishing bamboo forest.

That night we were welcomed by her entire family consisting of cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents about 10 people in all. We had a big Japanese style dinner. For those not familiar with Japanese décor we ate off a low table sitting on cushions placed on a floor made of tightly woven rice straw (Tatami).

The next day after a hearty breakfast of rice, vegetables and a soup made with miso, seaweed and tofu. We ate all our meals with chopsticks. During our stay we went to a famous National Shrine called Miyajima. Miyajima is one of the “Three Most Beautiful Spots” of Japan, which is a part of the Seto Inland Sea National Park. It is a place of extraordinary scenic beauty, exceptional history, a scenic zone, and a natural monument.

One of the hi-lights of our trip was going one evening with Meiko to Ikumi’s Labo class. Labo is an International Exchange Program for Japanese youth. The class consists of children of all ages that come together on a weekly basis to learn english, cultural awareness and personal growth. Our evening consisted of singing japanese and english songs. The children asked Meiko many questions about her life as a young American teenager. We played traditional Japanese children’s games. The evening concluded with another big Japanese style potluck.

After departing Ikumi’s house we took the bullet train back to the Tokyo area and visited a series of nearby mountain resorts to enjoy their traditional hot springs batters (Onsens).

Our family is thankful that we are a part of the 4-H program. Although most people associate the 4-H Youth Development Program with agriculture and raising farm animals, many 4-H youth such as Meiko get to experience a trip of a lifetime. They learn many important life skills including communication, cultural awareness, cultural sensitivity and issues related to living a global society. All this is done to broaden the outlook of 4-H youth and to foster courage, independence and maturity.
Hello my name is Jacob G. and I am in the 4-H GIS project. If you are wondering what GIS means it is Geographical Information System, which it involves mapping. This past year, I have been making a map of all our clubs and projects making it easier for new members and existing members to find the locations of these 4-H places. The software we use to make this map is made by ESRI. Every year they have an international conference in San Diego, which 4-H is a part of. I was lucky to be chosen to go to this conference and represent 4-H. The 4-H tech Team was made up of 4-Hers from all over the nation like New York, Tennessee, Minnesota, and Kansas. There were a total of 28 kids and adults in the team. Before the conference started the 4-H National Tech Team went to the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge. While there, we worked with US Fish and Wildlife Service and US Department of the Interior to map out important places on the slough like, special plants, old land marks, and places where you could see wildlife. After mapping all those points with our GPSs and taking pictures, we mapped all the points on to an online map where people could view it. The next day we went to the International Education part of the conference and took classes on how to use the software and how to teach others how to use it. We stood out from everyone because we all wore the same blue shirts and we were the only youth there. At the end of the day, we had a booth where people could ask us about 4-H and our mapping projects. I got to meet people from all over the nation and the world. When the International Users Conference opened which had 17,000 people attending, we attended several seminars talking about new software and how they are trying to get the youth more involved because there will be a lot of future jobs using GIS. The last part of that day was the map section where people from all over the world presented their maps and talked about ideas with others. 4-H had a booth there and people could ask questions about us and our maps. I had many people ask me if they could start a 4-H GIS project where they lived and I gave them some ideas on how they could start one in their area. I had lots of fun on this trip and meeting 4-H members from all over the nation. We are still connected to each other by conference call. We talk about our new projects and about the next ESRI Conference and what projects we are going to bring to it. Next year, I hope to go again and learn more and share with others.
Special Thanks to our Beef Leaders and Parents for all your support and help throughout the year! You ROCK!!

Supreme Champ. & Res. Supreme Steer
1st Place Showmanship
Nov. & Int. Res. Champion Cow-Calf
4-H Res. Champion 4-H Champion

Article by: Payton D.
Good afternoon volunteers!

I hope you’re enjoying the “cooler” weather we’ve had the last few days. As you prepare for another busy school year, I ask that you take a moment to consider attending to the first locally held 4-H Volunteer Development Day on September 8th. I am working on an interactive day of collaboration between volunteers in each county. We will concentrate on planning project lessons that incorporate the three State Initiatives of Healthy Living, Citizenship, and Science/Engineering/Technology. Dorothy Smith, Nutrition Family and Consumer Science Advisor for the Central Sierra, will talk about reducing sugary beverages in our 4-H meetings. We will have a raffle for a beverage dispenser to be used in your club meetings. In addition, I will be proving lunch for everyone who attends. This workshop opportunity will allow you to mingle with project and club leaders from other counties while sharing ideas to utilize in your county. Often our state office will offer trainings that have a cost associated with registration and are usually long distances from the Sierra Foothills.

I sincerely hope you can make this local and FREE one-day event. We will meet by 9am at the UCCE Office in Jackson (12200B Airport Road) and will be done by 3pm. To register, please click on the link below and fill out your information by the September 5th deadline. Please contact me with any questions you may have.

http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=8944

THANK You Southside for cleaning and moving the 4-H Chuckwagon on short notice! Southside ROCKS!

El Dorado County Leader Orientation:
Thank you for volunteering to be a leader or an “other” in the 4-H Youth Development program. Most likely by now you have completed your fingerprint requirement, read the Volunteer Digest, completed the Child Safety Online Training and 4-H Volunteer e-learning course. You have signed the contract, returned it to the office, and been confirmed as a leader. What’s next?

All new project leaders will need to attend leader orientation September 11, 2012 from 5:30-7:30 at the UCCE office, 311 Fair Lane in Placerville. Please call the UCCE office 621-5503 to reserve your spot.

Good afternoon volunteers!

4-H Enrollment for Returning Members

Enrollment for returning members starts July 1st and ends October 15th. To be eligible for fair, new members must enroll by December 3rd. Please log onto https://www.4honline.com/ to begin the process.

Families who used the 4-H Online system last year should already be in the system and will only have to update their information. To make things easier this year, youth will not have to turn in a paper “Waiver of Liability” form to the office. Within the online enrollment system, make sure to check the box asking you to accept the “Waiver of Liability”. Club Leaders and Project Leaders still need a paper copy of the Medical Release and Health History for each youth. Lastly, I encourage you to use the online payment system using a credit card. There is a link on our local UCCE registration webpage and is not processed through 4-H Online.

Thanks and have a great week, JoLynn Miller
4-H Youth Development Advisor - University of California Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra Multi-County Partnership - Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, & Tuolumne counties
Join us for the fifth annual

4-H National Youth Science Day

Where: El Dorado Hills Library
When: October 6, 2012 from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

The 2012 National Science Experiment, the 4-H Eco-Bot Challenge, explores how robots can be used to preserve and protect the environment, while offering a glimpse into the future of science, technology, engineering and math.

Build Your Bot
Youth will assemble their own Eco-Bot, then discover how the robot functions.

The Goal is Control
Youth will design a set of control surfaces to program the Eco-Bot to perform a simulated environmental clean-up project.

Make a Clean Sweep
Youth will measure the effectiveness of their control surfaces by recording how much of the spill is “swept up” by the Eco-Bot.
NORTH CENTRAL SECTION CITIZENSHIP WEEKEND
September 29 & 30, 2012

Center for Land-Based Learning Farm on Putah Creek
5265 Putah Creek Road, Winters, Ca 95694

Open to 4-H members 13 years old and up. Registration in a Citizenship project is NOT required to attend. We will be participating in various aspects of citizenship, including government, history and community service. Come learn how to motivate and mobilize citizenship activities in your community.
North Central Sectional Citizenship Weekend Registration

Completed application is DUE (not postmarked) by Wednesday, September 5, 2012.

Open to 4-H members 13 years old and up. Registration in a Citizenship project is NOT required to attend. We will be participating in various aspects of citizenship, including government, history and community service. Come learn how to motivate and mobilize citizenship activities in your community. Plans include:

- Nature Walk
- Stations to build your citizenship outreach skills
- Fun time and a special surprise!

**Cost:** $45; includes all activities, lunch, dinner, and snacks on Saturday, breakfast and snacks on Sunday.

**When:** September 29 & 30th

**Where:** Center for Land-Based Learning Farm 5265 Putah Creek Road, Winters, Ca 95694

**Times:** Saturday check-in 9:00 am - 10:00 am; Sunday check-out Noon

**What to bring:** sleeping bag, tents, clothes that can get dirty, change of clothes and toiletries, and a flash light. Please bring adult tube socks to donate to Operation Stand Down.

**Mail registration** to: Tacy Currey P.O. Box 582 Dixon, Ca 95620

**Questions?**

Youth Chair: Jenna Arciero(, Erin Warnock and Brigi Glass (citizenship2012@sbcglobal.net)

Adult Chairs: Tacy Currey(tacy@curreyranch.com), Delynda Eldridge (djeldridge@ucdavis.edu)

Name__________________________ Grade _____ County __________

Address ________________________________

City __________________________ ZIP __________

Youth Cell Phone (__)_________________ Parent Cell (__)____________

Home Phone (__)__________________E-mail________________________

*(required for confirmation)

*IMPORTANT: One female chaperone for every seven girls and one male chaperone for every seven boys from your county is required to attend this event. **LIMITED SPACE** This event is available to the first 50 members that register fully.

Send your completed application to: Tacy Currey, P.O. Box 582 Dixon, Ca 95620

**Application Check List:**

_____ 1. This Registration Form

_____ 2. Signed Medical Treatment Form (http://www.ca4h.org/files/4726.pdf)

_____ 3. Signed North Central Section Code of Conduct

_____ 4. Check for $45.00 payable to **North Central Sectional Leaders Council**

Approved by North Central Section 5/21/11
4-H invited to The Ironstone Concours!  
Saturday, September 22th

The Ironstone Concours Foundation has again requested 4-H members come to the 4-H Concours d’Elegance to perform presentations and show their displays between 10 am – 2 pm. This is an excellent opportunity for 4-H members to talk about their projects, show off their animals and receive credit in their record books! The event will be held on September 22th at Ironstone Vineyards in Murphys, and will include over 300 classic automobiles, vintage motorcycles and classic trailers.

Admission and lunch is free for 4-H members volunteering or giving presentations. Each participating 4-H member will receive a free lunch ticket at the 4-H check-in tent. Siblings, parents, and other volunteers will be able to purchase lunch at the event. (One ticket for each member and one for a parent will be given) No coolers, please (this is an Ironstone request) but snacks are encouraged as it is a long day for many of the 4-H’ers. If you are bringing a display or large items for your demonstration, please be set up & in place by 9:30 am. Please no large animals or aggressive dogs (leashed dogs in a 4-H dog obedience or guide dog project are okay and Ironstone Foundation is very excited to have them).

Presentations will be held from 11 am – 12:30 pm. Impromptu speeches will be held from 12:30 pm to 2 pm. One parent or adult escort driver from each family will receive a free entry wristband at the 4-H check-in tent. Tickets cost $20 per adult or $35 per couple or a family (a family is considered two adults and 2 children). Children under 14 admitted free.

If your child is bringing a display, please bring a card table or appropriate set up as table space is not guaranteed and may be limited! You may also bring a chair.

If you would like to give a presentation, show off a display or give an impromptu speech at the Concours, please fill out the form below and either drop by, fax or mail to the 4-H office by September 15th.

Our address is:
311 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667

4-H Member Name:__________________________________________________________

Name of Parent or Guardian Attending:________________________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________________________

County: _________________________________________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________________________________________

TYPE OF PRESENTATION
( ) Demonstration  ( ) Display  ( ) Impromptu Speech (1 – 2 minutes)

Give approximate length of non-display presentation: ____________________________ minutes. Impromptu speakers will receive an unusual dictionary word to speak on and receive practice. Lots of fun!

Are you bringing a live animal? If so, what? ___________________________________

Preferred time of presentation or illustrated talk (must be between the hours listed above):

___________ (please note that schedule may change or you may be asked to give your presentation more than once).
We cannot guarantee the exact starting time of your presentation, but will do our best to schedule you at your preferred time.

The Ironstone Foundation is requesting 4-H members to be in 4-H uniform. No shorts! Please wear your 4-H cap, white shirt or club t-shirt and jeans or white pants. If wearing a button-up shirt, please wear your 4-H tie or scarf.

Due by September 15th!
Statewide, 4-H has three exciting initiatives Healthy Living, Citizenship, and SET (Science, Engineering, Technology). Some ideas for projects relating to the three initiative are listed below. Maybe you know someone who would be a fantastic leader for one of these projects? Have them contact the 4-H office for more details.

- Web Design Project Leader
- Nutrition
- Marine Science
- Geocache & GPS
- Raw Foods
- Geology

…or maybe you have an idea?

### Learning to Lead Conference

For youth serving on County Council or in a leadership position within your club: mark your calendar for an amazing conference experience!

El Dorado County 4-H Youth Leadership Conference will be taking place Sunday September 30 in Lake Tahoe from 9am-7pm. Hosted by El Dorado County All Stars & facilitated by El Dorado County Student Leadership Delegates. Youth must be at least 7th grade to attend. Topics covered will be Leadership development, team building, art in science and setting goals.

Learning to Lead Conference. If interested in attending contact njstarr@ucanr.edu or 530-621-5503.

### Volunteers Needed!

4-H needs volunteers for the following committees.
If you are interested please call (530) 621-5503 or email njstarr@ucanr.edu

- **Presentation Day Committee leader**
- **Camp Committee Leader**
- **Round Up Committee Members**

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Project leaders time for record books in every project!
The University of California Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR) prohibits discrimination against or harassment of any person participating in any of ANR’s programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (which includes pregnancy, childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), genetic information (including family medical history), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994: service in the uniformed services includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services) or any person in any of its programs or activities. University policy also prohibits retaliation against any employee or person participating in any of ANR’s programs or activities for bringing a complaint of discrimination or harassment pursuant to this policy. This policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws. Inquiries regarding the University’s equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to Linda Marie Manton, Affirmative Action Contact, University of California, Davis, Agriculture and Natural Resources, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616, (530) 752-0495.