Greetings to 4-H Members, Leaders & Parents,

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July 27-30 GC 4-H Fair
For the most recent GC 4-H info go to:
www.GC4H.com

IN THIS EDITION:

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2017-2018 GLOUCESTER COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADOR OPPORTUNITY

The Gloucester County 4-H Ambassadors are teens serving in one of the highest leadership positions at the county level. These positions promote leadership development, service opportunities, and recognition to outstanding Teen Leaders.

The teen representatives are selected through the 4-H Ambassador Contest. In order to participate, you must have completed 9th, 10th or 11th grade at the end of this school year—June 2017. 4-H Ambassadors are chosen based on their 4-H experience, leadership abilities and accomplishments, an interview, a prepared speech, and spontaneous answers to questions. The contest will be held during the May Fair Association Meeting at 7:00 p.m.. The 2017-2018 4-H Ambassador(s) will be announced during the Parade of Clubs at Fair on Thursday July 27.

Applications may be downloaded from [www.GC4H.com](http://www.GC4H.com)

In the photo below are 2016–2017 Key Ambassador Shyanna Thomason, 2016-2017 County 4-H Ambassador Lydia D’Ambra.
Come to L.G. Cook 4-H Camp This Summer!

Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp is an outdoor education facility for youth development in Branchville, New Jersey, in the heart of Stokes State Forest. Our experienced and dedicated staff provide a challenging yet nurturing setting, where we help your child “learn by doing” within the philosophy of Rutgers University 4-H. The unplugged environment of our camp allows campers to try new things, open new doors, meet new challenges and make new friends. Our community is intentionally small because we want your child to have the individual attention that they need to succeed. Choose from seven fun-filled weeks of summer camp.

Session 1: Classic Camp 4th of July (July 3rd-8th)
Session 2: Spy Week (July 10th-15th)
Session 3: CHAOS! (July 17th-22nd)
Session 4: Holiday Everyday (July 24th-29th)
Session 5: Broken Time Machine (July 31st-August 5th)
Session 6: Color Wars (August 7th-12th)
Session 7: S’moregasbord (August 14th-19th)

Activities range from campfires, talent shows and games to in-depth classes in our five subject areas: Creative Arts, Outdoor Education, Shooting Sports, Leadership Development and Water Sports. We also offer a special Science, Engineering and Technology (S.E.T.) session that provides fun, hands-on opportunities to learn about rocketry, CSI, ecology, and more.

For more information visit our website at: http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/register.html or email us at 4hcamp@aesop.rutgers.edu. Or, schedule a tour of camp at your convenience as our staff enthusiastically awaits to assist you! Visit: http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/

Citizenship Washington Focus
Trip Dates: Sunday - Saturday, July 9th - 15th
National 4-H Center - Chevy Chase, Maryland
This is an excellent opportunity for teens in grades 9-12 (you need to have completed 9th grade by the time the trip occurs) to spend a week at the National 4-H Center with other outstanding teens from New Jersey and other states. Participants will learn a lot about how our government functions through workshops, visits with legislators, and tour of our nation’s capital. Application information is available now. Please contact the 4-H Office if you are interested in applying.
4-H members had the opportunity to participate in the County Public Presentations event held at Offices of Government Services on March 20 and March 21. We are happy to say that the event went extremely well! Each Public Speaking participant received a participation award from the 4-H Association and the Junior and Senior Grand and Reserve winners received Gift Cards.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

**JUNIORS:**

**Grand Champions**—Caitlyn Leeser
Mary Wordelman

**Reserve Champions**—Alexa Malaby & Hannah Cooper (TEAM)
Jayna Tistan & Rhianna DuBeau (TEAM)

**Junior Presenters:**

Devyn Booker, Isabella Cacchioli, Ava Cooper, Joshua Koerner, Kayla Kuebler, Hannah Perkins, Jayna Tistan, Lily Hickman, Gennieve Lisitski, Edward Ridgeway, Saul Ronsayro, Stacey Riley, Lucas Tobin

**SENIORS:**

**Grand Champions**—Skylar Cooper
Emily Ridgeway
Morgan Wordelman
Grace Stiles
Ty Costantino
Haley Malaby

**Reserve Champions**—Mannetta McAvaddy
Erica Worek
Claudia Harding
Emily Sorey

**Senior Presenters:**

Jillian Bergin, Madison Biester, Arianna Bowe, Rachel Corbin, Lydia D’Ambra, Nicole Greening, Marisa Henderson, Kora Hickman, Sage Knott, Emily Licciardello, Christina Lomonico, Jackie Monzo, Kourtney Pyle, Zeb Reale, Kelly Rouh, Shyanna Thomason

**CLOVERBUDS:**

Madeline Hoffman, Jamie Kuebler and Zander Taylor

**Congratulations to all our Senior Division members who qualified for the State Public Presentation Event:**

Jillian Bergin, Madison Biester, Arianna Bowe, Rachel Corbin, Ty Costantino, Lydia D’Ambra, Nicole Greening, Claudia Harding, Marisa Henderson, Marissa Henderson, Kora Hickman, Sage Knott, Emily Licciardello, Christina Lomonico, Jackie Monzo, Kourtney Pyle, Zeb Reale, Emily Ridgeway, Kelly Rouh, Emily Sorey, Grace Stiles, Shyanna Thomason, Morgan Wordelman, Erica Worek

**A workshop to help prepare the State Presenters for the big event will be offered at the County 4-H Office on May 22, 2017 at 6pm.**

Participants should be prepared to do their presentations at that time.

NJ State Public Presentations will be held June 10, 2017 at Hickman Hall on the Douglas Campus Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Best wishes to all our qualifiers!

You all did a great job—Congratulations to everyone who participated!

BIG thanks to everyone who helped to organize, judge and run the event, and a special thanks to the 4-H Association and volunteers!!
Jr. Breeder and Young Farmer Symposium

Cook College, Rutgers University
Saturday, April 1st
8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

The Jr. Breeder and Young Farmer Symposium will be held at Rutgers University on Saturday, April 1st. The day will be filled with hands-on activities for dairy, equine, rabbit, poultry, and small ruminant. There will be a minimal cost for the program, which includes lunch, program materials and guest speakers. Registration forms are available at www.GC4H.com. For more information please contact Lynn Mathews at (609) 984-4389 or email at lynn.mathews@ag.state.nj.us.

Jr. Breeder Financial Aid Program NJ Department of Agriculture

Attention 4-H Members: the Junior Breeder Association provides loans to 4-H members looking to purchase livestock or equipment. For more information on how you can receive a loan, please go to www.GC4H.com or contact Lynn Mathews at (609) 984-4389 or email at lynn.mathews@ag.state.nj.us

Scholarships

The NJ Department of Agriculture currently has more than 18 scholarships posted for application at this time. For more information on available scholarships please visit www.GC4H.com
Vibrant youth groups help youth reach their potential and become self-directing, autonomous adults. Vibrant youth groups are those which have achieved a sense of genuineness and possess a drive toward the future--not in some smug way but rather in a way that they believe in themselves and have a sense of inner confidence. Vibrant youth groups believe in what they do, celebrate their commitments to action and express a sense of hope and courage for youth and their role in it.

There are eleven essential elements of vibrant youth groups.

- **Weaning, not winning.** Kids are the focus of vibrant groups. Effective youth groups help youngsters develop a sense that they "own" the group. Young people in such programs, particularly older members, want to feel that the group is theirs and want adults to reduce their part in decision making. Fun, learning, growth--these are the important concerns in vibrant groups. Training youth to become independent, thinking people are the goals of vibrant groups. Less effective groups were focused on winning and beating others. Winning awards, competitions, contests, numbers of ribbons or trophies and "being the best" are the greatest concerns in less effective youth groups.

- **Changing how they do things but not what they do.** Truly effective youth groups are "firm yet flexible." Vibrant youth groups experiment with seating arrangements, try new activities, and experiment within a certain accepted structure and organizational culture. As one youth put it, "Our club is really original in our meetings." At the same time, though, vibrant groups provide a consistency and reliability on which members could always count. Other research has indicated that moderate levels of structure are often characteristic of healthy groups. Vibrant groups meet regularly and consistently. Traditions, rituals, and ceremonies are used to foster a sense of continuity with the past and with an organization larger than the local group.

- **Work hard and play hard.** A common theme was that groups were not meeting just to meet or just to conduct business. Vibrant youth groups provided a way for members to do things together in fun ways--from ski trips, to weekend outings to roller skating parties. But vibrant youth groups also worked hard. They were involved in community service activities and fundraisers that spanned a wide variety of interests—cleaning up a section of highway to providing programs at a local nursing home. Effective clubs get involved and help youth develop an ethic of service to their community. As one youth observed: "In our group, you've got a lot of responsibility, but the work is fun. It's hard work, but it's worth it."

- **Empower rather than embalm.** Empowerment means to "authorize, delegate, give authority, enable or permit a person to do something. In short, vibrant youth groups enable youth do do what they are qualified to do. Rather than try and preserve young people in some childlike state, vibrant youth groups empower members to develop personal responsibility.

- **Communicate and listen.** Members in the vibrant youth groups I studied frequently mentioned that they felt listened to, respected, and their input was genuinely valued. Vibrant youth groups make a conscious effort to involve members in discussions and deliberations. Effective youth groups also communicate well and listen to one another. Vibrant youth groups viewed communication and leadership as two-way processes in which adults and youth shared responsibilities. Young people in vibrant youth groups felt listened to and included. Again, one member commented: "If I wanted to recruit somebody who is older into our group, I would them how they get to voice their opinions in a meeting without being ridiculed or being told, 'That's dumb!' by other people."

- **Balance between chaos and rigidity.** Effective youth groups were able to achieve a certain harmony between too much chaos and too much rigidity--ordered chaos, or as the new buzzword puts it--chaordic. When circumstances change, vibrant youth groups are able to adapt by making the necessary changes in rules, power structures or relations to move on. Ineffective groups are devastated by change and are so rigid as to be unable to fit in to new circumstances.

- **Affirm and support one another.** From my research, it was evident that healthy youth groups celebrated the successes of all members and did not define themselves by any single accomplishment of the group or its members. Instead, they took pride in and celebrated the collective efforts of all members. One parent commented that their goal was "not necessarily to be the best but to do our best." Adult leaders in such groups encouraged youth with specific, positive feedback. Discouraging comments were rarely heard in vibrant youth groups whereas discounting and demeaning comments were voiced in control-oriented groups.

- **Mentoring.** Vibrant youth groups have developed a mentoring system to socialize newcomers into the club environment. Helping new members feel welcomed into the group is a hallmark of vibrant youth groups. Such efforts help new members learn the language and traditions of the program or organization. Buddy systems were common in vibrant groups where older, more experienced members adopted younger members and served as practical role models for them.
Value and practice service to others. Although community service is a key value for many youth groups, vibrant groups actively practices and treasured community service. Community service was not viewed in these groups as just another requirement for a charter or as program expectation, but rather community service was valued as important in itself. Indeed, vibrant youth groups perceived community service as a part of the group's fundamental experiences. One member said: "Helping is the fun part."

Take time for training. Effective youth groups set aside time to train youth for the roles they will assume in adulthood. Adults saw as one of their primary responsibilities of training and development of young people to become involved as equal partners in the process of planning, implementation, and evaluation. This is a key characteristic of vibrancy. Research has demonstrated that well-functioning groups do not just happen. Rather, they result from consistent efforts to create, maintain, and (occasionally) restore conditions that foster effective learning. The sum of the parts is greater than the whole. Vibrant youth groups result from a synergy that evolves from the presence of all 10 of the previous elements. In essence, then, it's not enough to possess just some of these characteristics to be truly vibrant. Instead, all these elements must be present, and all these elements work together to create a synergy that would be absent otherwise. There is a synergy in vibrant groups that creates an energy far in excess of the contributions of individual components.
Helping Paws

Our mission is to provide community service to animal shelters, animal rescues and to other animals in need, by raising public awareness, donation drives and club activity events. At our meetings we make pet toys or treats that will be donated to a rescue or shelter, and learn about that month’s animal species. So far, we have made toys for and learned about dogs, cats, rabbits and small animals. We also made feral cat shelters that we donated to Purrfect Angels cat rescue. In November, we held a collection drive collecting shoes for the Cumberland county SPCA. The shoes were then bought by an organization that distributes shoes to those in need. In December, our club adopted a Zebra from the Cape May Zoo.

Also in December, we held an animal shelter donation drive. We passed out over one thousand flyers to developments in Mantua, Mullica Hill, Glassboro, Elk Township and West Deptford. In our travels, we filled over 11 vehicles ranging from cars, pickup trucks, Mini Vans and SUVs with donations. The donated items ranged from toys and treats to cat condos and different size crates! The donated items were sorted by Helping Paws members based on shelters’ wish lists and needs. Donations were then distributed to the Gloucester County Animal Shelter, Animal Welfare Association, Animal Orphanage, Camden County Animal Shelter, Cumberland County Animal Shelter, Animal Adoption Center, Purrfect Angels Cat Rescue, People for Animals Spay/ Neuter Clinic & Rescue (Clayton), and Oasis Animal Sanctuary.
Description of the experiment:

*Drone Discovery* was developed by Cornell University Cooperative Extension. It’s a hands-on engineering design challenge that explores the science behind drones and how they are being used to solve real world problems. Youth will learn everything from flight dynamics and aircraft types, to safety and regulations, to remote sensing and flight control.

Gloucester County 4-H staff members Tammy Suydam and Linda Strieter conducted the experiment with St. Mary’s 8th grade advanced science and math students on Nov. 30th and Dec. 6th. The students who conducted the experiment will be coming to the 2017 GC 4-H Fair to demonstrate the “Drone Discovery” for the Fair visitors. Here is the first hand student account of the experiment!!

**Saint Mary’s Students Fly High**
by: Emma Oravis

Towards the end of November, some of the eighth grade students at St. Mary School, Williamstown, New Jersey rediscovered the mechanics of flight. The students worked in teams to build airplanes made of Styrofoam parts. The goal was to video the 4H crest as the plane was soaring from above the ground. To accomplish this, the groups attached small cameras that recorded audio and video to the Styrofoam airplanes they had constructed. The first time the students tested the planes, they crashed due to the unbalanced weight of the camera. Then, through trial and error, they modified the weight of the planes by attaching pennies. After the addition of the pennies balanced the weight of the camera, the planes soared effortlessly through the air, recording beneath them as they flew. Their landing may not have been graceful, but all of the planes made it safely to the ground. Mr. Bakley, their teacher, helped the students to retrieve the video. The students watched the video and were able to observe the flights in slow motion. Overall, the experiment was a success. When the video footage was played in slow motion, there were several clear shots of the crest. The students observed the effects that forces such as gravity, thrust, lift, and drag have on a flight. If the students had been making paper airplanes, they would have had the ability to adjust certain parts of the plane to minimize drag and increase lift. However, since they were using Styrofoam, they could not change the shape of the plane. There were only two things they had control over: the weight and distribution of it. Working together, they were able to give flight to a plane and met the challenge of recording the 4H crest from above. Of all the things this experiment showed, it displayed how the ability to collaborate with others is essential to moving forward with future innovations.
The First Citizenship Washington Focus Presidential Inauguration

By: Claudia Harding

During the week of the Presidential Inauguration on January 21st, 2017, five hundred 4-H youth gathered at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD to experience the process first hand and learn about the delegation process, as well as experience the historical city that is known as Washington, D.C. The leadership and political conference is known as Citizenship Washington Focus Presidential Inauguration. This year is the first time in 4-H history that this event has taken place.

The NJ delegation selected eleven 4-Hers from across the state to represent New Jersey at the event. I was one of the eleven selected. CWF -PI being my first national 4-H trip, you could only imagine how nervous I was. However, as soon as I entered the bus that drove us to Chevy Chase, I knew that this experience would be spectacular. Both of the chaperones, Mrs. Jeannette Rea-Keywood and Miss Melissa Blodnik were extremely welcoming, generous, and helpful all throughout the week trip.

Our bus arrived from New Jersey to Chevy Chase around 3pm on Tuesday, January 17th. From there we found our rooms. I was roomed with three other NJ delegates. Two of the girls were from the northern counties of New Jersey and one was from Burlington. We quickly grew close to each other and bonded based off our differences. It is crazy how different people from South Jersey are to people from North Jersey, even though our state is very small. Along with my roommates, the NJ delegation consisted of three other girls and four boys. Each of the delegates became very special to me and are now friends that I will continue to keep in touch with for life.

Along with finding our rooms on Tuesday, we also attended a welcoming speech. From there, we were grouped into workshop rooms based on the animal name on our name tag, which we received from check-in. The workshop groups were completely random and so I met other 4-Hers from states such as Minnesota, California, Wisconsin, and Florida. We met in our workshop groups each night and discussed topics such as The Media's Role, The Government's Role, The President's Role, and Our Role as 4-Hers. I found the workshops to be very helpful and inciting. I learned a lot about the types of government and how I can impact my society.

During the week we also visited a lot of what D.C. has to offer. On Wednesday night we did a night tour of the National Monuments. In the winter night light, each monument was spectacular and made me realize my gratitude for our American history, especially after visiting the Martin Luther King JR Memorial.

On Friday, Inauguration Day, the NJ delegation was very lucky to get tickets in the Blue Standing Section, the first standing section closest to the Capitol. It was an amazing experience. We took the Metro into the city (my first time on a subway) and from there we walked to our ticketed area. When walking, we saw tons of people selling Trump merchandise as well as a large group of people protesting. I found it refreshing to see these people first hand protesting for what they believe. The protest we witnessed was non-violent. We arrived at our standing area around 8:40 am, and quickly went through security which highly surprised me. From that point on, we stood in the same spot for three hours, until the ceremonies started at 11:30, the area we were in was very crowded and I could barely move. The hours of standing did give me more time to get to know my new friends though. When the ceremonies finally started I felt a little bit uncomfortable. Grown men and women were booing each person that was announced, such as Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, and even Barack Obama, at the time, the current President of the United States. Each time a Senator came and spoke, the individuals around me booed again and started chanting “Trump”. To me, as a youth of the United States, I felt that the whole situation was extremely disrespectful and ignorant. I did not let this ruin my time though, I was there at the Capitol experiencing history as the 45th President of the United States was sworn in.

Overall, this experience meant the world to me. Not only did I get to learn and experience history, but along the way I met a bunch of great people who I know I will soon see again. 4-H has a lot to offer and I strongly encourage all 4-H members to take advantage them. 4-H goes beyond our County, and even our State. 4-H is the largest youth group in America and each national event is special. As Gloucester County 4-H members, we have to get out there and take those advantages because we are the future of 4-H.
Congratulations

To Molly Worek on all of her wins at the 2017 NJ State Model Horse Show!!!

4th Team Overall in Communications: Erica Worek (Gloucester), Maddi Whiting, Cassie Collimore, Hunter Morgan
Coaches: Mary Howard (Gloucester) and Erin Sharpe (Atlantic)

To Kaylee Luckiewicz & Morgan Wordelmann for their 2nd Place Team in 2017 Horse Bowl

Erina Worek and Manetta McAvaddy
Molly Worek
Morgan Wordelmann
Skylar Cooper
On the 2017 New Jersey State Equine Presentations
1. First and foremost, follow the rules of the show/the show grounds and the rules of the governing bodies of your chosen discipline.

2. Horse show etiquette starts in the parking lot. At schooling shows especially, many riders might forgo stalls and get their horses ready at the trailer. If this is the case, competitors should leave sufficient distance between trucks and trailers to allow movement for horses and riders.

It is also extremely important to drive slowly. Riders will take their horses outside the arenas, and competitors never know when they are going to run into a spooky or maybe even a runaway horse.

3. Moving around and using the show grounds. Riders should place themselves in bubbles at horse shows. Walking too close to another horse might provoke a bite or kick, and even the calmest of horses can strike out aggressively if they feel cornered. When walking a horse to the show ring, a stall, the trailer or the wash area, a rider should be careful to maintain a safe distance.

Before taking a wash stall, horse show etiquette requires that rider make sure that no one else is using it. The same is true for the warm up arena if the rider wants to lunge, or any other designated area of the grounds.

In addition, walking or moving around the horse show grounds without a horse, competitors and spectators should remember that other people do have horses. Shouting, making noise, waving colorful objects and littering are all against horse show rules.

4. Schooling a horse. There are multiple schooling areas for competitors who are getting ready for their classes. These areas ARE NOT for learning new things or fixing bad habits; they are for warming up. Unfortunately, the schooling arena is often the most dangerous location on the grounds … be aware of your surroundings in the warm-up area!

General etiquette says that when you pass someone going the opposite direction, you should pass with your horse's left shoulder to the other horse's left shoulder. If the majority of riders are going in one direction, you should try to go with them. Don't stop to chat, rest, or fix something while on the rail -- go to the center or outside of the warm-up area.

It is also important to give other horses a wide berth in the schooling ring. Riders often yell “Heads up!” or call a particular fence before jumping it; it is also polite to call inside or outside rail when riding in opposite directions of other riders in the arena.

5. Show ring etiquette. The big one: Horse show etiquette is particularly important during classes. Riders must respect their fellow competitors as well as judges and spectators if they want to follow horse show rules.

Passing at horse shows can be dangerous, so it is best to find a spot on the rail. When a rider is moving faster than other horses in the arena, he or she should pass wide or make a circle to avoid a collision.

Riders should know the horse show rules regarding judges. Competitors, parents, trainers and instructors should go over the rules prior to the competition.

6. Equestrian sportsmanship. Sportsmanship is expected of ALL. This means respecting fellow riders and taking wins and losses graciously.

In closing, if you have any problems at a horse show that you cannot get resolved, have questions or need to report an offense, you can contact the Horse Show Staff or go through the ring steward to get in contact.