



Around the State in 4-H

College of Agricultural Sciences

December 2005

4-H and Youth Development



“You Are the Greatest!” is the headline of one of several articles that will appear in the 2005-2006 Pennsylvania 4-H Leader publication that will arrive for distribution in January. The article is a sincere attempt to recognize the 4-H Leaders for their tremendous contribution to our youth. As I close out my professional career in 4-H and Youth Development, I want to extend those same thoughts to you--the 4-H staff--who have given so much to the youth and adults of Pennsylvania. What a privilege it has been to know and to work with such a dedicated group of professionals. Thank you for all of your great work!

(Robert Lewis)

CAMP ENDOWMENT GRANTS *(Christy Bartley)*

The 4-H Camp Endowment grants are available for the support of youth who may not otherwise be able to attend camp either as campers or counselors. Due to growth of the endowment, we are able to support additional grant requests. The grants may support one youth or several who attend either a day or residential camping program. To apply, simply submit a one page document describing the situation and how the funds will be used. You may request funding of \$100, \$150, or \$200. As a part of the grant application, describe how you will use the funds if your request is not fully funded. At the bottom of the page include, contact information and the account a check should be made out to if you are awarded a grant. All applications are due by January 24, 2006. It is expected that a short one-page report will be submitted at the end of the camping season to describe how youth were impacted by the availability of these funds and the opportunity to go to camp. Grant applications and reports should be sent to Christy Bartley, The Pennsylvania State University, 323 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802 or email to cek4@psu.edu.

In this issue:

- ❖ Camp Endowment Grants
- ❖ National 4-H Poultry/Egg Conference
- ❖ Acknowledgement of Risk Forms
- ❖ 4-H National Congress
- ❖ 2006 4-H State Days
- ❖ Youth Development Enrollment Program
- ❖ Collegiate 4-H Event—Boxes of Cheer
- ❖ Holiday Traditions around the World
- ❖ Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program
- ❖ Baker Scholarship
- ❖ Action for Nature
- ❖ Free Environmental Education Posters
- ❖ Tap into State Parks for 4-H Support
- ❖ Teens and Part-Time Jobs

In 2005, counties receiving support from the endowment used the funds in the following ways:

- Union County provided one full scholarship and four partial scholarships to camp where youth participated in shooting sports and fishing as well as exercising their bodies and minds.
- Delaware County provided a partial scholarship to one child to attend day camps in archery, rocketry, and outdoor nature adventures. This led to the child's participation in camp Shehaqua and the realization of his potential as a future counselor.
- Potter County provided scholarships for two youth who are home-schooled to attend resident camp. They have been supported by scholarships in the past and are feeling much more comfortable about interacting with their peers in large groups.
- Lehigh County provided scholarships for two youth from Casa Guadalupe to go to Camp Shehaqua. The children were able to bring a city perspective to the camping program. Casa Guadalupe also sent an adult chaperone. There is also potential for one of these campers to become a future counselor.

YOUTH REPRESENT PENNSYLVANIA WELL AT NATIONAL 4-H POULTRY AND EGG CONFERENCE (Phillip J. Clauer)

On November 17, 2005, four 4-H'ers represented Pennsylvania in two contest areas at the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

In the National Avian Bowl Contest, Pennsylvania was seated first after the quiz and placed second after the double elimination Bowl portion of the event. The team members were Hannah Atkins, Christine Molinaro, and Kristen Stufft--all from Mifflin County. The team was coached and chaperoned by Carrie Stufft. Fourteen teams participated in this year's competition.

Laura Dewalt of Northampton was second in the National 4-H Chicken Barbecue Presentation Contest. Laura's extension educator, Kelly Weisner, served as coach.

Youth are strongly encouraged to participate in one of these poultry contests in the future. These activities provide exceptional learning experiences, are a lot of fun, and provide excellent awards. Since 2002, Pennsylvania offered new contests in Poultry Judging, Chicken and Turkey Barbecue Presentation, and Avian Bowl. A contestant wasn't available to represent PA in the 2005 National contest for Poultry Judging, Turkey Barbecue Presentation or Egg Cookery Presentation due to a lack of participation at the state level. If you are interested in these events in the future, contact Phillip J. Clauer (e-mail: pclauer@psu.edu, phone: 814-863-8960) for more information. The PA State 4-H Poultry website (<http://ulisse.cas.psu.edu/pa4h/contest.html>) also has information about these events.

Recognition and thanks go to **PennAg Industries Association Poultry Council** for helping to sponsor the Pennsylvania delegation for this trip and for helping sponsor the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK FORMS (*Christy Bartley*)

As of January 1, 2006, the volunteer liability insurance carrier is requiring that all participants of 4-H open horse shows complete an acknowledgement of risk form. Forms must be completed by 4-H members, non-members, and adults participating in the show. Youth under 18 years of age must have a parent signature on the form. The forms will be added to the 4-H Youth Development Policy and Resource Manual and to the 4-H horse program web site. 4-H members should complete the form once a year during enrollment and make a copy to take to shows along with copies of vet certificates, etc. Other participants of open horse shows will be required to complete the form at each open show.

As explained during past articles about insurance, whenever the public is involved in programming, the exposure risks increase. There is an understanding that 4-H Youth Development programs teach safety, but there is no control on the knowledge of youth and adults who participate in open shows as non-members. Since the 4-H horse projects are the only large animal projects to run open shows, the acknowledgement of risk forms are required for this activity.

The Youth Program Coordinating Council will be discussing the use of acknowledgement of risk forms in all project areas of the Pennsylvania 4-H program in coming months. Be sure to talk with your Regional Director about use of these forms.

4-H NATIONAL CONGRESS--NOVEMBER 24-28, 2006 (*Lydia Everhart*)

It is almost the beginning of a new year, which means getting your members excited and involved in new things in 2006. Why not give 4-H National Congress a try? This is a great event for older 4-H members to improve their leadership skills, social skills and learn about giving to others. Visit the National Congress Web-Site at <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/Congress.html> and find the 2006 dates, general information, registration forms, scholarship information and much more.

2006 4-H STATE DAYS--AUGUST 1-3, 2006 (*Lydia Everhart*)

Web-Site Updates. It is almost the New Year and I would like to let you know that we are updating information on the State Achievement Days web-site very regularly to prepare for 2006. Some new additions to the web-site will be; an educator handbook, a small engine contest, and two educational tracks (Ag Science and Visual Arts). We have also posted the new cost for the event, registration deadlines, etc. The complete contest/educational event handbook will be updated by January 15, 2005. To check out the web-site please go to: <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/AchieveDays.html>

Visual Art Track. Do you have youth that are interested in modeling, marketing, computer design, and journalism? Then this is the event for that at 4-H State Achievement Days. Professionals from Penn State will lead them on a hands-on journey through the visual arts where the youth will learn about modeling, photography, journalism, computer design and marketing. If you have youth that are interested this will be their contest/educational event for Wednesday of State Days. Watch the 4-H Web-site in February for a promotional flyer on this event <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/AchieveDays.html>

Agriculture Science Track. Do you have youth who don't fit into any contest that want to come to State Achievement Days? Do they have an interest in Food Science, Environmental Science, Forestry, Agronomy, or Animal science? If yes, then this is for them. A fun filled hands-on day exploring agricultural sciences. Participants will get a chance to do experiments, activities and much more. This is a great opportunity to learn about agriculture, and explore the world of being a college student. If you have youth that are interested this will be their contest/educational event for Wednesday of State Days. Watch the 4-H Web-site in February for a promotional flyer on this event <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/AchieveDays.html>

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (*Vince Verbeke and Christy Bartley*)

Both of us along with Lydia Everhart have been working together to update the enrollment program, formally known as Clover Counter. National 4-H Headquarters is changing information required to report. We do not have all the information yet but do know that the race/ethnicity reporting will be simplified. You will begin to see changes to the volunteer enrollment form which was recently reprinted. You will see similar changes to the member enrollment form when it is reprinted. Vince has agreed to make all changes to each county's Youth Development Enrollment Program after all changes are in from National 4-H Headquarters. He will use a process similar to the one for this year's A-100s where he requests each county to send in their files. Updates will then be made and the files sent back. In the meantime, you should enter data into Clover Counter as you have in the past. Keeping the Clover Counter files up-to-date will help to make the transition easier for your county. The Youth Development Annual Report (formerly A-100) will be due on September 15. As in the past, if you have technical questions, you should contact Vince. If you have reporting questions, you should contact Lydia. Thank you for your patience as we work through these changes.

ANNUAL BOXES OF CHEER COLLEGIATE 4-H EVENT (*Nicole Webster & Jacklyn Bruce*)

It was a night of sharing and service as members of Collegiate 4-H coordinated the 3rd annual Boxes of Cheer event. Members of the organization, along with College of Agriculture Sciences faculty, staff, and students packed 20 boxes for soldiers in Iraq. Donations were received from students, staff, and faculty in various colleges across the Penn State campus. As individuals packed boxes, Major Dickens of the United States Marines provided the audience with a vivid account of the benefits that "care" boxes bring to service men and women stationed overseas. Major Dickens recalled his experiences overseas and assured everyone that the efforts of Collegiate 4-H would be appreciated by young men and women who are always appreciative of a little reminder of home.

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD (*Patreece Ingram*)

Belgium: Children plant wheat on plates December 10th. By Christmas Day, the plates hold tiny wheat fields which are placed on windowsills for decoration.

Chile: Dancers perform in bright costumes while street vendors sell trinkets and hot meat pies.

France: Young children leave their shoes by the fire on Christmas Eve for a gift from "le père Noël" while the older children and adults go to church at midnight and then return home for a late supper called "le réveillon."

Greece: Children go from house to house singing carols and collecting small treats like nut cakes.

India: On Christmas night, lighted candles are displayed like stars on the rooftops.

Ireland: Children often put out Christmas sacks instead of stockings. It is tradition to leave mince pies and a bottle of Guinness out as a snack for Santa

Israel: In December on Hanukkah, children light the eight candles on the Menorah, one each day.

Italy: On Epiphany, January 6th, the good witch Befana comes down the chimney and fills children's shoes with treats or coal.

Mexico: At Christmas, children try piñatas while blindfolded.

Russia: Grandfather Frost is this country's version of Santa Claus. He usually delivers gifts on New Year's Day. A traditional gift is a special doll. The outer doll is opened to reveal smaller dolls nested inside.

The Netherlands: St. Nicholas visits on December 6th, arriving by steamship and riding through the country on a white horse.

New Zealand: It is the middle of summer at Christmas time. Christmas Day families often have a picnic or go to the beach for Christmas dinner. It is more traditional to have cold ham than hot turkey.

Norway: The children dress up in costumes and go from house to house asking for treats.

The Ukraine: Father Frost visits all the children in a sleigh pulled by only three reindeer. He brings along a little girl named Snowflake Girl. She wears a silver blue costume trimmed with white fur and a crown shaped like a snowflake.

HUTTON JUNIOR FISHERIES BIOLOGY PROGRAM (*Sanford Smith*)

Want to encourage someone? The Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program, sponsored by the American Fisheries Society, is designed to stimulate interest in careers in fisheries science and management among groups underrepresented in the fisheries professions, including minorities and women. Students (Grades 10-12) spend 8 weeks in the summer working alongside their mentor who is a fisheries professional in their local community. Participants receive a \$3,000 scholarship paid out in 6 installments over the summer months. Applications can be downloaded from the Web site: <http://www.fisheries.org/html/hutton.shtml>
Application Deadline: February 15, 2006.

BAKER SCHOLARSHIP (*Lydia Everhart*)

The Baker College Scholarship information is now available on the web at:

<http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/WhatIs/WhatIs4H.html>. Please make note that this application is due every April 15 and must have all accompanying materials to be accepted. Previous applicants may re-apply each year.

ACTION FOR NATURE (*Sanford Smith*)

Do you know any YOUNG ECO-HEROES aged 8 to 16 years? You might want to let them know about Action for Nature's 2006 International Young Eco-Hero awards program. Winners receive a cash prize and recognition for their environmental accomplishments. The award promotes individual action concerning environmental protection and advocacy, environmental health projects and the education of others. More details on the Web site: <http://www.actionfornature.org> Deadline: February 28, 2006

FREE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION POSTERS (*Sanford Smith*)

Help teach youth to protect the environment with everyday choices. From soccer balls to cell phones to DVDs, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "life cycle poster series" teaches students to understand the environmental impacts of everyday products. These posters track where products come from, how they are manufactured and transported, how to maximize their useful life, and what happens to them after use. For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/education/index.htm> or <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/education/mad.htm>

TAP INTO STATE PARKS FOR 4-H SUPPORT (*Sanford Smith*)

Did you know that many of the 117 State Parks in Pennsylvania offer educational programming at little or no cost to the public? Nearly 70 of the parks have Environmental Education Specialists (EES's) on staff who provide programs to school groups, scout troops, and other youth organizations like 4-H. Many of these EES's are eager and willing to work with all types of youth groups at their park sites, however few are familiar with the 4-H projects and curriculum. Encourage your local EES to review some of the environmental and natural resources 4-H projects available, and encourage your 4-H clubs to take advantage of this valuable and affordable resource that exists all over the state.

TEENS AND PART-TIME JOBS (*Anne Heinsohn*)

The conventional wisdom has long held that work experience during the teen years is a good thing. Teens have summer jobs of all kinds such as camp counselor, yard work, food service and retail. Part-time jobs during the school year may not be such a good thing especially if teens work more than 10 hours per week.

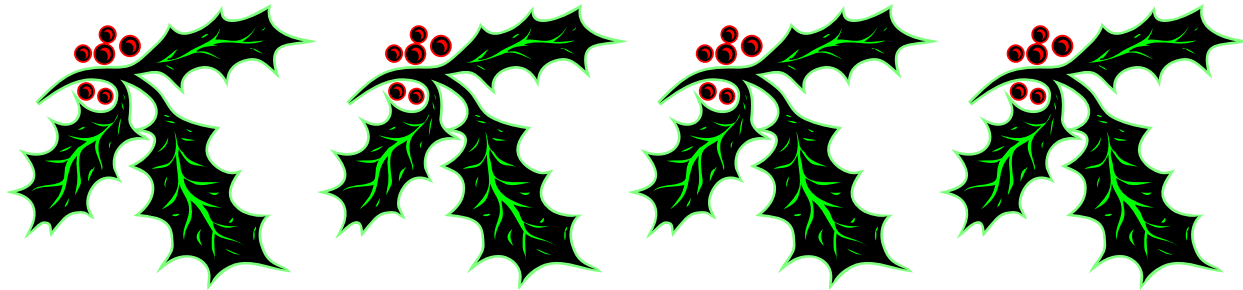
Working more than 10 hours after school and weekends has a downside. Teens arrive home late reducing time for both homework and sleep. While they may keep up their grades, there is a cost. Working teens tend to participate in fewer academic clubs, music activities, sports teams and school publications. This can be a problem for college-bound teens since extracurricular activities are still important for college admission. Long hours on the job also cut into time with family and friends.

Working teens can learn to manage their money and save for college. However, recent studies indicate working teens seldom save money from their paychecks for college. Rather they spend their earnings as they wish; usually for clothes, entertainment and other personal items. Sadly, some parents believe they shouldn't tell children how to manage money they earned themselves.

Moderation and balance are key here. Part-time jobs can be a positive experience for teens as long as they work around 10 hours a week during the school year. Time spent working needs to fit in with school responsibilities and extracurricular activities rather than crowding them out. Parents must be vigilant. If working teens are sleep deprived and overly focused on their jobs, perhaps working would be best put aside until school is out for the summer.

Reference: Kronholz, June, "Kids & Money," THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, November 28, 2005.

Editor's Note: Dr. Anne Heinsohn has faithfully contributed thought-provoking articles to "Around The State in 4-H" since she retired several years ago. Her articles have added another very important youth development dimension to the monthly ATS publication. Anne has indicated that this article will be the last one submitted to ATS. We appreciate her many articles submitted to ATS and her continuous support over the years of the 4-H youth development program. THANK YOU, ANNE for all of your outstanding support of 4-H.



The 2005 4-H calendar can be found at <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu>

CALENDAR

PA State 4-H Leaders Forum – March 31-April 1, 2006

4-H Capital Days

April 23-25, 2006 -- Registration opens January 15 and closes March 1

April 15-17, 2007 -- Registration opens January 15 and closes February 25

4-H State Achievement Days

August 1-3, 2006 -- Registration opens June 1 and closes July 5

July 24-26, 2007 -- Registration opens June 1 and closes July 5

Robert B. Lewis

Robert B. Lewis, Professor
Agricultural & Extension Education

In Consultation with
4-H & Youth Development Faculty & Staff

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

Penn State encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Robert Lewis (814-865-6551) in advance of your participation or visit.

The Pennsylvania State University is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. It is the policy of the University to maintain an academic and work environment free of discrimination, including harassment. The Pennsylvania State University prohibits discrimination and harassment against any person because of age, ancestry, color, disability or handicap, national origin, race, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Discrimination or harassment against faculty, staff, or students will not be tolerated at The Pennsylvania State University. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to the Affirmative Action Director, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901, Tel 814-865-4700/V, 814-863-1150/TTY.