



TIMELY TOPICS



MARCH 2010

The newsletter of the University of California
Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program,
Santa Clara County

Mission: The University of California 4-H Youth Development Program engages youth in reaching their fullest potential while advancing the field of youth development.

NEWS/EVENTS



Rolling Hills 4-H Robotics

Wesley Low, Rolling Hills 4-H Club

4-H Robotics at the Silicon Valley Regional Tournament!

Jack Marquez, Rolling Hills 4-H Club

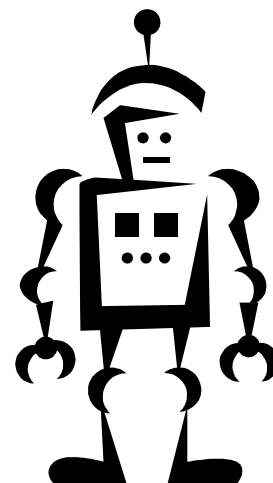
Your very own Rolling Hills 4-H robotics team, the Green MacHHHHine, has been working overtime to prepare for its First Robotics Competition debut at the Silicon Valley Regional tournament. Come out to San Jose State University Event Center on Saturday, March 20 to cheer on the Green MacHHHHine, as teams of three one-hundred-pound robots battle it out in a fun new twist on soccer called Breakaway! Witness a sporting event like no other played at a huge venue with a lively, fun-filled atmosphere. My teammates and I, guided by our invaluable mentors, are serious contenders for the Rookie Award that could grant us a trip to the National Competition in Atlanta, and we'd greatly appreciate any and all 4-H'ers, especially those who attended the Lego class we mentored, to come out to the tournament. And don't forget to wear green!

For more information, please visit our website at www.greenmachhhhhine.com or contact our head mentor, Dave Izant, at 650-948-1760

As a robotics team, team 3129, the Green Machhhhhine, we compete in FRC (First Robotic Competition.) FRC is a competition for high school aged students that involve building a robot to perform a certain task depending on the challenge. Each year, the challenge is issued in January and we have six weeks to design, build, test, and ship our robot.

During this 2010 season, we are currently a rookie team, however, during the course of the summer we built a robot for the 2009 challenge in order to give us experience prior to our 2010 season. With the robot we built, we competed in Cal Games on October 10th. At Cal Games we did very well by placing 9th out of 36 teams and won the Highest Seeded Rookie Award.

We are now working on our robot for the 2010 challenge. We hope to do well at our next competition; the Silicon Valley Regional and also make it to Nationals. All of this could have not been done if we did not have the 11 members of the team from 5 various high schools and all of the helpful mentors. Please visit us at <http://greenmachhhhhine.com/>.





DIME A DIP!

By Ronan Havlice, Homesteaders 4-H

Homesteaders 4-H will be hosting a Dime a Dip dinner March 11th @ 6:45 PM in the Pomeroy School Cafeteria located at 1250 Pomeroy Avenue, Santa Clara. All proceeds will be donated to charity. Bring a dish to share! And lots of dimes! Then join us at 7:15 for our Community Meeting. Hope to see you all there.

4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification for Archery

A shooting sports training workshop for the archery discipline will be held in Red Bluff, CA on Saturday, **April 10 9 AM – 5 PM** Sunday, **April 11 9 AM – 1 PM** Upon successful completion of the course, participants will be certified as archery volunteers and can instruct archery club projects and camp programs. Attendance at both days is required. In addition, on Saturday evening, there will be an optional no host dinner and discussion about equipment.

The course will be held at Wetter Hall, 1740 Walnut Street, Red Bluff and at the Ishi Archery Club Range, Hwy 36 East, Red Bluff. Cost for the course will be \$35 and includes morning refreshments, Saturday lunch and class materials. Dry camping is available at the range.

For more information, contact Leland George, State 4-H Archery Instructor, at 530-527-4200 or e-mail: ljgeorge@clearwire.net. Please send "Training Request & Registration Form" and fees to Leland George, 21075 Hwy 36 West, Red Bluff, CA 96080. Make checks payable to "Tehama County 4-H Coun-

cil". Pre-registration is due April 2nd. For the "Training Request & Registration Form" go to <http://ca4h.org/projresource/shootingsports/index.asp> or contact your county 4-H office.

4-H Summer Camp

Lana Kufler

Every year in 4-H, there is always one event that I look forward to more than any other: 4-H Camp. 4-H Camp is a week that 4-H members gather together, camp out, share experiences, learn teamwork, build bonds, and find family in each other. The bonds and experiences you create during this one week will stay with the members as a highlight of their 4-H experience. It's the event where we sleep in tents, make smores, play games, eat together, and enjoy each other's company.

This year, 4-H Camp is scheduled to be **July 11-15, 2010 at Camp Loma**. The past few years, we have held 4-H Camp at Hidden Falls, but due to its' closure due to road repairs we've decided to go back to Camp Loma this summer.

We will also have a **Clover Day on July 14th**, where Clovers are welcome to join the other members for a day at 4-H Camp. After the Clovers leave, we will have our 4-H Camp Dance, so be sure to bring your dancing shoes! :) For those that are concerned about your child's nutritional diet, we have good news! Susan Weaver will be our chef this year, yet again, and she is very flexible when it concerns what your child likes, doesn't like, is allergic to, etc. If you would like to contact Susan Weaver for any concerns or questions feel welcome to reach her at susanssixpack@aol.com.

Those that already signed up for staff positions for 4-H Camp have been e-mailed, and our staff meetings will be every fourth Monday. If you were not e-mailed and you submitted an application to be a staff member, please contact the Youth Directors: Rachel Coe, Lana Kuffler and Matt Mc Clintock.

We are looking for Adult Chaperones, so if you are a certified 4-H volunteer and would like to join the 4-H fun, please contact the Adult Director Bob Clemmons

at bobclemmons@yahoo.com or Matt McClintock.

courage species that are native to the area, and locally adapted. Cooperative Extension experts in each county can help.

The 4-H Million Trees Project

4-H Million Trees Project Memorandum

What about the cost?

Each club or unit is responsible for the cost of the tree planting. Creative ways to fund tree planting events are encouraged, such as fundraisers, grant proposals, and more. 4HMT has arranged a partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation whereby 4-Hers can obtain 12 bareroot trees with a special \$12 annual membership. To take advantage of this opportunity, click www.arborday.org/4h.

Please contact us with question. Thanks for supporting the 4-H Million Trees Project where we believe that *Every day is a good day to plant a tree.*

TO: All 4-H State, County, and Local Leaders & Managers
FROM: Tom Webber, Project Leader, 4HMT
Laura Webber, Teen Leader, 4HMT
DATE: February 15, 2010
RE: Invitation to join the 4-H Million Trees Project

What is the 4-H Million Trees Project?

The 4-H Million Trees Project (4HMT) is an international youth-founded and led service-learning project to inspire 4-H youth to plant 1 million trees to slow global climate change. Since the first tree was planted in March, 2008, over 26,000 4-H youth in 43 states and provinces have planted over 84,000 trees.

Who can participate in 4HMT?

All 4-Hers are invited to join with thousands of their peers and become project participants. All 4-H Clubs, Units, and Afterschool programs are invited to join. Please check the project website at www.4hmilliontrees.org to learn about the project, view the videos, and fill out the secure online registration form.

Tell me about the trees?

All 4-H units and clubs have the discretion to choose tree species, the number of trees in their planting project, and planting location. Youth are encouraged to conduct research about these issues so they can plan their tree planting events. We always en-



Leadership Overnight

By Emma Jones, El Sereno

The weekend of February 5, 2010 I went to my second Leadership Overnight (LON) workshop and was on staff. The theme this year was Natural Disasters. In a nutshell, LON is an informational conference that teaches us about the roles we can play in 4-H and to help us develop leadership skills within 4-H and the 4-H community.

We attended sessions lead by the youth staff and some of the topics were communication skills, record books, what we would like to see in 4-H, improvisational games, and everyone's favorite, a relaxation session led by Kenneth Westphal.

We also enjoyed some fun activities in between the sessions that tied in with leadership and the natural disasters theme. Each cabin also prepared a skit on Saturday evening. We were given a list of words and phrases like Twilight, Miley Cirus and The Wizard of Oz, that we had to include in our skit. Skit night was probably my favorite event at LON.

After the skits there was a dance. I was on dance staff and we decorated with caution tape and band aids in keeping with the theme. On Sunday we had a guest speaker who and gave instruction on CPR.

Attending LON and being on staff was a great experience. I hope to be on staff next year too.



Operation Military Kids!



By Anthony Johnson, Pleasant Acres 4-H Club

On Friday, February 12th, Santa Clara County 4-H hosted activities at the 469th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Deployment Ceremony. 4-H'ers helped children at the event write Valentine Cards and sew Valentine Heart Pouches, which they filled with candy and gave as gifts to their parents. Thank You to Theresa Johnson, Hans Toensfeldt, Carol McWhirter, Richard McWhirter, Shauna Phillips, Kiely Rose Phillips, Alicia Piva, Paula Piva, Santiago Piva, Megan Chatsinchai, and Nathan Chatsinchai. Your support is greatly appreciated!



Presentation Day is Golden!

By Anthony Johnson, Pleasant Acres 4-H club

At the Berger Drive Auditorium on February 13th. 4-H'ers from all over the Santa Clara County gathered at Presentation Day. 4-H'ers from Clovers to Seniors did an excellent job giving their presentations. Every participant that won Gold will be able to participate in Sectional Presentation Day on April 10 at the UC Davis Campus.

County Presentation Day featured two “Share the Fun’s” this year. The first presentation was a marionette puppet show titled *Alice in Wonderland*, and the second was a miming routine titled *The True Story of the Big Bad Wolf* in which the two presenters, Sukoon Saxena and Ginger Luebecke, performed the skit without making direct eye contact with each other. Both performances were outstanding and both took home Gold medals.

I would also like to give a special thank you to all the judges, room hosts and volunteers who helped to make Presentation Day such a great event. I hope that next year's Presentation Day will be an even greater success. To all the presenters, you all did a great job and I encourage you to participate in next year's event!



Presenters from 4-H Pleasant Acres Club



PRESENTATION DAY AWARDS

Kerri Alaimo	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Andrew Clark	Share the Fun	Gold
Wendy Clark	Share the Fun	Gold
Stas Banach	Illustrated Talk	Gold
Grace Cousins	Demonstration	Gold
Madina Ferguson	Demonstration	Gold
Sebrienne Ferguson	Demonstration	Gold
Thomas Flesner	Science-Illustrated Talk	Blue
Tyler Flesner	Impromptu Speech	Blue
James Freeman	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Dustin Geringer	Interpretive Reading	Clover
Kyle Geringer	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Becca Gilbert	Share the Fun	Gold
Joshua Grztmala	Interpretive Reading	Clover
Ayano Grzymala	Share the Fun	Gold
Eileen Hails	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Leah Hails	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Bryan Hall	Illustrated Talk	Gold
Anthony Johnson	Prepared Speech	Gold
Atray Khoche	Illustrated Talk	Gold
Athrv Khoche	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Chaitanya Khoche	Illustrated Talk	Gold
Nick Kuster-Tabaras	Share the Fun	Gold
Sydney Kuster-Tabaras	Share the Fun	Gold
Stephen Leitzell	Share the Fun	Gold
Ginger Luebecke	Share the Fun	Gold
Juliana Lydon	Share the Fun	Gold
Kelly Marzolf	Demonstration	Clover
Idean Nakhyavani	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Kiely Rose Phillips	Demonstration	Gold
Cepidah Ramezany	Educational Display	Gold
Sukoon Saxena	Share the Fun	Gold
Andrew Sparacino	Share the Fun	Gold
Benjamin Stanton	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Danielle Stanton	Interpretive Reading	Clover
Gabrielle Stanton	Interpretive Reading	Gold
Joel Stanton	Audio Visual Presentation	Gold
Samuel Stanton	Impromptu Speech	Blue
Sarah Stanton	Demonstration	Gold
Jesse Teixeira	Interpretive Reading	Blue
Jesse Teixeira	Illustrated Talk	Blue
Sophia Teixeira	Demonstration	Blue
Rylie Weaver	Interpretive Reading	Blue
Savannah Weaver	Audio Visual Presentation	Gold

Updates from the CA 4-H Office

- **April is the Month of the Military Child** Would your club like to show support for your local military youth? April is the Month of the Military Child and Operation: Military Kids would like to challenge 4-H clubs to draw, color, decorate poster boards or create computer generated posters that have a message that "speaks out for military kids" in the local community. The theme of the posters can vary greatly and may include information about the number of military children from your local community, the personal sacrifices that they make and opportunities available to assist or support them. The posters could then be displayed throughout your community, at libraries, schools, businesses, etc. during April, Month of the Military Child. OMK has funding available to help your club purchase supplies for this poster project. For more information contact Sylena Wise at 530-752-8585 or email smwise@ucdavis.edu.
- Sign-ups are still being taken for the **2010 California Focus Program**. Come participate in hands-on programs that bring history, government and policy issues to life and help you get involved in your own community. The conference runs from **June 25-29, 2010**. <http://www.ca4h.org/citizenship/focus/>
- State 4-H Leadership Conference Director is looking for a small group of 20 members, ages 15 and older at time of conference to help with SLC. The **2010 State Leadership Conference** is planned for **July 29-August 1, 2010**. Please contact Quang "Hogan" Tong 530-752-5644 or qtong@ucdavis.edu for an application.
- **4-H Train-the-Trainer Babysitting Courses** The 4-H Military Partnership Program is offering professional development training opportunities to all 4-H Staff, 4-H Volunteers, and Military and Community Partner Agency personnel on the 4-H Military Babysitting Curriculum at the following locations: . **Kern County** National Guard facility, **March 27th**, 9:30-4:30 . **Monterey County** Stillwell Community Center, **April 17th**, 9:30-4:30 . **UC Davis State 4-H Office**, **June 5th**, 9:30-4:30 The Babysitting Curriculum is designed to help middle school and teenage youth to learn what it takes to be responsible, caring, trustworthy, competent, capable and safe babysitters. This course can be beneficial in training youth in your 4-H clubs and military afterschool sites. Participants will receive a Babysitter's Tool Bag, an Instructor's Guide and Student Handbook. Bring a doll! For more information, contact Jeanne Christenson, jpchristenson@ucdavis.edu or 530-219-6608.
- The **State Leadership Conference 2010 "Operation 4-H"** is now online at <http://www.ca4h.org/conference/slc/>. Financial assistance will be allotted on an "as needed and available" basis and is not transferable. Applications are due **May 15th**. Delegates may request up to \$330 of financial aid. Please direct questions to Quang "Hogan" Tong at 530-752-5644 or email at qtong@ucdavis.edu.
- Are you a 4-H member or volunteer with experience and interest in technology? Apply to the **2010-2011 California 4-H Technology Leadership Team (CTLT)**! The CTLT increases the use and awareness of technology in the 4-H program through workshops, providing IT support, assistance to 4-H Clubs, and at statewide events. Candidates must be at least 16 years of age or older. Membership is a fourteen-month commitment, July 2010 through August 2011. The deadline to apply is **April 30, 2010**. More information is available at <http://www.ca4h.org/compcorps/>

Updates from the CA 4-H Office (cont'd)

- Again, this year, the State 4-H **Equine Education Advisory Committee** will be conducting an **Art Design Contest** for the State 4-H Horse Classic logo. The winning design will be used on the programs and souvenirs at the State Championship 4-H Horse Show in June. Entries are due **March 31st**. More information is available at <http://ca4h.org/projresource/horse/Artwork%20contest.pdf>.
- The **2011 State Ambassador Application** has been posted on the CA State 4-H website. All interested members who qualify should fill out an application form, <http://www.ca4h.org/leadership/ambassador/>. Applications are due by **March 31, 2010**. The State 4-H Office is also looking for qualified volunteers who are interested in being advisors for the 2011 State Ambassador Team. 4-H State Ambassadors are expected to make a 14-month commitment to the program beginning on July 1, 2010 and ending August 31, 2011. 4-H State Ambassadors may only serve one term. Please contact Quang "Hogan" Tong, qtong@ucdavis.edu for more information.
- The **2010 State 4-H Field Day** is planned for May 29, 2010. The event will include a variety of interests including presentation day, state fashion revue, a plant science contest and interview contest amongst many others. If you are interested in exhibiting at this annual event, click here <http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fieldday/SFD-App-Form2010.pdf> for an application. Applications are due by **April 2, 2010**.
- The EPA has announced the **4th Annual Rachel Carson Contest** and is seeking entries for creative projects in the areas of poetry, photography, essays and dance. Entries need to be from a team of two or more. Entry deadline is **June 16, 2010**. For more information, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/thesenseofwonder/index.htm>.
- **State Fashion Revue** wants to see "What's in YOUR Closet" on **May 29, 2010**. Delegates selected at County Fashion Revues may register from March 1 - May 12. The committee is also hosting activities during State Field Day for other youth, adults and families who are not State Fashion Revue delegates. Hats Off For Kindness - everyone is invited to make a soft cancer cap, model and donate it. County Corner - counties are encouraged to bring a sewing/fashion/textiles display to share. Judging classes - test your knowledge of sewing, fashion and textiles. A Make it - take it workshop will be in Olson Hall. And the newest addition is First Year Showcase - an interactive workshop planned just for first-year sewers who are not State Fashion Revue delegates. You are invited to model your Fashion Revue outfits in a relaxed non-competitive setting; all categories welcome. For more information, please check out the website at <http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fashion/>
- The **Golden Clover Awards** recognize outstanding achievement of 4-H members, volunteers, 4-H program staff, and groups within the 4-H YDP. Applications are due postmarked by **May 31, 2010**. The 2010 applications are now available on the state website at: <http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/ir/goldenclover>. Please nominate a worthy candidate that you believe is deserving of this great honor. Please direct questions to Quang "Hogan" Tong at 530-752-5644 or email at qtong@ucdavis.edu.
- **4-H Youth Babysitter Training Courses** The Operation: Military Kids (OMK) Program is offering free **Babysitting Training courses for Youth 12-18**. This training is designed to help youth learn what it takes to be responsible, caring, trustworthy, competent, capable and safe babysitters. The youth will receive Child/Infant CPR training on the second day of the training. They will also receive a Babysitter's Tool Bag filled with essential supplies for babysitters. Bring a doll for fun! For more information, contact Jeanne Christenson, jpchristenson@ucdavis.edu or 530-219-6608 The following are dates and locations of upcoming youth trainings: . **Yuba/Sutter 4-H Office March 13 & 14, 9:30-4:30** . **Beale AFB April 8 & 9, 9:30-4:30**

4-H Calendar

March 2010

3/8 4-H Ranch Committee Meeting
Berger Drive Auditorium
7:00 to 9:00 pm.

3/9 Full 4-H Council Meeting
Berger Drive Auditorium
7:15-9:00 p.m.

April 2010

4/1 2010 Youth Fair - Beef Cattle Tagging
Fairgrounds
4:00 to 7:00 pm

4/12 4-H Ranch Committee Meeting
Berger Drive Auditorium
7:00 to 9:00 pm.

4/13 4-H County Council Exec Board Mtg
Berger Drive Auditorium
7:15-9:00 p.m.

4/17 Fashion Revue
Berger Drive Auditorium
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

4/24 "How to Prevent Itchy, Scratchy and Dead"
Berger Drive Auditorium
10 am to 4 pm

***For more information on upcoming 4-H events visit us at
<http://www.ca4h.org/4hinfo/calendar/>***

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http://cesantaclara.ucdavis.edu/Youth_Development



*Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday*

All meetings and events are open to
EVERYONE! Please come!

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Deadline for articles is the 15th of each month.