2013 SLO COUNTY 4-H PRESENTATION DAY!

SLO County’s 4-H Presentation Day is being held on Saturday, February 9, 2013, on the Cal Poly Campus in the Ag Engineering Building. Entry forms are available at slocounty4h.org by clicking on “Registration Forms & Applications”. ENTRY FORMS ARE DUE in the 4-H OFFICE by Monday, JANUARY 28, 2013. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with Opening Ceremonies starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. If you aren’t going to do a presentation, please consider coming to Presentation Day to cheer on your fellow 4-H’ers and learn about all of the different projects that are offered in San Luis Obispo County!

As always, 4-H’ers who earn a gold medal at County Presentation Day will be eligible to advance to the Sectional competition. The 2013 Sectional 4-H Presentation Day is being hosted by Santa Barbara County 4-H and will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2013, Details will be provided to eligible presenters.

Be Distinctive!

The San Luis Obispo County 4-H Youth Development Program is excited to introduce the new in-house Awards Program, “4-H Youth of Distinction”, formerly known as the Young Achiever Award! Like the Young Achiever Award, 4-H Youth of Distinction will focus on honoring 4-H members who demonstrate leadership skills in their 4-H clubs, schools and community, while also providing an opportunity for nominees to talk about how they incorporate their interests into 4-H projects, and reflect on their 4-H goals and accomplishments. The addition of these questions is an exciting and meaningful step that the San Luis Obispo County 4-H program is taking to engage and participate in the iThrive curriculum!

The 4-H Youth of Distinction award works on a nomination basis, and 4-H members can be nominated by any adult volunteer, with the exclusion of family members. All 4-H Youth of Distinction nominations must be approved by the nominees Community Club Leader. Nomination forms must be received in the 4-H office by Friday, January 18th.

The 4-H Youth of Distinction award recognizes 4-H members from three different grade groupings, (6th, 7th), (8th, 9th) and (10th, 11th, 12th). Nominees will be evaluated; and up to 25 youth will be selected to receive the 4-H Youth of Distinction award!

A letter providing detailed information along with the nomination form has been sent to all SLO County 4-H Community Club Leaders and the nomination form can also be accessed on our website http://www.slocounty4h.org by clicking on “Registration Forms & Applications”.

University of California, U.S. Department of Agriculture and San Luis Obispo County Cooperating.
National & State 4-H News

For more information from the STATE 4-H OFFICE, visit http://www.ca4h.org/News/

- **CA 4-H Foundation News: New Website is Now Live!** The 4-H Foundation website designed to increase engagement in 4-H across the state is online—just in time to kick off our 4-H Centennial year beginning in 2013! The website focuses on Impacts across the state (showcasing stories of the Revolution of Responsibility projects and the stories of individual 4-H’er in California) and encourages people to Connect with and Support 4-H in California. Check it out to see how to get your own project or story featured! [www.ca4hfoundation.org](http://www.ca4hfoundation.org)

- **SLO County Alumnus Nick Kump’s feature article** [http://ca4hfoundation.org/connect/join/meet-nicholas-kump](http://ca4hfoundation.org/connect/join/meet-nicholas-kump)

- **The University of California, Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences will hold its 37th Annual Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Field Day on March 1st and 2nd.** 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/](http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/SET/Animal/SLJC/) for state qualifying guidelines.

- **4-H Citizenship WA Focus** registration and financial assistance deadline submission is December 15, 2012. For questions, contact Jenna Colburn, jcolburn@ucanr.edu.

- **Save the Date: 4-H CA Focus** will be June 14-18, 2013. Registration will be available on December 30, 2012. For questions, contact Jenna Colburn, jcolburn@ucanr.edu.

- **4-H State Leadership Conference 2013 – July 25-28, 2013 at UC Davis** [http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Conferences/SLC/](http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Conferences/SLC/)

  The 4-H State Leadership Conference brings together high school youth from across California in a four-day leadership training, networking, and learning experience. More information will be released in January 2013.

- 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/](http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Members/RecordBook/ORB/)
  - ORB Login Help—[http://www.ca4h.org/files/121045.pdf](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 [http://www.ca4h.org/recordbookbugs/](http://www.ca4h.org/recordbookbugs/)

*Richard P. Enfield,*
*4-H Youth Development Advisor*

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No endorsement of named products and/or companies is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products and/or companies which are not mentioned. Persons with special needs wishing to attend a program should contact the 4-H Office in advance. Efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.
The California 4-H South Section Teen Involvement Conference (TIC) is a three (3) day youth leadership conference for high school aged 4-H members of the South Section. Youth who attend this conference will have a chance to: gain new leadership techniques, learn teamwork skills, obtain information on opportunities 4-H has to offer at a sectional and statewide level, meet 4-H members from across the state, participate in community service activities, and much more!

TIC is completely put together by the officers of the South Section Teen Council.

**2013 Teen Involvement Conference:**
"FLASHBACK TO LEADERSHIP" will be held from January 18-20, 2013 at the Pathfinder Ranch outside of Mountain Center, CA.

The Registration Packet can be found at http://ss4h.org/
Early Bird Registration will be due December 9, 2012.

You can also get up to date details about the conference by following the TIC Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/4HTIC
For more information in general about TIC visit:

http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Volunteers/Councils/Sectional/South/Teen_Involvement_Conference/
It’s always an exciting time when a new 4-H program year begins. There are great possibilities ahead; a new slate for sharing good times, learning new things and growing as a person and citizen of our world. It is especially important then, at this time of year, to stop and consider what “4-H” means to us — our members and families and how each of us contribute to making the SLO County 4-H Youth Development Program the amazing and positive experience that it is.

There are many ways we do this. But the foundation is our parents and adult volunteers and the behavior they model. So, now that the new program year has begun, and we see old friends and meet new ones, let’s all remember the reason we’re here: To create an environment where learning is fun, in an atmosphere of trust, and in a way we can be proud our members will emulate. We CAN “Make the Best Better” by practicing a few basic principles.

- Provide encouragement and support. Allow your child to experience the full process of 4-H, no matter the outcome.
- Keep your expectations realistic and open. Knowledge and life skills take time to develop.
- Support your child’s efforts. Provide resources and supplies for projects.
- Respect youth ownership of projects. Allow your child to do his/her own project.
- Encourage your child to focus on the positive in the experience or situation and less on competition.
- Allow your child to make mistakes. We learn through our mistakes and in correcting them.
- Encourage your child to do his or her best, not to be better than someone else.
- Treat others in a courteous, respectful manner.
- Be respectful of adult volunteers. Allow leaders to lead, and give them your support.
- Deliver and pick up your child on time for events and meetings.
- Help out cheerfully and often. Follow through when you volunteer.
- Demonstrate ethical behaviors.
- Treat animals humanely and teach your child to provide appropriate animal care.
- Attend meetings and participate in activities and events. It makes for a lighter load on each and is more fun for everyone.

They’re good for us, and good for our youth!
Countywide ENGINEERING Project
Offered by Santa Margarita 4-H Club

Rockets, Electronics and Robots!

This project consists of three meetings:

1/12/13 – ROCKETS (build and launch rockets)
   Location: 8735 San Rafael Rd, Atascadero
   Time: 3:00 p.m.
   Cost: Please bring $8.00 for materials for two rockets.

3/15/13 – ELECTRONICS (build an electronic circuit)
   Location: Cal Poly Electrical Engineering Department, Bldg. 20A
   (campus map located at http://maps.calpoly.edu/)
   Time: 6:00p.m-8:00 p.m.
   Cost: No cost. (Please bring $5.00 if you wish to share pizza at 6:00pm)

4/19/13 – ROBOTS (program and compete with small robots)
   Location: Cal Poly Electrical Engineering Department, Bldg. 20A
   Time: 6:00p.m.-8:00 p.m.
   Cost: No cost. (Please bring $5.00 if you wish to share pizza at 6:00p)

OPTIONAL
4/20/13 – ROBOT COMPETITION
   Location: Cal Poly, Mott Gymnasium (during the Cal Poly Open House Celebration)
   (campus map located at http://maps.calpoly.edu/)
   Time: 10:00 a.m.
   Cost: No cost.

To join this project, or if you have any questions, please contact:
Dennis Derickson, 4-H Project Leader, at (805) 712-9168 or ddericks@calpoly.edu

Start the New Year off with an Exciting New Project: Be a 4-H SLO Scientist!

Beginning in late January, several new 4-H SLO Scientist groups will be forming throughout
San Luis Obispo County, in Los Osos, San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles and Santa Margarita.
If you’re in 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th grade and enjoy science and hands-on activities, then you’ll love
the SLO Scientist program. You’ll come with your parent, or other favorite adult, and participate together as a
science team with other youth and adults to form a small group of science teams who have fun “doing science” together.
The group is led by a wonderful 4-H SLO Scientist Volunteer Facilitator. Joining a SLO Scientist group is a terrific
way for families to connect in doing fun and worthwhile activities together and learning about the world around you!
For more information about joining a SLO Scientist group, further details about the program, and to reserve
a space in one of our local groups, please contact Heather Dauer, 4-H SLO Scientist Project Coordinator, at
781-5943.
4-H SLO Hikers 2013 Hiking Calendar is Here! - (See page 7)

4-H SLO Hikers will be hiking the beautiful terrain of San Luis Obispo County through the months of January to May! Club members, invite your family and friends to participate in fun and health benefiting hikes. To kick off the 2013 New Year, we will be hiking Harmony Headlands – a beautiful central coast hike! The trailhead is located five minutes north of Cayucos and 2.6 miles south of Harmony. We will meet at the trailhead at 10:00am on Saturday, January 12, 2013. A small parking lot is visible along the west side adjacent to the southbound lane of Highway One and overflow parking for additional vehicles is also available on the opposite side of the highway. Please visit our Facebook page to register! See you all, 4-H SLO Hikers, at Harmony Headlands!

See flyer on page 7 for more information or visit our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/4HSloHikers! Also, please “like” our Facebook page! If you have any questions, please contact Christine Nelson at (805) 781-5944 or cinelson@co.slo.ca.us. If any club Jr./Teen leaders that would be interested in manning a booth at SLO Thursday Night Farmer’s Market for one hour on January 3rd or 10th or help plan 4-H SLO Hikers on Saturday, January 12, please contact Christine Nelson. Thank you and happy hiking!

HORSE PROJECT MEMBERS:
Mark your calendars for January 19th, 2013 for the first SLO Horse Expo.

This will be an event with multiple stations where you can learn many different things involving horses and horse related events.

Location: TBA. Time: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Cost: 10$. Hot dog lunch will be provided.

SLO County 4-H Horse Project Members: SAVE THESE DATES!

4-H Program Year 2012-2013 4-H Horse Project Upcoming Events!

January 19th Horse Expo
February 16th Gymkhana Play Day
February 21st Written Level Testing
March 3rd Gymkhana Field Day
March 16th English/Western Clinic
April 20th English/Western Field Day
June 1st Mounted Level Testing

Please check with your Horse Project Leader, or Horse Project Resource Leaders Tracy Johnston/ Jennifer Thomas for more details or contact Krysti Jerdin at the 4-H office at 781-5941.

ATTENTION SMALL ANIMAL SCIENCE 4-H MEMBERS — See link for Dec. 16th Clinic

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY 4-H Small Animal Showmanship Clinic & Field Day and Dog Project Learning Day
Santa Ynez Valley Equestrian Center, 195 N. Refugio Rd. in Santa Ynez

* link to info on sb4h.org: http://www.sb4h.org/County_4-H_Events/Showmanship_Clinic - Field_Day/
2013 Hiking Calendar

January 12, 2013: Harmony Headlands
*Time: 10:00am - 11:45am; Location: Parking Lot off HWY 1, Harmony

February 9, 2013: Lopez Lake
Interpretive Hike (Ranger Led Hike)
*Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm; Location: Lopez Lake’s Registration/Ranger Office

March 16, 2013: Cerro Alto
Moderately Strenuous
*Time: 9:30am - 1:00pm; Location: Cerro Alto Trailhead

May 4, 2013: Johnson Ranch
Interpretive Hike (Ranger Led Hike)
*Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm; Location: Johnson Ranch Trailhead, San Luis Obispo
*All hikes are subject to change or be cancelled due to weather conditions. Please check Newsletter and Facebook page for updates.

For more information about upcoming hikes, directions, cancellations, and updates, please visit our 4-H SLO Hikers Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/4HSloHikers and subscribe to our newsletter at http://cesanluisobispo.ucanr.edu/; click “Nutrition, Family & Consumer Science” and click 4-H SLO Hikers.

Christine Nelson (805) 781-5944, UCCE
2012 Toys-4-Tots Campaign begins!

Hi, it's Jesse-Ray Morring reporting in from the frontlines of the 2012 Toys-4-Tots collection! I'm the Toys-4-Tots 4-H Ambassador, and I need your help to make this the best year ever, and make sure that all the kids in San Luis Obispo County have a very Merry Christmas!!

We will have a collection box in the 4-H County office. All toys collected go to various locations in our county and end up helping kids everywhere. All toys collected in SLO County are given to kids in SLO County!! When the need is filled, they go where they're needed.

Please bring all 4-H Toys-4-Tots donations to our box at the County Office. If you can't get them there - call and we'll pick them up. We want to make a 4-H county-wide effort to show how many toys our clubs bring in. Together, our clubs can show what a 4-H outpouring can do. Have each club member bring one new toy, with a value of $10 or more, to a club meeting before December 20th (The toys can be on sale, just be valued at $10 originally). Then when your club collection is finished, call for pick-up, you can reach me at (805) 286-8505, or take them to the 4-H office!! We will keep you all posted on our efforts and our final count! We will have special recognition for clubs with the largest, per ratio to club size donations received! Ready... set...GO GET THOSE TOYS!!!!

Canyon Country 4-H County Wide Pop-Top Drive!

With the end of the year coming near, the Pop-Top Collection Drive is still going strong! We need EVERYONE's help to make this the BIGGEST collection year EVER!

This year our sponsorship of the Pop-Top Collection has a generous matching donor. That means that every donation we make, say 100 pounds of pop-tops, becomes 200 pounds! They're everywhere! Pop-Tops are hiding on soda cans, pet food cans, tuna cans, even fruit cans and we are ALWAYS collecting!

Please collect all pop-tops and drop them off at the 4-H office or call Pam Morring at (805) 286-8505, and make your donations count!

Popping a top for Ronald McDonald House is fun Community Service and it's the right thing to do!! Thank you! Jesse-Ray Morring, Canyon Country 4-H, Community Service Jr. Leader

FOOD BANK COALITION invites YOU to their “Hope for the Holidays Food Drive” November 1st—December 30th. They Need Volunteers! Every Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. — 6 p.m. at various grocery stores throughout SLO County.

CONTACT:
Jeanine Lacore for more details.
Phone: (805) 235-1180
Email: jlacore@slofoodbank.org
California State 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Meeting  
December 8 & 9, 2012  
Visalia, CA

The California 4-H Shooting Sports Program welcomes all current and/or potential 4-H Shooting Sports Project Leaders, teen leaders (high school aged 4-H members), and 4-H staff to attend a two-day leader’s meeting on the following dates:

- Saturday, December 8, 2012  10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
- Sunday, December 9, 2012    8:30 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

The meetings will be held in Visalia, CA at the Visalia Police Association Range Facility.  
There is no fee to attend.  
Camping will be allowed on site.  
Hotel/motel arrangements are available in Visalia which is approximately 5 miles from the meeting site.

There will be presentations of information regarding the project, guest speakers, and hands-on activities for all participants.  
To register for the meeting, please access the following link:  
https://ucanr.org/survey2/survey.cfm?surveynumber=7810

Please note, this is an informational meeting.  
It is not a training workshop where you receive certification in a shooting sports discipline.  
It is an opportunity for you to network with leaders from throughout the State and gain further information about the California State 4-H Shooting Sports Program.

The point of contact is John Borba at:  jaborba@ucdavis.edu

4-H Shooting Sports Workshop—Rifle Discipline  
Bakersfield, CA

- Saturday, January 12, 2013 – 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
- Sunday, January 13, 2013 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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.  
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  
(This course is not open to 4-H leaders from Santa Cruz County).

A 4-H Archery Certification Training for volunteers and junior/teen leaders will be offered Saturday, January 19th, 9 AM – 5 PM, and Sunday, January 20th, 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 7th and space is limited.  
For more information call Jenny at 925-321-6009 or email her at jsiders@gmail.com.

DECEMBER 2012
STATEWIDE 4-H PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

4-H Film Making Statewide Project
Presented by the 4-H Technology Leadership Team

February 2, 2013, 10:00am-3:00pm
Santa Barbara County 4-H Office, 6950 Hollister Ave, Ste. 275, Goleta, CA 93117

Open to Ventura, Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo Counties.

Open to 40 participants, lunch Included

Learn the basics of video production, 4-H members (age 13-19), 4-H volunteers, and 4-H staff are invited to participate in a workshop presented by the 4-H Technology Leadership Team. There is no cost to participate. These trainings are provided by support from Best Buy through the California 4-H Foundation. The goal of the 4-H Film Making Project is to enhance technological literacy of 4-H members, ages 13-19, by helping them learn the basics of film production including storyboarding, filming, and editing.

Workshops will cover the topics in the 4-H Filmmaking Studio curriculum at http://www.4-h.org/curriculum/filmmaking/. The curriculum covers using a digital camcorder and tripod; filmmaking tips and processes; documentary filmmaking; transferring, capturing, converting and importing footage; storytelling with editing; and uploading video.

Questions? Contact:
Steven Worker, 4-H SET Coordinator, State 4-H Office, smworker@ucanr.edu, (530) 754-8519
John Trammell, 4-H TLT Leader, techdude4h@gmail.com.

For more information please visit…
http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/SET/Tech/CTLT/Film/?i=1

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Preparation for 2013 Food & Arts Celebration and Fashion Revue Underway

Plans for the coming Food & Arts Celebration (FAC) and Fashion Revue (FR) for 2013 continue to move forward, following the Information Night put on by the County 4-H Home Economics and Arts Committee in October. Committee members provided the latest information and answered questions about these two coming events, scheduled for Saturday, April 27th, at Laguna Middle School in San Luis Obispo.

Key Dates to Remember

Key dates for the FAC and FR are as follows:

- Entry forms for the FAC and FR are to be turned into the county 4-H office by Wednesday, March 27, at 5 p.m. (or postmarked by that date).
- All sewing items for the FR are to be brought to the county 4-H office (the main auditorium downstairs) by Wednesday, April 24, at 5 p.m.
- All items for the FAC and posters for the FR are to be submitted when 4-Hers register at the event from 8:00 to 8:45 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, at Laguna Middle School.

Centennial Challenge…an Added Feature for 2013

The California Centennial Challenge will be a special feature of the FAC and FR for 2013 only, which is the 100th year of 4-H in our state. The Centennial Celebration awards will be given in addition to the regular awards that are given each year at the FAC and FR. There will be a special Centennial award for each Division offered at the two events. 4-Hers who wish to enter the Centennial Challenge will check that option as well as the regular submission(s) on the FAC and/or FR entry forms. In addition, the 4-Hers will provide a 3x5 card to include the historical significance and relationship to the theme when they submit their entry at the events. More details about the challenge will be included in the FAC and FR Guidelines that will be posted in January.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS NEEDED...

It would be most appreciated if Community Leaders would designate a Volunteer Coordinator from their club to help gather and submit names of adult volunteers for the FAC and FR. It takes about 130 adult volunteers to make these two events an exciting and successful experience for their participating 4-Hers, and we need all of the help we can get. Please submit the name of your Volunteer Coordinator (with phone, email, and mailing address) to the county 4-H office.

If you have any questions, contact Home Economics and Expressive Arts Key Leader Julia Stanfill at 528-1557 (justanfill@sjcoe.net) or the Fashion Review Coordinator Maria Andrus at 238-0604 (jandrusfamily1@att.net).
2013 CA Mid-State Fair Changes in the Weight of the Market Animals for the 2013 CA Mid-State Fair Jr. Livestock Show and Auction per their November 1, 2012 letter sent out to 4-H Community Club Leaders and Project Leaders.

The maximum pay weight, which has been capped and applied to both the buyer and seller, shall be passed on to the harvest facility as well: therefore, the harvest facilities shall not reimburse the Fair for actual weight of the animal.

The 2013 minimum weight limits, maximum pay weights, and maximum weight limitations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>MIN. WEIGHT</th>
<th>MAX. PAY WEIGHT</th>
<th>MAX. WEIGHT LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Market Beef</td>
<td>1050 pounds</td>
<td>1350 pounds</td>
<td>1450 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Lamb</td>
<td>105 pounds</td>
<td>145 pounds</td>
<td>160 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Swine</td>
<td>220 pounds</td>
<td>260 pounds</td>
<td>280 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Goats</td>
<td>70 pounds</td>
<td>110 pounds</td>
<td>125 pounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We look forward to seeing you at the July 17th, thru July 28th, 2013 California Mid-State Fair.

Sincerely,
JoAnn Switzer, Livestock Superintendent

Just a quick reminder that any 4-H member or team registered to attend a 4-H-sponsored event outside San Luis Obispo County may request a FREE t-shirt to wear to the event and FREE 4-H buttons* to trade with 4-H members who attend the event from other counties. Examples of out-county-events are the 4-H State Leadership Conference, TIC, Cal Focus, etc. Members are encouraged to call the 4-H office at 781-5943 throughout the year to request items for your out-of-county 4-H event! *Design created by Jack Moore, artist and 2011-2012 4-H All Star.

Attend the Introduction and Training Session -To Become a 4-H SLO Scientist Volunteer Facilitator!

Would you (or someone you know) enjoy leading children and adults together in hands-on science activities? If this sounds like fun, you could become a SLO Scientist Facilitator to lead a 4-H youth/adult science project! Several 4-H members in 3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th grade come with their parent or other favorite adult to participate together as science teams in activities related to subjects including chemistry, watershed explorations, earthquake preparedness and local geology, or plant and soil science.

You don't need a background in science to lead our groups...just a desire to facilitate a small group of children and adults together in “doing science” a couple times per month. An introduction and informative training session to our terrific program led by Richard Enfield, San Luis Obispo County Director & 4-H YD Advisor, will be held in San Luis Obispo on Tuesday, December 11 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM.

For more information about the SLO Scientist program, becoming a volunteer facilitator to lead a SLO Scientist project, or to reserve a space for our training session, please contact Heather Dauer, 4-H SLO Scientist Project Coordinator at 781-5943.
4-H SLO Scientists Enjoy Local Oak Woodland Wildlife Hike

Cyber Monday had nothing over the terrific experience the Santa Margarita 4-H SLO Scientists and their families had on Cyber Monday, November 26! As a finale to their project this fall with hands-on science activities revolving around the Oak Woodland Wildlife theme offered by 4-H SLO Scientist Facilitator, John McCabe, SLO Scientists and their families had the unique opportunity to participate in a guided hike organized by John McCabe and Learning Among the Oaks Program Coordinator, Beverly Gingg.

Due to the tireless efforts of Beverly Gingg, this unique preserved oak woodland ranch land has been made available to our 4-H SLO Scientist members and families to learn and appreciate this wonderful oaks and wildlife wonderland in order to explore types of habitat, animals, relationships and survival techniques in the trail area adjacent to Santa Margarita School.

Special highlights along the trail included “Mustang Station” at which retired California Fish and Game Warden, Glenn Sparks, presented a fascinating presentation with wildlife skins from animals native to our local woodlands! He provided useful survival information when encountering animals, such as mountain lions, and tips for spotting wildlife. The group also learned how strategically placed wildlife cameras are tools for investigating oak woodland wildlife and they had the opportunity to view photos taken of local animals as they triggered the camera shoot, including a black bear!

After the five-session meetings this fall, which included the children making habitats and animals that live among the oak woodlands, the group “met” blue oaks during the hike and had the chance to compare them to coast live oak and valley oaks, all native to our area.

Many thanks to John McCabe who led our SLO Scientist group this fall and offered a special “Land under the Sea” presentation during the hike which was a fascinating overview of the location before there were oaks and animals, and to Beverly Gingg for organizing the entire extra-special presentation to our group. Thank you also to Glenn Sparks for his presentation and to Learning Among the Oaks volunteer, Carol Sinsheimer, for her on-and-behind the scenes efforts and help in offering this amazing hike.

![Image of hike participants]

![Image of wildlife presentation]

![Image of group photo]

DECEMBER 2012
The first ever Lemos Academy in Atascadero on October 16 turned out to be a great success. Headed up by the helpful Lemos staff, as well as a few local dog gurus, and attended by members of the Dog Care and Obedience Project from all across San Luis Obispo County, 4-Hers—and their parents—had the opportunity to learn a great deal about their beloved canine companions, including fundamental training skills, grooming tips, nutritional information and advice, and dental care.

Everyone who came to the Lemos Academy event was not only given a goody bag full of plenty of useful equipment, from dog toys to tasty treats, but also fed with delicious, fresh-off-the-barbeque hot dogs and accompanying drinks and sides. We were then divided into four groups, according to the number on each individual's laminated discount card, and directed to a station. The first was a mini seminar on dog training and body language, given by Kathy Kropp. She taught the difference between how dominant and submissive dogs behave—dominant canines will often make direct eye contact, stand over or put their head over another dog, or, if they're acting aggressive, have a stiff frame, while submissive dogs will do everything quite the opposite.

The second station was all about grooming and taking care of your dog's coat. For example, we learned the different methods for brushing and combing your dog, as well as the procedures for dogs with single (short haired breeds, such as Dalmatians, greyhounds, etc.), double (herding and terrier breeds), or even triple coated dogs (malamutes, saint bernards, etc.). Also, we learned how to correctly trim a dog's nails—without causing pain to our best friends—and the pros and cons of different brands of flea treatment medicines, such as Frontline, Advantage, and Advantix.

Third was the nutrition station, where a representative from Nutura gave a presentation about making sure your dogs have a healthy diet. Things like measuring the correct amount of food, buying varieties with healthy, natural ingredients, and paying attention to how your dog reacts to certain brands of food are imperative to ensuring your pet's well-being.

Lastly, the attendees of the Lemos Academy learned a great deal about canine dental care. In order to prevent cavities, gingivitis, and other forms of dental disease, we need to regularly brush our dogs' teeth, or, if they don't take kindly to having foreign objects inserted into their mouths, there are also anti-cavity breath sprays or water-dissolvable tablets that go in their water.

All in all, this first-ever Lemos Academy was an incredible wealth of information for 4-Hers throughout San Luis Obispo County. Everyone present was able to learn invaluable tips for caring for their dogs and making sure they have the best and longest lifespan possible. Lemos truly showed their support for 4-H in providing such an opportunity, and for that, we thank them!  

Submitted by: Emma Zelus, Templeton 4-H Club

On Monday October 15,2012 Cerro Alto 4-H held its first meeting for the sheep group in Atascadero at the Grange Hall. After the leaders introduced themselves, we talked about how much the project will cost and who will be going to the Mid-State Fair and who will be going to the King City Fair. Next we talked about a possible fundraiser at Sylvester's Burgers in Atascadero. The meeting was held at the Grange Hall because the group has almost doubled in size since last year.  

Submitted by: Casey Rowlett Cerro-Alto 4-H

Templeton Fire Dept. hosted a Halloween Carnival and we think it was a huge success.

The carnival consisted of several booths; A Cakewalk, Pumpkin Bowling, Pumpkin Decorating, the Doughnut Dive, and Fake Tattoos. There was also another booth, ran by a man who caters parties, who did balloon hats and animal balloons. There were kids ranging from two years old to seventeen. There was a costume contest for the two to four year olds and the winner got a plate of cupcakes and a sparkly blue ribbon. Overall it was an awesome turnout. The kids had fun, and I think that I speak for the volunteers from the Templeton 4-H Dog Project, that we had fun too.

Submitted by: Mallori Seifert, Templeton 4-H Club
ESTRELLA 4-H CLUB MEMBERS CELEBRATE COMMUNITY SERVICE

Estrella 4-H has had a very busy October. We started off the month by accompanying the North County Women’s Shelter and Resource Center (located on 10th and Vine in Paso Robles) on their float in the Pioneer Day Parade in Paso Robles on October 6th. The float was celebrating their 30th anniversary in Paso Robles and because this occurred in the 1980’s we all had a fantastic time dressing up in our best 80’s clothes and playing 80’s music. Later in the month, on October 20th, we once again accompanied the North County Women’s Shelter in the Colony Day Parade in Atascadero. We finished up the month by throwing our annual Halloween Party at Vineyard Health Center. This year we had more residents than ever attending the party, so many that we had to go out and get more cookies. We also walked around to those residents unable to leave their rooms with cookies, cupcakes and sodas. Estrella 4H is looking forward to all of the community service activities coming up in November. Submitted by Sydney Vinther, Estrella 4H President

Creston 4-H collects food for Loaves and Fishes

On Wednesday, November 7, at the Creston 4-H general meeting, we had people bring in canned or boxed food for Loaves and Fishes. Hoping to raise hope for the holidays, the club brought in about twenty bags of food for the needy. It feels great to help others and we can’t wait for our next community service opportunity. Submitted by: Haley Hurdle, Reporter

Creston 4-H helps out at the Chili Cook-off

On Sunday, October 28th, members of the Creston 4-H Club made and sold some delicious sweets for the Chili Cook-off at the Creston Gardens. We also sold nachos with drinks to go with the yummy chili. Many people attended the event and the 4-Hers raised lots of money for the Creston Club. Everyone had a great time and we can’t wait for next year! Submitted by: Haley Hurdle, Reporter

The new Los Berros 4-H group is off to a great start!

We would like to thank the Arroyo Grande Miner’s Hardware store for allowing us to have our first successful hotdog/bake sale fundraiser. We are also collecting food for our holiday gift baskets that we will be donating to local families in need for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Submitted by: Jayme Moreno, Reporter
SLO County 4-H Youth Development Program Calendar 2012-2013

### DECEMBER 2012
- **8-9** 4-H Shooting Sports Leaders Mtg., Visalia
- **9** TIC Registration Deadline
- **10** Santa Barbara Co. Sm. Animal Sci. Entry Deadline (see event on 12/16/12)
- **11** SLO SCIENTIST Volunteer Facilitator Training
- **16** SB County Small Animal Science Showmanship Clinic & Field Day & Dog Project Learning Day
- **20** 4-H Toys-4-Tots Deadline (Call 286-8505)

### JANUARY 2013
- **12** Rockets Countywide Project
- **12** 4-H SLO HIKERS—Harmony Headlands
- **12-13** Rifle Discipline Training, Bakersfield
- **18** **Youth of Distinction Nominations Due**
- **19** SLO Co. 4-H Horse Project Horse Expo
- **18-20** TIC Conference, Pathfinder Ranch
- **19-20** Archery Discipline Training, Livermore
- **28** County Presentation Day entries Due

### FEBRUARY 2013
- **1** Asset Development Network Conference at Cuesta College 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
- **2** Film Making Workshop, @ SB Co. 4-H office
- **9** County Presentation Day, Cal Poly Campus

### MARCH 2013
- **2** **Sectional Presentation Day**, Olga Reed School, Los Alamos, Hosted by Santa Barbara Co. 4-H
- **15** Electronics Countywide Project
- **27** FAC & FR Entry Forms due in 4-H office

### APRIL 2013
- **19** Robots Countywide Project
- **24** Deliver FR Sewing Items to the UC Auditorium
- **27** Food & Arts Celebration & Fashion Revue, Laguna Middle School, SLO

### MAY 2013
- **3-5** Camp K.I.N.D., Rancho El Chorro, SLO
- **25** STATE 4-H FIELD DAY at UC Davis

### JUNE 2013
- **8** 4-H FIELD DAY, Paso Robles Event Center