



NEWS & VIEWS

FEBRUARY 2006

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR 4-H MEMBERS, LEADERS & PARENTS IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

SPECIAL DELIVERY CARDS

Sunday, December 18, 2005, rain, sleet or snow was not going to stop this group of 4-Hers from delivering very special holiday cards. It all began when Lindsey Bridgman decided that she was going to get a committee together and collect cards. On December 7th, she addressed her Templeton 4-H Club and in front of 150 4-H members, there was pure silence and full attention to what she was proposing. Lindsey told the club a story that was told to her of a senior being forgotten during the holidays and how this senior's one wish was to get a card from someone. There were tears in the audience and some wiped their cheeks as Lindsey added, "This should never happen again." The



Mingling with some Special Seniors are left to right: Lindsey Bridgman, Taylor Pilg, & Caitlin Ruscki

Card Committee was formed with Lindsey as chair. Their first concern? How many cards can we collect in such a short time? But, if even one card was given to a senior – the committee would be a success.

Below left to right: Elberto of Elegant Image, Lindsey Bridgman, Josh Pilg, Hannah Hutchings, Caitlin Ruscki, & Taylor Pilg.



The supporters appeared in the guise of Templeton 4-H families, Portable Dance Company's Ballet class, Creston School staff, Creston Store and many San Luis Obispo County residents. How did they know? Well, there was an ad in the paper and posters put up. Folks saw those hand drawn posters and poured their

Continued on page 3.

Making a Difference

We have been busy in the Cerro alto 4-H Community Service project group. We started out this past year (2005) donating food and accessories to the local Humane Society. Our next project was making up a couple of Thanksgiving baskets for needy families in our community. It was fun buying the food, knowing that you are supplying a Thanksgiving dinner for

a needy families. Then, we put together Christmas boxes for poor and needy children around the world called Operation Christmas Child. I had great fun picking out toys and soap that I might like, for other children, of my age. On a weekend in November we stood out in of Kmart collecting needed items for the local

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Pass It On...

SLO Co. Website: www.clubs.ca4h.org/sanluisobispo/
California 4-H Website: www.ca4h.org
4-H USA website: www.4husa.org
National 4-H website: www.4-h.org

State 4-H Web Server! 4-H Clubs may register for space on the State 4-H Web Server. Go to <http://clubs.ca4h.org> for more information.

California 4-H Fair Share Program. The National 4-H Supply Service will return 10% of your ordered merchandise total to California 4-H! All you have to do is ensure that your order is counted towards the Fair Share total is click this special link whenever you place an order at: <http://www.4-hmall.org/california>. The link is also available on the www.ca4h.org homepage.

Western Regional Leaders Forum. March 1-5, 2006 in Salt Lake City, Utah. **Forum Cost: Late, \$290 by 2/10/06.** Accommodations have been made at the Sheraton City Center for \$89 per night, but it is up to you to make your own reservations. Call Sheraton at (801) 401-2000 or their website is www.sheraton.com/saltlakecity. Join over 500 volunteers from the 13 western states in a fun, learning environment. It is a great opportunity to meet others and share ideas that can be implemented in your local 4-H program. You need not be a volunteer to participate.

News & Views Online! Go to <http://cesanluisobispo.ucdavis.edu/newsletterfiles/newsletter99.htm> to view or download. Even better, you can subscribe to the newsletter online and have a notice waiting for you in your email box. Think of it, you can get News & Views before everyone else. In addition, you can help the 4-H Office save money by canceling your newsletter mailing, every little bit helps. Call the 4-H Office today, 781-5943, and say "I'm getting my News & Views Online!"

2006-2007 4-H State Ambassador applications are now available online. 4-H State Ambassadors are selected to represent the California 4-H Youth Development Program, plan the State Leadership Conference, and complete a service project. More info at <http://ca4h.org/leadership/ambassador/>. **Due March 31, 2006.**

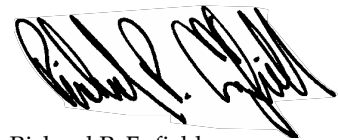
The UC Davis Collegiate 4-H Club is pleased to present "**4-H You See Davis Days**" for high school students on April 20-22, 2006. This three-day, activity-filled event is an opportunity for participants to experience college life at UC Davis. Registration forms are due **March 20, 2006** and may be found at: <http://clubs.ca4h.org/collegiate4h/ucd/ysddays2006.htm>. For more information, contact Sara Leisgang at (408) 921-4201 or sbleisgang@ucdavis.edu

The **2006 State 4-H Presentation Day** will be held on May 28, 2006 at UC Davis. Category descriptions and evaluation rubrics are available to download at: <http://ca4h.org/leadership/spd/>. Participants must earn a gold medal at a sectional competition to be eligible. 4-H members who "**Speak Out for Military Kids**" at their 4-H Presentation Day will be presented a special award on behalf of the U.S. military (for more information, click <http://ca4h.org/leadership/spd/SOMK.pdf>). Registration deadline is **May 22, 2006**.

No computer? Call the 4-H Office, 781-5943, for assistance.

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4-H Office
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San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 781-5943 / jgarcia@co.slo.ca.us



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.

Special Delivery

Continued from page 1. hearts into giving cards to Templeton 4-H, just so a senior would not be forgotten this year. When the cards were finally gathered and each one was signed – finally they were counted. Wow! There were enough cards to give to each senior participating in the Golden Meals Network in the entire San Luis Obispo County (Nipomo to San Miguel)!

The Golden Meals Network delivered the cards at the same time they delivered the senior meals – this ensured that even all of the homebound seniors received a card. However, on Sunday, December 18th, some of the Templeton 4-H Card Com-

mittee also hand delivered cards to seniors at seven of the North County retirement homes. As the wind blew and the rain fell there was not even a thought of stopping. Thanks to Elegant Image Limousine, they donated a limo and a driver to make sure that the 4-Hers were able to deliver the cards safely. During the ride, Elberto, the driver, and Lindsey's mom, the chaperone, laughed and chatted with the 4-Hers as they made their special deliveries.

Lindsey Bridgman, Josh & Taylor Pilg, Caitlin Ruscki, and Hannah Hutchings talked about all the wonderful people they met and the stories told to

them by the seniors. They sang songs to the seniors, which were rewarded by big smiles, nods of approval and many thank you's. So, as Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer was requested for the umpteenth time, these 4-Hers will hold in their hearts wonderful memories of these seniors and the time they enjoyed spending with them.



Standing behind the table, left to right: Lindsey Bridgman, Taylor Pilg, Caitlin Ruscki

Making a Difference

Continued from page 1. Women's Shelter. They were overjoyed to receive these much needed items.

We also made gift bags for the Atascadero Christian Home, and we delivered them, along with the tree ornaments that we made for them.

It is very satisfying helping out in the community and making a difference in small ways.

By Rebekah Lamouria - Cerro Alto 4-H

For the past year the **Santa Margarita 4-H Community Service** project group (*pictured below with at the Women's Resource Center with a representative of the center*) has been fundraising and collecting items

for the Atascadero Women's Shelter and Resource Center. They started off by selling



See's Candy in the fall.

Last spring, they held an enormous garage sale. Which was very successful and fun as well for all of us. Also, during this time the **Santa Margarita Community Service** project group were collecting items that the center needed. The Women's Shelter and Resource Center of Atascadero was very pleased with the donation and the items collected for the center.



To the left are members of the **Templeton 4-H Beef Project group**. Every year the Beef Project group gets together and decorates Main

Street of Templeton for the holidays. They make all the greenery wreaths and garlands by hand, adding their own personal holiday touches of ornaments and tinsel. The hanging of these festive items along Main Street is a lot of fun. When all is done, it is a sight to behold and a joy to know that many will enjoy these sights and smells throughout the holidays and into a Happy New Year!

HORSE LEVEL TEST UPDATE

Written and mounted horse level tests have been postponed, and will *not* be held on February 26 and March 19, 2006, respectively. However, we still plan to hold level tests this year and are looking at possible dates in April 2006. This will allow Horse Project Leaders and members more time to participate in the new Level Testing Program and prepare using the new study guides. Please watch future News & Views for scheduling updates. Study guides and related forms are now available on the San Luis Obispo County website at <http://clubs.ca4h.org/sanluisobispo>, and at the 4-H office.

A reminder to all Horse Project Leaders and members

that in order for members to participate in a 4-H sponsored show, 4-H Field Day, or Level Testing, the member *must have successfully passed the Entry Level Test and have on file at the 4-H office an Entry Level Test Certification completed by the Horse Project Leader, as well as a member-signed Horse Policy Guide Acknowledgement.* In addition, if a horse is leased, an *approved Horse Lease Agreement must be on file at the San Luis Obispo 4H office as well.*

Lastly, we have just received word that the 4-H Mall is temporarily out of stock of the Certified Horsemanship Association's "Certified Horsemanship Manual," however, it is available from the



CHA by calling 1-800-399-0138. If you have any questions, please call the 4-H office at 781-5943.

Horse Field Day

Mark your calendars!! Sunday, June 4, 2006 at the Osumi Ranch in Arroyo Grande. In order for this event to be successful, it is asked that each club participating in Horse Field Day, that there be at least one adult volunteer to help out during the day. Kelly Osumi, Horse Field Day Chair has a big job in coordinating this event and your assistance would be greatly appreciated! Award sponsors and donations are needed, as well as helping in preparations and ensuring that things run smoothly on Horse Field Day. Please call Kelly Osumi, Horse Field Day Chair at 489-1112 and volunteer to help!

Record Book Workshop



Saturday, March 4, 2006

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

UCCE Auditorium

2156 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo

The San Luis Obispo County 4-H All Stars will be demonstrating how to successfully complete the following Record Books: Personal Development Report, Market Livestock, Small Livestock, Avian Science (Poultry), Annual 4-H Project Report, Community Service, Jr./Teen Leadership, and Primary Member PDR.

Schedule: 9:00—11:00 a.m. Sessions
11:00—11:20 a.m. Snacktime
11:30—1:00 p.m. Sessions

Snacks will be provided by the All Stars. This is definitely a day to look forward to! Please call the 4-H Office and **RSVP by February 24, 2006**, for this workshop. If you have questions, call the 4-H Office, 781-5943 or email jgarcia@co.slo.ca.us.

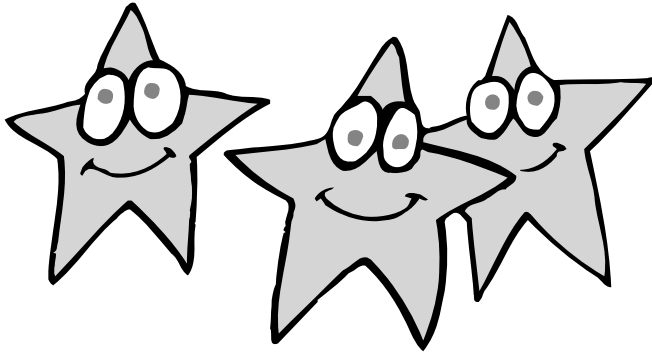
SLO Co. 4-H Calendar Updates

4-H Junior/Teen Leadership and Club Officer Training! Correction: Saturday, March 25, 2006 at the UCCE Auditorium, 2156 Sierra Way, SLO. From 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. there will be Junior/Teen Leadership training, then lunch, then from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. will be Club Officer training. This event is sponsored by the Youth Leadership Program Development Committee.

The SLO County 4-H Youth Ambassadors is organizing a **Primary Member Workshop**, to be held Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 2156 Sierra Way—UCCE Auditorium, from 9:00 am to 12:00 p.m.

The SLO Co. 4-H **Youth Leadership Camp**, has been scheduled for: Friday, May 12 through Sunday, May 14, 2006. Yes, that is Mother's Day weekend.

Information will be mailed to Community Club Leaders when plans become finalized.



SLO Co. 4-H All Star! How about You?

The All Star rank is the highest rank which a 4-H member may attain at the count level. Being an All Star provides an opportunity for high school members to receive recognition for outstanding service. The All Stars serve as ambassadors for the SLO County 4-H Youth Development Program; they represent 4-H at county, regional, and state activities; they coordinate certain county-wide activities; and they serve as positive role models for youth and adults.

To be eligible for the All Star rank, a 4-H member must:

Be 14 years of age or older by January 1, 2006, but not 19 years of age prior to January 1, 2007

Have participated in 4-H for three years or more

Have attained a Gold Star rank by April 13, 2006

Demonstrate leadership abilities, citizenship concern and maturity of judgment

Each candidate for the All Star rank will be required to submit an All Star application and participate in an individual and group interview. All Star applications may be obtained from the 4-H Office, call 781-5943 or email jgarcia@co.slo.ca.us.

Due: April 14, 2006—4-H Office

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Emerald Star Program

The Emerald Star Program offers 4-H members the opportunity to develop leadership skills beyond the club level. It is not a prerequisite to apply for the All Star rank.

To apply for an Emerald Star, you must:

Be 14 years of age or older by January 1 of the current project year

Hold the rank of Gold Star

An Emerald Star project plan must be submitted for approval prior to starting the project and must be evaluated at the completion of the project. You must also be prepared to handle any financial costs required to complete the project.

You can submit an Emerald Star project plan anytime during the project year (July 1 through June 30). Keep in mind that if you wish obtain your Emerald Star by SLO Co. 4-H Achievement Night (Saturday, October 7, 2006), the project **must be completed by August 31, 2006**.

Emerald Star projects will be evaluated for it's value to the SLO Co. 4-H Youth Development Program, value to the community, it's practicality and feasibility. Project plan examples may include: an event or activity involving three or more clubs, a community activity involving a group to serve the need of an individual or an educational purpose, or a major expansion/revision of a currently existing event/activity.

To get an Emerald Star Project Form, please call the 4-H Office at 781-5943 or email jgarcia@co.slo.ca.us. If you have questions about the Emerald Star Program, please contact JoAnn Overbey, Awards Director at 528-8232.

"I Support 4-H" Magnets

only \$5.00 each!!

Call the 4-H Office 781-5943 or
email jgarcia@co.slo.ca.us

to make arrangements to get your
"I Support 4-H" Magnet... TODAY!

SLO County 4-H YDP **FIELD DAY**

This event is scheduled for Saturday, June 11, 2006. All 4-H Members are invited to this "mini" 4-H fair that we call "Field Day."

There will be animal showmanship, level testing in some areas, arts & crafts contests and much more is being planned for this all day event!

Advertise in the 2006 4-H Field Day Premium Book!

At this time, advertising space is available for the Premium Book. To place your ad, you need to submit complete art work and wording or business card to the

4-H Office, 2156 Sierra Way, Suite C, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

You can also send your ad via email: jgarcia@co.slo.ca.us. Please have your ad in a pdf, jpg or word document format. Prices:

Quarter page	\$ 25.00
Half page	\$ 50.00
Whole page	\$100.00

ADS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE or at the time of submission of ad. Cash, check or money order accepted only. Checks and money orders should be made out to: "SLO County 4-H YDP". Ads are DUE: **Friday, February 17, 2006**. Questions or assistance with your ad, please call the 4-H Office at 781-5943.

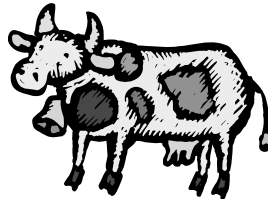
Silent Auction

Ken Dewar, Fundraising Director, of the SLO Co. 4-H Management Board, wants YOU to be a member of the Silent Auction Committee for 4-H Field Day! For more information about what you can do for the Silent Auction, call Ken at 543-0180 (business phone, you can leave a message) or the 4-H Office, 781-5943. Volunteer now!

Once again, all 4-H clubs in SLO County are being asked to provide at least one basket of donated items for the 2006 Silent Auction. With your club's generosity and support, the 2006 Silent Auction is bound to be an even bigger hit this year at Field Day!

2006 Beef Ambassador Program

The purpose of the San Luis Obispo County Cattle-Women's Beef Ambassador Program is to assist young adults in developing the communication skills necessary to become productive and successful members of our community. The 2006 San Luis Obispo County Beef Ambassador contest is open to **all county youth** and will be held on the evening of **Wednesday, February 22, 2006** in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in downtown San Luis Obispo.



The contest will include:

- A 5-8 minute prepared speech for Seniors and a 3-5 minute presentation for Juniors not including questions
- Speech topics will have to do with beef or the beef industry
- Three impromptu questions from the judges

Eligibility: Contestants must

- Be 17-20 years of age to participate in Senior Division
- Be 14-16 years of age to participate in Junior Division
- Maintain at least a 2.0 GPA or better
- Have a strong desire to improve his or her leadership skills

Prizes:

- First Place in the Senior Division will receive a \$500 scholarship
- Prizes for the Junior Division and Runner Up in both divisions will be decided and announced at the January 2006 SLO Cattle-Women's Board Meeting

The winner of each contest will go on to represent San Luis Obispo County at the state level and become eligible for even more cash prizes and scholarships. The winner of the Senior Division at the state level will go on to represent California at the national level. Contestants that compete in the Junior Division are eligible to compete again in the Senior Division in upcoming years.

Further information about the program such as the national rules and the Cattle and Beef Handbook are available at www.nationalbeefambassador.org. The impromptu questions from the judges are derived from the handbook, and the handbook also offers contestants a good source of factual information about the beef industry.

For further information please contact:

- Lindsey Gibson
- (805) 680-0674 or (805) 481-7115
- gibson.lindsey@att.net

SLO Scientist Open House

Thursday, March 23, 2006 — 6:30-7:30 p.m.

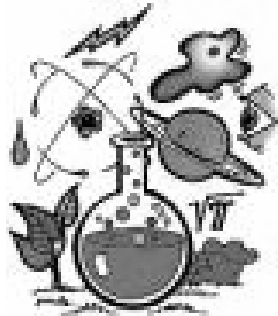
We are very excited to announce our first ever SLO Scientist Open House!! The open house will showcase hands-on science activities offered as part of the 4-H SLO Scientist Program.

So, what is "SLO Scientist"?

SLO Scientist is a youth/adult 4-H science club sponsored by the University of California's 4-H Youth Development Program. Each club is made up of a volunteer leader and up to 10 teams. Each team consists of one child—ages 8 thru 11—and one adult. (This adult may be a parent, grandparent, Big Brother or Sister, or any significant adult in that child's life.)

What do SLO Scientists do?

With the help of a trained volunteer, teams get to conduct science-based experiments and explore, investigate and observe together; learn how to turn liquids to solids instantly or make liquids change colors. Each science club meets up to eight times over a period of a few months and focuses on a particular topic. For instance, in "Sciencing with Snails," you will be the chief investigator in the world of snails as you embark on a journey of wonder, awe and amazing feats! (You will also learn how to make an appetizing snail smorgasbord.) In "Beyond Duck, Cover & Hold," you will shake, rattle and roll as you ex-



plore earthquakes, seismic waves, and seismograms. (You will also learn what marshmallows, jello, and toothpicks have in common.) It is all hands-on fun! Many SLO Scientists are so excited about their discoveries they want to share them with others, and have gone on to participate in a variety of exciting community projects.

What should you do?

Please join us at the open house. It is guaranteed to be a fun, interesting and interactive way to see what a SLO Scientist club meeting is really like. Come meet and ask questions of our SLO Scientist volunteer leaders and Heather Dauer, our SLO Scientist Coordinator. Find out how to join or start a SLO Scientist group in your area or club. Or just meet other families in the 4-H Program while enjoying some punch and cookies. Either way, put this event on your calendar—it's sure to be a great time!



WHEN: **Thursday, March 23, 2006**

TIME: **6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**
(it's okay to arrive late)

WHERE: **UCCE Auditorium**
2156 Sierra Way, SLO

QUESTIONS? 4-H office at 781-5943

Young Achiever Program

Photographer Needed

We are sorry to inform you that there will be no Young Achiever Program for 2006. Recruitment for a studio photographer is still ongoing and therefore, if you know a studio photographer who may be interested, please call the 4-H office, 781-5943.

Wanted!

Field Day Event Chair!

The San Luis Obispo County 4-H Field Day is our biggest event for our County 4-H members. In order for this event to be successful, an Event Chair is urgently needed, so that planning for The 2006 SLO Co. 4-H Field Day can begin. Event planning experience is helpful but not required. If you are interested or want more information, please contact the 4-H Office, 781—5943 or email jgarcia@co.slo.ca.us.

Cooperative Extension
University of California
4-H Youth Development Program
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San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

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SLO Co. 4-H Program Calendar

2006

FEBRUARY 2006

- 3 **DUE:** Registration for SLO Co. 4-H Presentation Day
- 4 **Avian Science Day**, UC Davis
- 10 **DUE: Late Registration for Western Region Leaders Forum**
- 11-12 **CA 4-H Horse Leadership Conference**, UC Davis—**POSTPONED**
- 11 **SLO Co. 4-H Presentation Day**, Cal Poly
- 17 **DUE:** Ads for 4-H Field Day Premium Book by 5:00 p.m. in the 4-H Office
- 18 **Western Bonanza**, Mid-State Fairgrounds
- 22 **SLO CattleWomen's Beef Ambassador Program interviews**, Board of Supervisors Chambers
- 23-26 **National Collegiate 4-H Conference**, OH

MARCH 2006

- 1-5 **Western Regional 4-H Leaders' Forum**, Salt Lake City, UT
- 4 **SLO Co. 4-H Record Book Workshop**, UCCE Auditorium
- 15 **SLO Co. 4-H Management Board Meeting**
- 18 **South Section 4-H Presentation Day**, Cal Poly
- 20 **DUE:** Registrations for "4-H You See Davis Days", UC Davis
- 23 **SLO Scientist Open House**, UCCE Auditorium, 6:30—7:30 p.m.
- 25 **Jr/Teen Leadership Workshop & Club Officer Training**, UCCE Auditorium
- 25-31 **National 4-H Conference**, Maryland
- 31 **DUE:** Applications for CA 4-H Ambassador