



## 4-H E-News Updates

### January 2013

[Statewide 4-H Online Calendar](#)

#### ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR UPDATES

Greetings California 4-H Youth Development Program staff and volunteers:

As we embark on our 4-H Centennial year in 2013, I am pleased to share that the State 4-H Office will be providing tools to assist in your planning of local events and celebrations around the 4-H Revolution of Responsibility.

Please keep an eye out in January for more information on how to access and use the Centennial resources that will be adapted from our existing Revolution of Responsibility toolkit on the [www.ca4h.org](http://www.ca4h.org) website. These resources will include a logo, flyer, invitation, sample news release and a basic "elevator speech" that will help create consistent messaging around the Revolution of Responsibility and 4-H's Centennial year.

As you begin to think about and plan events that will take place in your club, county or section, we ask that you please keep the Centennial foremost in your messaging so we can capitalize on opportunities to promote 4-H to a broader audience. We look forward to a great year ahead in celebration of our California 4-H Centennial and the Revolution of Responsibility.

With best regards,

Shannon

#### Stories From the Field: (Authored by Anne Iaccopucci)

January is here and for many of us that means new resolutions! Starting off 2013 with goals of better nutrition, fitness and stress management we will enter into the New Year with a healthier lifestyle. The year 2013 also marks California 4-H's Centennial year, which means a great celebration is in order! In true 4-H fashion we are choosing to celebrate by giving back to our communities through the Revolution of Responsibility projects. I'd like to take a moment to highlight the efforts of four 4-H elementary students: Bailey, Nick, Collin and Ethan. These 4-H members not only identified a need for improved eating habits in their school, but did something about it! With grant funds from the Revolution of Responsibility, two elementary school classrooms were provided with fresh fruit every day, for an entire semester. The 4-H club members also hosted educational sessions that provided their classmates with information on nutrition and healthy lifestyles. In addition, they held a school-wide smoothie day which provided fruit smoothies for 110 students. The results of their intervention showed a significant increase in students choosing healthier snacks as a result of the project.

Bailey states, "Our project is more than just creating healthier eating habits. To me, it is also a leadership experience and the skills I learned will be with me for the rest of my life."

What will your 2013 Revolution of Responsibility be?

## CA 4-H FOUNDATION UPDATES

**Fundraising News from the Field:** We are in the business of friend-raising, not just fundraising. The key element of donor stewardship is communication with donors. While acknowledging gifts and thanking donors promptly is a critical part of stewardship, an equally important element is communicating how effectively you have used their gifts to accomplish goals that are important to the donor. A creative example of this kind of effective communication was recently exemplified by Jackie Zediker and the 4-H groups in Modoc and Siskiyou counties; in which they recognized and thanked their supporters who contributed to their many Revolution of Responsibility service learning projects and raised visibility for 4-H in the process. Click [here](#) to see the posters Jackie and her 4-Hers are distributing to local businesses who have provided support to specific Revolution of Responsibility Projects in their counties.

**Foundation News:** Stay tuned for a Centennial "Party Pack" coming in January that will help you plan and launch your efforts to showcase 4-H throughout our centennial year of 2013.

### **Fundraising tip of the month: Thanking and Retaining Your Donors: Stewardship**

Stewardship is more than thanking your donors. If done properly, it will keep your relationship with your supporters strong and growing so that you can go back to them for additional gifts in the future. Other important steps to keep your donor connected and reassured that giving their money and time was a wise choice, include:

- **Spending the money as agreed**
- **Managing the funds prudently**
- **Demonstrating significance and impact**
  - Stories to illustrate how their support helped
  - Updates that describe the impact that your project has made (follow this link for a [Sample Donor Update](#))
  - Invitations to your donors to come to an end-of-the-project celebration where you can honor them for their support.



## FUNDING UPDATES

- **Sodexo Foundation Youth Grants**  
**Deadline: January 31**

More than 16 million children live in food insecure homes, not always sure where their next meal will come from. That's why YSA and Sodexo Foundation are calling on young people to "take hunger personally" and join the fight to end childhood hunger. Sodexo Foundation Youth Grants of \$500 grants are available for youth-led service projects that bring together young people, families, Sodexo employees and other community members to address childhood hunger. U.S. young people, ages 5-25, are eligible to apply. Projects will take place on or around Global Youth Service Day, April 26-28, 2013. [www.YSA.org/grants/sodexoyouth](http://www.YSA.org/grants/sodexoyouth)

- **California 4-H \$1,000 for 1,000 Service Learning Projects**

*2013 Revolution of Responsibility* - <http://www.ca4h.org/Support/RofR/>  
2013 Application Deadlines:

January 15, 2013  
March 15, 2013  
May 15, 2013  
July 15, 2013  
September 15, 2013  
November 15, 2013

- Applying for a Revolution of Responsibility grant is not the only way to support your service learning efforts. Click on this [link](#) to see a listing of upcoming grant opportunities that can provide local support for service learning projects.
- The **Friends of the California State Fair** announced that they will continue their scholarship program for the 2013-2014 academic years. California college students and graduating high school students are eligible and must submit an application by **Friday, March 8, 2013**. The scholarship applications are available now at [www.bigfun.org](http://www.bigfun.org). For more information contact Jake Rowe at [jrowe@calexpo.com](mailto:jrowe@calexpo.com).
- **Mark your Calendars: 2013 Paper Clover Dates**  
**Spring Paper Clover: May 8-19, 2013**  
**Fall Paper Clover: October 9-20, 2013 (starts during National 4-H Week)**

**New for Upcoming Paper Clover Fundraisers:**

4-H is expected to host an in-store event at any time during both spring and fall Paper Clover events. 4-H programs that host an in-store event will receive additional funds from Paper Clover. There will be a new incentive program to drive more of the Paper Clover funds to your county 4-H program. In-store 4-H participation will be required to participate in this incentive program, and more information will be shared in early 2013. With the new and exciting upgrades to the Paper Clover campaign, please be sure you participate in Paper Clover webinars and access new toolkit resources and promotional materials to ensure you continue to benefit from this important fundraiser. More information and the webinar dates will be available in January.

*Please note: University policy requires an Advisor or County Director to submit all grant applications and fulfill the requirements of UC ANR Contracts & Grants. If you plan to apply for any of the following opportunities, please notify the California 4-H Foundation ([aleeland@ucanr.edu](mailto:aleeland@ucanr.edu)) who will review your application prior to submission to ensure that it is as strong as possible.*

## DATES & DEADLINES

- **4-H Shooting Sports Workshop**  
A 4-H shooting sports workshop for the rifle discipline will be held at UC Cooperative Extension Office, 1031 S. Mt. Vernon Avenue in Bakersfield. The workshop will be **January 12, 2013** 8am-6pm and **January 13, 2013** 8am – 4pm. Participants must attend both days of training to receive certification. Upon successful completion of the course, the participant will be certified as a rifle trainer and can lead a rifle project at the club level or serve as county trainer to certify other leaders. There is no cost for the course. To register for the course or receive more information, contact John Borba at: [jaborba@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jaborba@ucdavis.edu) (This course is not open to 4-H leaders from Santa Cruz County).
- **4-H Shooting Sports Workshop**  
A **4-H Archery Certification Training for volunteers and junior/teen leaders** will be offered Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 9 am – 5 pm, and Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 8 AM- 12 noon, at the Livermore-Pleasanton Rod & Gun Club, 4000 Dagnino Road, Livermore, CA 94551 in Alameda County. You must be an enrolled 4-H leader or member and attend both days to receive certification to teach archery at the project, club and camp levels. The course will include a PowerPoint lecture, review of equipment, practice shooting and teaching and a written test. The cost is \$50 per person to include a resource binder, range fees and Saturday lunch. Overnight RV parking, water & power only, is available for an additional fee.

To register, please complete and mail the “CA 4-H Shooting Sports Training Request and Registration Form” available at <http://www.ca4h.org/files/2123.pdf>, and an adult or youth 4-H medical release form and a \$50 check payable to “De Arroyo 4-H Club” to Jennifer Siders, 4967 Erica Way, Livermore, CA

94550. Registration is due Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and space is limited. For more information call Jenny at 925-321-6009 or email her at [jsiders@gmail.com](mailto:jsiders@gmail.com).

- **Join the California 4-H State Horse Classic Planning Team!**

The event will take place June 26-30, 2013 at Brookside Equestrian Center. The planning team is responsible for planning, conducting and overseeing the entire event. Multiple conference calls, a face to face meeting in April (travel reimbursed) and a work dinner on June 25th are planned. The team will be broken into 3 sub-teams: Education, Western and English. All efforts will be made to assign volunteers to the planning area of their choice, but in some cases, this will not be possible. Each sub-team will consist of 3-4 volunteers and the entire team will consist of 10-14 members. Resumes may be uploaded if you choose to do so. The link to the survey to apply to be on the planning team is:

<http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=9605>. All surveys are due by **January 15<sup>th</sup>**.

The planning team will be determined by 4-H staff and will be announced by **February 1, 2013**. **Any questions please contact Sarah Watkins, [spwatkins@ucanr.edu](mailto:spwatkins@ucanr.edu).**

- **Feeding a Hungry Planet  
Global 4-H Youth Ag Summit**

**August 19-25, 2013, Calgary, Alberta, Canada**

This is an opportunity for 10 U.S. applicants (ages 18-25) to be selected to participate in an expense-paid international conference. Applicants selected will be based on essays or videos submitted online to a Canadian-hosted website. The application deadline is **Feb. 15, 2013**. After the application closing date, Canada 4-H will electronically forward all the U.S. applications to National 4-H Council for review and selection. There will also be a need to select two adult mentors to accompany the 10 U.S. winners and participate in the Summit. The submission form found at [www.youthagsummit.com](http://www.youthagsummit.com) must be filled out in order to upload an essay/video application. For questions contact: Ms. Nadica Koskarovska, 301-961-2866 or [nkoskarovska@fourhcouncil.edu](mailto:nkoskarovska@fourhcouncil.edu)

- The University of California, Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences will hold its **37<sup>th</sup> Annual Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Field Day on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

The UC Davis CA&ES Field Day is the 2013 California 4-H State Qualifier for Poultry, Dairy and Livestock judging. Visit <http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/SET/Animal/SLJC/> for state qualifying guidelines.

To register, go to: <http://calaged.csuchico.edu/registration/>

Select the event (2013 U.C. Davis Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Field Day). Choose the link "Get Access Code". Complete the information on the form and click the register button. **Please include 4-H next to your club name on the registration form.** On the following page save the registration code and register later or simply continue with the registration at this point. Note that you may only register once so be prepared to complete the registration or contact us if you have any changes. After your club is registered, we request that you submit a printed copy of your online registration along with your payment. Checks should be made payable to "UC Regents" and mailed to:

Attn: Courtney Rhodes  
College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, CA 95616

**Deadlines:**

February 8: Agriscience Fair and Job Interview materials due

February 8: Online Registration closed

February 15: Payments must be postmarked – We are now enforcing a **\$25 late fee** for payments postmarked after the 15<sup>th</sup>.

For questions email [fieldday@ucdavis.edu](mailto:fieldday@ucdavis.edu) or visit <http://caes.ucdavis.edu/fieldday>

- Calling all camp professionals! The **Tri-State Camp Conference**, held in Atlantic City, NJ from March 12-15, 2013, gives like-minded individuals the chance to come together and share experiences, ideas and

tips about the camp industry. With over 3000 professionals, more than 180 educational sessions and our 300+ booth exhibit hall, the Tri-State Camp Conference is something you don't want to miss out on.

- **Western Region Leader Forum – March 21 – 24, 2013 in Hawaii**  
Hawaii 4-H members, volunteers, faculty and staff are looking forward to seeing you in Hawaii March 21 – 24, 2013 for the Western Region Leader Forum. The conference site is the Waikiki Beach Marriott and Resort (800-848-8100). Refer to code, WR4A, to the person taking your reservation. Registration for the forum may be completed by going to: <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/wrlf/>  
Deadline for Regular Registration is December 31, 2012 - \$375  
Deadline for Hotel room Rate of \$179 is February 21, 2013 - \$425
- **American Youth Leadership Program with Samoa**  
Applications due April 1, 2013  
The [American Youth Leadership Program \(AYLP\) with Samoa](#) will offer 18 youth and 2 adults the opportunity to explore the vast historical and cultural traditions of Samoa. The program will include a pre-trip orientation on the campus of the University of Wyoming (July, 2013), three week cultural trip to Samoa (December 13, 2013 – January 4, 2014) and a follow-on project that will be carried out in each participant's local community following the exchange trip. The educational theme for AYLP with Samoa will focus on nutrition and food security issues that are common to the western U.S. and Samoa. For more information visit: <http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/youth/travel/samoa/index.html> or applications visit: <http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/youth/travel/samoa/samoa-applications.html>. Please note: There is no program fee and out of pocket expenses will be minimal.
- **Save the Date: State 4-H Field Day 2013 – May 25 at UC Davis**  
<http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/>
- **State 4-H Field Day Educational Exhibits**  
<http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=9588>  
Applications due **April 1, 2013**  
Educational exhibits and 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 crafts, informative booths, etc.
- **Fashion Revue:**  
State Fashion Revue committee has received questions about the 2 Yard Wonder category. To clarify, a garment and coordinating accessory are created out of a two yard length of 45" wide woven cotton fabric. For the garment and accessory, only this piece of fabric may be used (for example, no additional fabric for lining). Take a photo holding the two yards of fabric. Members may use any pattern and the outfit may include other sewn or purchased garments and accessories. SFR is coordinating 3 service activities. The Drawstring Bag service project will provide tote bags for children going into foster care. If you would like to contribute tote bags, please go to the SFR website for instructions, <http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/SFR/>. You may bring completed tote bags to State Fashion Revue or contact Megan at [meganladytink@gmail.com](mailto:meganladytink@gmail.com) or Courtney at [cjam11219@gmail.com](mailto:cjam11219@gmail.com) for mailing information.
- **4-H MyPlate Challenge at 2013 State Field Day**  
In 2011 the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) unveiled the federal government's new food icon, MyPlate, to serve as a reminder to help consumers make healthier food choices. 4-H is challenging YOU to show how you're making YOUR plate MyPlate. We invite you to submit a photograph illustrating how you're creating healthy meals using MyPlate as a guide. 4-H members do not need to pre-qualify at a county event. More details about this contest can be found at: [http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/4-H\\_MyPlate\\_Challenge/](http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/4-H_MyPlate_Challenge/)

- **Special Recognition at 2013 State Presentation Day**  
A special recognition pin will be awarded for youth who participate in State Presentation Day and focus their presentations on healthy living. This year's focus area is physical activity. Potential topics may include muscle strengthening, heart rate importance, workout wear, Zumba, activity log, exercise trends, fitness apps, stretching, benefits of exercise, fun ways to work out, 'exergaming', recreational sports, types of activity, making time for fitness, safe places in your community to be active, and more. For details visit: [http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/PD/Recognition\\_Opportunities/](http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/PD/Recognition_Opportunities/)
- **2013 National 4-H Conference April 6-11, 2013**  
The Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation support the California National 4-H Conference delegation through the California 4-H Foundation. This includes travel to and from the pre-conference orientations; travels to and from the National 4-H Conference and National 4-H Conference registration fees. <http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Conferences/N4-HC/>. The 2013 National 4-H Conference Delegates are:
  - Dominique Germann – Stanislaus County
  - Ben Hampton – Sonoma County
  - Kenny McDevitt – Santa Clara County
  - Amber Meek – San Bernardino County
  - Nicole Milligan – Stanislaus County
- **California Focus June 14-18, 2013**  
California Focus is a unique citizenship educational experience that combines hands-on participation in workshops, debates and simulations with speakers, tours, fun activities and new friends from across California. <http://ucanr.org/sites/UC4-H/Projects/Citizenship/Focus/CF/>. **Online Registration will be available February 1, 2013**
- **Citizenship Washington Focus Registration is currently being taken June 23-July 2, 2013**  
Washington Focus, an educational conference offered at the National 4-H Center near Washington, D.C, gives youth the opportunity to explore, develop and refine the civic engagement skills they need in order to become outstanding leaders. Additional travel days include visits to Gettysburg, Philadelphia and New York City. <http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/Citizenship/Focus/WF/>
- **4-H State Leadership Conference 2013 – July 25-28, 2013 at UC Davis**  
**Celebrating 100 years of California 4-H.** This year's theme: *There's no place like 4-H*  
The 4-H State Leadership Conference brings together high school youth from across California in a four-day leadership training, networking, and learning experience. <http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Conferences/SLC/>
- **SAVE the Date! November 8-10, 2013**  
100 Years and Thriving – Come celebrate California's Centennial of 4-H with your 4-H colleagues at the **State 4-H Leader's Forum (SLF)** at the Crowne Plaza in Sacramento. More information will be on the CA State 4-H website by the end of January. In the meantime, we are recruiting workshop presenters for this momentous event. Traditions or transitions, changes or choices, what kinds of information, issues, inspirations will you share with the delegates? Please contact Mary Engebret - [maryengebret@comcast.net](mailto:maryengebret@comcast.net) with suggestions of topics and/or experts.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- The state office would like to introduce iDevelop, CA 4-H's Virtual Training Center. iDevelop was created to provide training around positive youth development to assist in sustaining healthy environments for 4-H members in order to help them reach their full potential. Training modules include:

- Foundations of Positive Youth Development
- Helping Youth Discover Their Spark
- Understanding the G.P.S. Goal Management System
- "Growth Mindset"
- Self-Reflection and the Indicators of Thriving

To access these virtual trainings go to the state website [www.ca4h.org](http://www.ca4h.org) and type "iDevelop" in the search box or use the following link: [http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Volunteers/4-H\\_Thrive\\_Resources/4-H\\_Thrive\\_Virtual\\_Trainings/](http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Volunteers/4-H_Thrive_Resources/4-H_Thrive_Virtual_Trainings/)

- The 4-H Online Record Book (ORB) has approximately 4500 users statewide. **Did you know that the 4-H Online Record Book is not just for youth members?** Adult volunteers and county staff can access their own Online Record Book account using their 4-H Online user name and password. Adult volunteers can track their volunteer hours, communicate with youth in their clubs and projects and review and approve reports from their youth. To get started using ORB today, click on the following link: <https://ucanr.edu/4hbook/login.cfm>
- The State 4-H Office is offering a 3-hour 4-H Online Record Book training for counties desiring it. This training (ORB Internet Café) will walk participants through how to use all aspects of the 4-H Online Record Book in a fun and engaging way. Please contact your county office if you desire to bring this training to your area.
- For general information and help about the Online Record Book, please check out the following resources:
  - ORB Webinar Archives— <http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Members/RecordBook/ORB/>
  - ORB Login Help— <http://www.ca4h.org/files/121045.pdf>
  - ORB Support (if you aren't sure how to do something in ORB)—Please contact your county office
  - ORB Bug Report (if a feature within ORB is not functioning correctly)—  
<http://www.ca4h.org/recordbookbugs/>

## **HEALTHY LIVING**

- **"Race to Nowhere"** DVD available.  
Featuring the heart-breaking stories of students across the country, it reveals an education system in which cheating has become commonplace; students have become disengaged; stress-related illness, depression and burnout are rampant; and young people arrive at college/the workplace unprepared and uninspired. With the launch of its House Party Campaign, the film is driving an urgent discussion about education in America. Join us as we participate in a nationwide effort to bring community members together in private homes to watch "Race to Nowhere" and take action!
- **Coping with Violence and National Tragedy**  
With the world sending their thoughts to Newtown, Connecticut in the aftermath of the most recent school shooting, the CYFERnet team is mindful that many professionals and volunteers working with children, youth and families at risk want to lend a hand to those impacted by this tragedy. With the goal of putting information at the fingertips of those planning a response, resources are available to help parents and caregivers talk with and help children process and cope with this recent tragedy.  
See: <http://www1.cyfernet.org/hotnew/12-12-tragedy.html>

## **SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, and TECHNOLOGY (SET)**

- **Save the Date for SET-related events:**
  - California STEM Conference, Sacramento, November 18-19, 2013, hosted by the California Department of Education.

- U.S. Dept. of Energy Solar Decathlon, October 3-13, 2013, Orange County Great Park, Irvine, CA, <http://www.solardecathlon.gov/>
- CSTA Science Education Conference, October 25-27, 2013, Palm Springs, CA, <http://www.cascience.org/csta/conferences.asp>
- **2013 4-H Presentation Themes**  
[http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/PD/Recognition\\_Opportunities/](http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/PD/Recognition_Opportunities/)  
 California 4-H will offer a thematic recognition pin for youth who participate in State Presentation Day and focus their presentations on one of the following areas: Engineering to Solve the World's Problems, Physical Activity, The Path to Thriving and C is for Contribute. Specific to Science, Engineering and Technology (SET): Engineering is the application of science to solve human issues by constructing technologies, structures, machines, devices, and systems. Scientists may ask why and develop an experiment to answer the question while engineers identify a need and then create a solution to meet the need. How can you use the engineering design process and the practices of engineering to solve California, the nation, and the world's social, economic and environmental problems? How do you use engineering practices in your 4-H projects – animals, foods, health, plants, leadership, and others?
- **2013 4-H Film Making Statewide Project, supported by BestBuy**  
 Register at <http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/SET/Tech/CTLT/Film/>  
 For 4-H members (age 13-19), volunteers and staff learn how to produce films. The goal of the 4-H Film Making Project is to enhance technological literacy of 4-H members by helping them learn the basics of film production including storyboarding, filming, and editing. Our goal is to have 4-H members produce films that feature how 4-H is impacting their community (for example, 4-H Revolution of Responsibility projects) and recording 4-H alumni and creating films featuring the "Voices of 4-H History" for the CA 4-H Centennial. The project is coordinated by the 4-H Technology Leadership Team:
  - Hosting four-hour video production workshops around California using the National 4-H Film Making Curriculum (workshops limited to 30 people)
  - Lending video equipment kits to counties
  - Showcasing completed videos at the State 4-H Film Festival and on various websites
- **4-H Honey Bee Essay Contest**  
*For 4-H members, due February 15, 2013*  
 2013 Topic: "Reducing the Usage of Bee-Killing Pesticides in My Community."  
<http://www.ca4h.org/files/156350.pdf>  
 The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. sponsors this essay contest for 4-H members. 1<sup>st</sup> place national winner receives \$750, 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$500 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$250. Each state will select a winner and then a national winner will be selected from the pool of state winners.
- **InvenTeams - Introducing Students to the World of Invention**  
 Due April 5, 2013  
<http://web.mit.edu/inventeams/>  
 The InvenTeam initiative, created by the Lemelson-MIT Program, offers an unparalleled opportunity for high school age youth to cultivate their creativity and experience invention. InvenTeams are teams of high school youth/students, teachers, and mentors that receive grants up to \$10,000 each to invent technological solutions to real-world problems. Each InvenTeam chooses its own problem to solve.
- **Check Out Design Squad's NEW GAME: Fidgit Factory!**  
[http://pbskids.org/designsquad/games/fidgit\\_factory/](http://pbskids.org/designsquad/games/fidgit_factory/)  
 Design Squad's "Fidgit Factory" provides a playful introduction to electrical circuits. First, players build their "Fidgit Factory" by making a circuit to power a variety of machines. Each level requires the player to add on to their circuit with more machines, more batteries, and then use them to make more Fidgits.
- **Save the Date: 2014 USA Science & Engineering Festival, April 26 & 27, 2014**  
<http://www.usasciencefestival.org/>  
 We are thrilled to announce that planning for the 3rd USA Science & Engineering Festival is well underway! The 3rd Festival will kick into high gear in 2013, with expanded school programs and year-



round activities, culminating with the largest celebration of science and engineering in the U.S. on April 26-27, 2014.

- **Next Generation Science Standards Final Public Draft to be Released in January**  
<http://www.nextgenscience.org/>  
Achieve, the organization facilitating the drafting of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), announced that the final public draft of the Science Standards will be released for comment during the first week in January. All interested parties are invited to review the draft and provide feedback. The Standards will be finalized in March 2013.
- **From The Cornell Lab of Ornithology: ORNAMENTATION IN BIRDS**  
<http://orb.birds.cornell.edu/orb/content/investigations/ornamentation-birds>  
In this investigation, students explore the occurrence of elaborate traits in birds and seek explanations for the variation in sexual dimorphism among bird species. Using the online database Birds of North America, students develop and test a set of hypotheses, combine their data, present their findings, and discuss future investigations related to this topic.
- **The SciGirls Seven Proven Strategies for Engaging Girls in STEM**  
Read the list at [http://www.pbs.org/teachers/includes/content/scigirls/print/SciGirls\\_Seven.pdf](http://www.pbs.org/teachers/includes/content/scigirls/print/SciGirls_Seven.pdf)

## RESEARCH UPDATES

- **California Agriculture:** 4-H boosts youth scientific literacy with ANR water education curriculum by Martin Smith, Katherine Heck, and Steven Worker.  
<http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/repositoryfiles/ca6604p158-97208.pdf>  
Scientific literacy among K-12 youth in the United States needs to be improved, and UC Agriculture and Natural Resources has identified this as a key area for research and extension. In 2010, ANR developed a water education curriculum for implementation by 4-H, which has a record of successful, non-formal science education programming that complements classroom-based instruction. The development of the new curriculum, *There's No New Water!*, is described and preliminary results from a pilot test with high school youth are provided. Preliminary outcomes showed gains in both science knowledge and life skills.
- **Journal of Extension:** 4-H Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) by Lynette Black and Pamela Powell.  
<http://www.joe.org/joe/2012october/iw4.php>  
The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is designed to train Americans to safely help themselves and their community in the event of a widespread disaster. This program is designed for adults. Despite youth increasingly becoming recognized as valuable resources, able to equally partner with adults in leadership and decision-making roles (Zeldin, Petrokubi, & MacNeil, 2007), they remain a largely untapped resource in disaster preparedness where they could play an important role before, during and after a disaster. 4-H Teen CERT is a program that empowers youth to prepare for, stay safe during and respond after a major disaster.

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**Youth, Families, & Communities Program**  
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(530) 754-8518  
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University of California  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
4-H Youth Development Program

