

**San Mateo and San Francisco Counties**

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**Quarterly News & Events March 2021**



COVID-19 Information and Resources

**Program Highlights**



**Master Gardeners  
"Harvest for Neighbors"  
Project**

The *Harvest for Neighbors* project is a Master Gardener project to:

- Encourage backyard gardeners to **plant an extra row** in their gardens and share that extra produce with local food pantries
- **Reduce food waste** by ensuring fruits and vegetables grown locally get used
- Introduce more people to gardening, **sustainability**, and best practices.

It's spring and time to be thinking about what you're going to plant in your spring/summer garden. For most of us... **READ MORE...**



**Jobseekers Get a Boost  
from Nutrition  
Education!**

CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE (CFHL, UCCE) has been an integral part of **JobTrain**, a nonprofit education and training institution located in Menlo Park, for over eight years. JobTrain provides career training in medical assisting, culinary arts, certified nursing assistant (CNA), carpentry, building maintenance, and IT support and services, enabling students to move out of unemployment and poverty and into careers and self-sufficiency. Based on 2018 SNAP-Ed figures, 59% of all San Mateo County adults are obese or overweight and an estimated 68,000 county residents are food insecure. To address these health concerns among the JobTrain students, **CFHL, UCCE** facilitates a four-part series... **READ MORE...**





## 4-H Program Happenings

Despite the pandemic, our **San Mateo & San Francisco 4-H'ers** are persevering. We thank all of our 4-H volunteers for making our program and projects work with virtual meetings and limited in-person, outdoor **meetings!**

Here are some examples of us in person and at outdoor animal related project meetings.

[READ MORE...](#)



## Elkus Ranch Debuts New Compost Bunker

We are pleased to announce the (near) completion of our new Manure Composting Bunker (woo-hoo)! This project was initiated and funded in part by the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District (RCD) in partnership with UC Agriculture and Natural Resources and Elkus Ranch.

The project site - approx. 1,000 SF - is hard to miss as it graces the side of our upper barn and includes a (3) stall bunker with the capacity to house roughly 5,500 CF of "aging to perfection" livestock compost. This effort moves our compost piles away from their current location... **READ MORE...**



## Master Food Preservers Sourdough Workshops

On February 11, 24 and 25 the **San Mateo & San Francisco Master Food Preservers**, working with San Mateo County Libraries, presented three classes on Sourdough Bread. The classes were a great success! We had **589 signups total** with 392, 278 and 391 attendees for each of the three classes.

The classes were broken down into three parts over two weeks. Each class started with a demonstration of the topic, a rehash of the last class and then opened up to a question-and-answer session...[READ MORE...](#)



## New Instructors Graduate

The second **UC Climate Stewards Instructor Training** graduated 20 new instructors on February 25, 2021. These instructors, including several from organizations around the Bay Area (i.e., Santa Clara County Parks, San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Oakland Zoo), spent the last month work-shopping their climate communication and education skills. Over the next several months, they will put together their local UC Climate Stewards courses that will be offered toward the end of 2021. **READ MORE...**

## Events and Other Info

## Upcoming Events & Registration

- March 9, 2021, 4-5pm: **MFP Sauces and Salsas**
- March 12, 2021, 1-2:15pm: **MG Spring Garden Edibles Series 3 of 5 - Planting Your Spring Vegetable Garden**
- March 13, 2021, **4-H County Presentation Day**
- March 26, 2021, 1-2:15pm **MG Spring Garden Edibles Series 4 of 5 - Growing Herbs**
- April (tbd) 4-H Archery Program begins at Elkus Ranch
- April 9, 2021, 1-2:15pm: **MG Spring Garden Edibles Series 5 of 5 - Good Bug/Bad Bug on Edible Plants**
- April 17, 2021, 2-3pm: **MFP Hot Water Bath Canning**
- May 13, 2021, 4-5pm: **MFP Pickles**
- May 15, 2021 4-H Favorite Food Days



### Elkus Ranch Tours Available!

**Private Family Tours: 1.5 hrs.**  
and  
**Adventure Day Program: 4 hrs.** for play groups and learning pods are booking quickly for spring. Come enjoy the beauty of Elkus Ranch!  
<http://elkusranch.ucanr.edu/>

*Note Re: Summer Camp - we are hopeful in being able to offer a reduced capacity program this year. Stay tuned ...*

### Looking for Office Space

We are in need of an affordable, office space for our Nutrition Program staff who lost their longterm lease. Ideally on the Bay side of the Peninsula, approx. 650- sf +/-with small kitchenette. If you know of anything please contact us at [cesanmateo@ucanr.edu](mailto:cesanmateo@ucanr.edu)



Thank you for being part of our UC Cooperative Extension community!

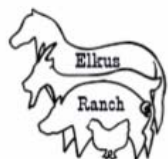
### Make a Gift

## UC Cooperative Extension San Mateo / San Francisco Counties

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**Master Gardener Helpline:**  
650-276-9030 / [mgsmsf@ucanr.edu](mailto:mgsmsf@ucanr.edu)

~ currently operating remotely ~  
**Mondays - 9am to 4pm**  
**Wednesdays - 10:30am to 2pm**  
**Thursdays - 9am to 4pm**



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