



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Cooperative Extension



## Quarterly News & Events **September 2021**

San Mateo and San Francisco Counties

[Visit our website!](#)

### September is National Preparedness Month! Are you Ready?

Check out these helpful resources, tools and links for: **Emergency Preparedness, Wildfires, COVID-19 and Vaccination Information** provided on our **Health and Safety Resources** page...

## PROGRAM HAPPENINGS

**Elkus Ranch**



### Summertime Fun at the Ranch!

We enjoyed a wonderful summer at Elkus Ranch, despite the mask wearing and other COVID-19 limitations. It was joy to be able to resume some activity after last year's cancellations and quietude. Seven, week-long sessions of Summer Camp were enjoyed by all, campers and staff alike. We were thrilled to have kids (the human ones, not goats 😊) back at the ranch. All of our animals and staff were thankful for the sounds of laughter and engagement in learning. Each session began with the making of tie dye shirts, crafting bird masks (super cute), lots of exploration in the garden with nature, tending our friendly animals, and making new friendships. **A few more pics...**





## Master Food Preservers



### Preserving Your End of Summer Gardening: Sept 22 | 4pm



It's time to clean up the summer garden with the **Master Food Preservers!** In this overview of food preservation techniques, we will ponder ways to save those few onions, your green tomatoes, the odds and ends of your summer herbs, and the overflowing bushels of squash! No matter what you have, there is a preservation method that can work. Should you dehydrate? Pickle? Freeze?

Come watch and find out!

**Weds. Sept. 22, 2021, 4PM - 5PM**

Registration may be made via the San Mateo Public Library Systems link here:  
<https://smcl.bibliocommons.com/events/613919d9860f473a005dd265>

## Master Gardeners



### The Master Gardener Gardening Education Center Evolves...



The **Gardening Education Center**, (GEC) has come a long way since its ribbon cutting on May 2, 2018. Pictured here are MGs spreading compost and seeding cover crops from plywood walkways protecting the planting area. See a recent **video** of Master Gardener Norine Cepernich touring the GEC garden (and it's evolution), filmed with a GoPro camera the program acquired thanks to a generous grant from the Hillsborough Garden Club. **Read**

**More...**

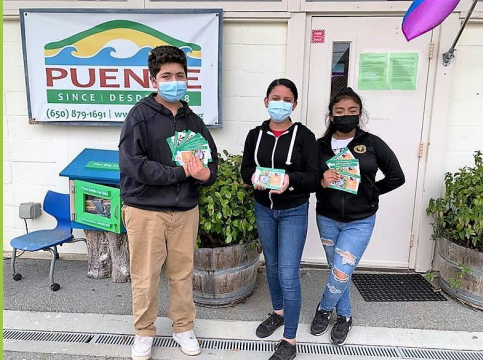
Video Tour Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2x0GnLi0Soo>

## Nutrition



### Pescadero HLA Youth Promote the Local Farmers' Market

On July 1, 2021, three Pescadero Middle School students, working with the **Healthy Living Ambassador (HLA) Program** and



supported by a 4-H staff member, enjoyed distributing 250 Farmers' Market coupons to Pescadero residents through the monthly food distribution at Puente, the region's community resource center. As they distributed the coupons, the bilingual youth explained in either English or Spanish how the \$3 coupons could be used by anyone holding them and were redeemable at their local farmers' market, which were located nearby. Designed to encourage CalFresh recipients to use their

benefits on the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables at local farmers' markets, the coupons could be combined with an additional \$10 available through the Market Match program. The youth left the distribution event excited by their success and eager to promote the consumption of fruits and vegetables and support their community again.

4-H



## San Mateo 4-H County Ambassadors 2021-2022



Our 2021-2022 San Mateo 4-H County Ambassadors were selected in July.

**Congratulations** to our three new ambassadors, Hayley, Alexander, Thomas, and returning ambassador, Isabelle. The County Ambassador Program is sponsored by the San Mateo County 4-H Council and offers leadership development opportunity for our senior 4-H members (ages 14-19). The ambassadors are liaisons between the county 4-H office, 4-H members, 4-H volunteers, and the public.

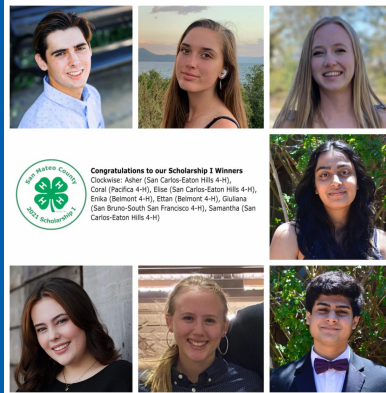
Come meet our ambassadors at our upcoming **Open House Events**, **September 18** at **Twin Pines Park Meadow Picnic Area** from 1:00 – 3:00 PM or **September 19** at **UC Elkus Ranch Environmental Education Center** from 10 AM – NOON.

## San Mateo County 4-H Club Council Announces 2021 Scholarship Recipients

Our San Mateo County 4-H Club Council Scholarship I awarded a total of \$10,900 to our graduating high school seniors. The awards are based on letters of recommendation, 4-H experience, leadership, and an interview. The scholarship funds come from annual contributions from the Peter and Paula Uccelli Foundation (Pete's Harbor), the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County Foundation, and the Bob and Patricia Dean Memorial fund. Congratulations to our applicants and winners!



Read what two of our recipients have to say about their 4-H experiences here



## EVENTS ETC...

### Upcoming Events & Registration

- **School Garden Leaders Workshop 9/11/2021**
- **San Mateo Arboretum Society Plant Clinic 9/12/2021**
- **California Native Gardening 9/16/2021**
- **4-H Open House (in Belmont) 9/18/2021**
- **4-H Open House (in HMB) 9/19/2021**
- **MFP - DIY Food Preservation - Preserving Your End of Summer Gardening 9/22/2021**
- **San Mateo Arboretum Society Plant Clinic 10/3/2021**
- **Getting to Know Your Soil – Part 2 10/13/2021**

### Elkus "Adventure Day" & "Small Group Tours" Available!



Always wanted to visit Elkus Ranch but never had the chance? Check out our special tour offerings, for families, small groups, and learning pods. These programs are tailored to fit your needs and guided by one of our knowledgeable educators! We will continue to offer these very popular Small Group Tours (1 1/2 hrs.) and our extended Adventure Day Program for youth (4 hrs.) throughout the fall and winter. **Learn**

[more ...](#)

### Conference Center for Rent

Need a reason to get out in nature? Book the **Elkus Ranch Conference Center** for your work or family event!\* Located in the beautiful rolling hills and pasture land of rural Half Moon Bay, it's perfect for off-site meetings, retreats, for commercial kitchen use, and more. Call the ranch to book: (650) 712-3151

*\*Current UC ANR COVID-19 guidelines mandate indoor mask wearing at this time.*



# San Mateo / San Francisco Counties

## Main Office: (click for directions)

Located at Elkus Ranch  
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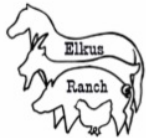
## Master Gardener Helpline:

*The Master Gardener Helpline will continue to operate remotely through the end of the year, per their regular (M, W, Th) schedule. Please submit all inquiries via email: [mgsmsf@ucanr.edu](mailto:mgsmsf@ucanr.edu)*

**Mondays - 9am to 4pm**

**Wednesdays - 10:30am to 2pm**

**Thursdays - 9am to 4pm**



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