



# Around the State in 4-H

June 2006

Office of 4-H Youth Development

# GROW

Resilient Children and Youth

## Pennsylvania 4-H Looks for Yearly Theme by Christy Bartley

It is hard to believe that with the busy summer season right around the corner, we are also thinking about the beginning of the new program year in October. The 4-H Youth Development Advisory Council approved efforts to identify yearly themes for 4-H to help all of us continue our efforts in communicating about the Pennsylvania 4-H program. Identifying a yearly theme will help all of us to focus our attention on specific aspects of the program during the year and to talk about the program with a common message. We will continue to keep most marketing materials general in nature so we can use our resources wisely.

We are asking our 4-H youth to help in identifying our yearly themes. Please share this opportunity with your youth and collect ideas in your county. Theme ideas should include a theme statement and any ideas that should be incorporated in using the theme for the year. For example, in the centennial year, the theme statement was 4-H: The Power of YOUth. Ideas that would support the theme for the year would be news releases on 4-H activities and events planned and organized by youth, inviting youth to serve on advisory and planning committees, etc.

The suggested theme needs to represent the entire 4-H program and not just a specific project area. The person submitting the winning theme will receive a registration scholarship of \$50.00 to the state level 4-H event of their choice. If the winning individual is under 13 years of age, I will work with the extension educator to identify a regional or county event for which to offer a scholarship.

Use the following format to submit ideas:

- Theme:
- Activities/events/actions to support theme:
- Submitter name:
- Submitter county:

Counties should send all submissions to Christy Bartley at [cek4@psu.edu](mailto:cek4@psu.edu) by August 31, 2006.

## Connecting People to Nature by Sanford Smith

Many of you have heard me talk about a new book, "Last Child In the Woods, Saving Our Children From Nature Deficit Disorder," and how important it is for youth educators to read. Well, for those that want a shorter version ... check out The National Wildlife Federation's June/July edition of National Wildlife Magazine which features "Nature and Child Reunion," an article by the same author, Richard Louv. You can find the article by going to this web site: <http://www.nwf.org/nationalwildlife/> and clicking on "Issue home." Other articles in this issue include: "Gardening for Life," and "Inviting the Outdoors In" focus on connecting people to nature. Some good summer reading for very busy folks.

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## Northeast Regional Leaders Forum by Christy Bartley

The Northeast Regional Leaders Forum, *New Visions....New Jersey*, will be held October 12-15, 2006 in Long Branch, New Jersey. Registration and workshop information can be found at the following web site: <http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/nervf>. Please copy information for your volunteers or have them get on-line to register. This year's forum follows the more traditional format of past leader forums with a day for tours/seminars on wheels on Friday and workshops on Saturday. There are several Extension Educators and 4-H volunteers from Pennsylvania offering workshops so encourage volunteers from clubs, advisory committees, and special committees to sign up for a fun-filled weekend. Marjorie Bezilla, a 4-H volunteer from Indiana County, will be recognized as the regional Lifetime Salute to Excellence Award winner. Some may want to attend the celebration which will be held at the Sunday morning brunch and closing ceremony.

## 4-H State Achievement Days Service Projects by Lydia Everhart

4-H State Achievement Days is just around the corner, and with that comes our "Service with a Purpose Day." This year we have many sites ready for us to come and do our magic for them. We also have some special people we have chosen as our focus, our Military Stars. Serving Our Stars is a project for us to collect items prior to State Achievement days, bring them with you in August and package boxes to send to our troops serving overseas during this time of war. You can find a complete list of items that they would like to have sent or things that they need. The web-site is: <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/AchieveDays.html>. We are also continuing our Baker's Lend a Humane Hand project and have a list of items posted on the web-site for this as well.

## Still Time To Sign Up For CLS by Sanford Smith

Do you know teens that like the outdoors? Would they like to learn about conserving fields, forests, water, and wildlife? Would they like to make a difference in conservation efforts? Penn State's Conservation Leadership Schools are one-week outdoor workshops for high school students interested in natural resource management, conservation, and exploring solutions to environmental problems. Participants learn about the world around them by exploring that world--in forests and fields, in streams, and on lakes. It's the ideal school where the classroom includes over 700 acres of forest, fields, wetlands, and streams; where learning about the environment goes hand-in-hand with having fun, meeting new friends, and learning leadership skills. Take the opportunity to view a video about a past CLS at <<http://www.greenworks.tv/tvshow/education/envircamps.asp>>

To attend CLS, teens should have a genuine interest in conservation and the environment. They must be 15 to 18 years old and must have completed ninth grade. CLS isn't a recreational summer camp, although lots of fun is definitely on the agenda! It's a RE-creation experience, leading participants to learn, to live, and to think critically about sustaining our environment. For more information go to: <http://conferences.cas.psu.edu/CLS/default.htm>.

4-H State Days registration web-site now open at:  
<http://go.cas.psu.edu/4hsad/>  
Early Bird Registration June 1-June 15  
Regular Registration June 16-July 5  
Late Registration July 6-10 (\$25 late fee per person)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**



The 2006 4-H Calendar can be found at:  
<http://pa4h.psu.edu>

- ◆ **July 5**  
Close of Regular 4-H SAD Registration
- ◆ **July 9**  
Late Registration Deadline for 4-H Achievement Days
- ◆ **July 25**  
National 4-H Congress Delegate Confirmation due



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## Web-Site Update by Lydia Everhart

The 4-H State Achievement Days is taking on a new life and being updated regularly. We have added a video clip entitled "Inside State Days" which was done by the theatre arts program participants two years ago. There is also a scrapbook of the 2005 Service with a Purpose Day. Keep up-to-date by looking at the site for announcements, preparation materials for the event, and other important information you may need. The site is: <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/AchieveDays.html>

### Tidbit of Information

**Enrollment for the 2nd Annual Geospatial Technology Summer Camp, to be held at University Park July 31st to August 4th, is now in an open enrollment period and we are accepting youth ages 12 to 18 regardless of rural or urban location, or family income levels.**

**The cost is only \$65 per student and scholarships are still available for low income families.**

**Any questions please contact Stewart Bruce: [stew@psu.edu](mailto:stew@psu.edu)**

## National 4-H Congress by Lydia Everhart

The National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, GA is coming up in November and it is time for you to start thinking about who your delegates will be for this event. All delegate confirmations must be to Lydia Everhart by July 25, 2006. Each county may send two delegates. All information about National Congress can be found at <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/Congress.html>.

## Majorie Bezilla is Regional Lifetime Salute to Excellence Awardee by Christy Bartley

The Salute to Excellence program is a national recognition program for 4-H volunteers. These volunteers may be nominated in two categories, Volunteer of the Year for those with less than ten years experience or Lifetime Volunteer for those with 10 or more years experience. This year is the first opportunity that volunteers will also be chosen as regional winners in the same categories. Marjorie Bezilla from Indiana County has received the regional recognition for Salute to Excellence in the Lifetime Volunteer category. National winners have not yet been announced.

Marjorie has volunteered her time to the 4-H program for 33 years. Marjorie is a leader for the Shawnee Riders 4-H Horse Club where she estimates she has reached over 500 youth during her tenure. She also coached the first horse bowl team from Indiana County and continues to work with horse bowl as a moderator. Club members are active in the hippology program. In both contests, teams and individuals place well showing they are well prepared. Marge was the first leader to chair the county horse leaders committee and often serves as the county representative to district meetings. She has represented Pennsylvania at the National 4-H Horse Forum in Washington, DC, organized a trip to the Kentucky Horse Park for 40 people, and attended the American Youth Horse Council Symposium in Florida in 2006.

Marge is not only about horses though. She has attended 4-H State Achievement Days, served as a judge at regional 4-H presentation contests and taught skills to other 4-H leaders in a variety of workshop settings. She is also active in organizing her club to raise funds for educational field trips and in recruiting other leaders to help with club work. As a testament to Marge's work with youth, several of her former 4-H members are now active 4-H leaders in Indiana County.

Congratulations Majorie!





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## EDITOR'S PAGE

*Christy E. Bartley*

Christy Bartley  
State 4-H Program Leader

In Consultation with  
4-H Youth Development Faculty & Staff

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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