



Around the State in 4-H

March 2006

Office of 4-H Youth Development

W O R L D

Resilient Children and Youth

PENNSTATE



an OUTREACH
Program of
the College of
Agricultural
Sciences

March 2006

Volunteers Help to Make the Best Better Christy Bartley

Volunteers are the key to a successful 4-H club program. They work directly with youth to achieve the goals established in 4-H. National Volunteer Week, April 23-29, is a great time to recognize their efforts. It can also be a time to provide the updates and learning experiences needed to do a better job. It can be a time to provide other opportunities for club volunteers who have outgrown their club roles. Some volunteers can help with recruiting, training, recognition, and fund development. The Independent Sector report has increased the value of volunteer time to \$18.04/hour. In many cases, volunteers are the programs greatest assets so be sure to recognize them. For more information on volunteering, you may want to check out the Independent Sector web site at <http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/gv01main.html>.

4-H Club Accounts Christy Bartley

During the professional meet up call on management of 4-H club financial accounts, educators requested a brief newsletter article to be used across the state. Here it is. Feel free to use as needed. Please note that during the conference call we found out there are small banks in the state still allowing youth signatures so the policy statement will be changed slightly to reflect that.

With passage of the Patriot Act, some banks have developed new guidelines for signature cards. In many cases, the banks require picture identification which many youth do not have. Youth have therefore been unable to sign the bank signature cards and be a signer of 4-H club checks. When this occurs, two unrelated adults may be signers on the card. It is suggested that at least one of the adults is a 4-H club leader. The other may be a parent. The club treasurer should still be approving expenditures before checks are written. If the bank in your area is still allowing youth signatures, then the treasurer and unrelated adult may still be signers on the bank card. As bank signature cards are updated, it is requested that a signature from an extension educator be added to the cards. This additional signature provides the oversight of funds required by use of the 4-H name and emblem.

The Value of Volunteer Time Michael Martin

The Independent Sector has posted its calculation of the per hour value of volunteers for 2005 - \$18.04. This is up from the 2004 figure of \$17.55. More information on volunteering in the US may be found: <http://www.independentsector.org>.

In December, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released its latest information on volunteering in the US in 2005. Their survey shows that 65.4 million people volunteered, about 28.8% of the population. This was basically unchanged from 2003 and 2004. The full survey results may be found at: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.toc.htm>.

This is another way to demonstrate the return on investment 4-H provides to our communities. The value of our public sector support is multiplied many-fold when you account for the value of our volunteers.

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Acknowledgement of Risk Forms

Christy Bartley

Several educators have asked if acknowledgement of risk forms for 4-H horse members should be collected before the June 1 deadline. If you have horse club members who will be participating in 4-H horse events and shows before that date, it is recommended that the forms be collected earlier. The forms may be distributed with enrollment forms if that works best for your county. Educators need to use their judgment on the timeline for collection of these documents.

4-H Capital Days — Impact Study

Lydia Everhart

A study examining the impact of 4-H Capital Days has been approved, and will take place during the 2006 4-H Capital Days Event. We need your help, in making this study successful! We have posted on the web two documents that need to be sent to the parents of the delegates prior to attending this event. The parental consent form must accompany your delegate's medical and code of conduct forms to the event. This study will aid in interpreting the value of the event, improvements that need to be made, and potential behavior changes of the delegates due to participation in Capital Days Event. You can find the parental letter and consent forms on the Capital Days web-site at: <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Activities/CapitalDays.html>. If you have any questions in regards to this study please contact Lydia Everhart at lak146@psu.edu

Quality Assurance Skills and Activities Integrated into 4-H Livestock Curriculum

Bob Mikesell

Beginning in 2006, two Quality Assurance (QA) Skills and Activities will be required for 4-H livestock members using the market steer, lamb, swine, goat, and dairy beef feeder reference guides. These activities are in addition to the three animal skills and three life skills traditionally required. New grey Intermediate and Advanced Record Books contain a space for members to list their annual QA Skills and Activities. The Dairy Beef Reference Guide and revised Market Swine Reference Guide (available Spring 2006) contain lists of potential QA skills and activities. However, market beef, lamb, and goat members will need to get lists of potential ac-

tivities from the extension office. These supplemental lists will be distributed in March, 2006. QA lists will be added to additional reference guides during scheduled revisions.

Insurance Update Requests due June 1

Christy Bartley

The meeting date with our insurance agent has been changed from September to June so announcements about coverage changes can be made before the beginning of the program year. Please have any suggestions for additional fund-raisers submitted to Christy (cek4@psu.edu) by June 1. Also, if there are high risk activities that 4-H volunteers have wanted to do, they should be reviewed just to be sure our list of not covered activities remains up-to-date.

HELPFUL INFORMATION:

◆ Resources Available

New Resources from Harvard Family Research Project To view these resources or to subscribe to learn more, go to <http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/>

◆ Clover Corner News

Subscribe to this national on-line newsletter at <http://www.4hblogs.org/ccn>.



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After-school Resources and Publications

Claudia Mincemoyer

The following after-school resources and publications are available and linked to our 4-H Afterschool Web Site.

With funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the National Collaboration for Youth was able to create a compendium of evaluated programs that bring about a range of positive outcomes for youth. **Making a Difference in the Lives of Youth** features 10 case studies that each profile National Collaboration for Youth member's out-of-school-time programs in action. Readers will discover how the programs are making a difference, through individual stories and quotes from youth, parents, program implementers, and researchers. Special tips for implementation are included in each case study and the publication ends with recommendations for program evaluation. The publication is available at: <http://www.nydic.org/nydic/programming/newideas/MakingADifferenceintheLivesofYouth.htm> <<http://www.nydic.org/nydic/programming/newideas/MakingADifferenceintheLivesofYouth.htm>>



The United Way of Massachusetts Bay has recently released a report, **Pathways to Success for Youth: What Counts in Afterschool: A Report of the Massachusetts Afterschool Research Study** and a companion policy document. The report summarizes a 3-year study that included 4,100 children in 78 after-school programs from 10 diverse school districts in Massachusetts. The study examined the relationship between after-school program characteristics, program quality, and youth outcomes. The study was conducted by the Intercultural Center on Research and Evaluation and the National Institute on Out-of-School Time. It was developed and funded by United Way of Massachusetts Bay in partnership with the Barr Foundation, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, the Massachusetts Department of Education and the Massachusetts Office of Child Care Services. To access the study, visit: <http://www.uwmb.org/MARS-Report.pdf> <<http://www.uwmb.org/MARS-Report.pdf>>

Web sites with After-school Quality Evaluation Measures

Deborah Vandell – Study of Promising Programs
<http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/childcare/form3.html> <<http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/childcare/form3.html>>

Beyond The Bell (cost of the toolkit is \$59.00)
<http://www.beyondthebell.org/> <<http://www.beyondthebell.org/>>

Tidbits of Information

◆ Regional Volunteer Forum (Christy Bartley)

The 2006 Regional Volunteer Leaders Forum will be held in Long Branch, New Jersey, October 12-15. Have volunteers save these dates. Registration information will be distributed when received.

◆ 2006 4-H Literacy Education Mini-Grants Available

Check www.fourhcouncil.edu/GrantsLiteracy.aspx. **Completed applications are due on Friday, March 17, 2006.** If you have any questions, contact Sheila Chaconas at schaconas@fourhcouncil.edu or 301-961-2858.

◆ National 4-H Strategic Plan

Pennsylvania 4-H adopted the national 4-H strategic plan when it was published in March 2001. The plan can be found at <http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/library/strategic.pdf>



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4-H PROGRAM IMPACTS: Ideas to share **Marilyn Corbin**

Since you have said you are interested in learning about creative and meaningful ways to lead the 4-H program, we are going to be sharing in the 2006 issues of ATS information prepared by your co-workers that you have submitted to the CASPAR system, your county 4-H newsletter or annual report. We hope the programs of your co-workers will stimulate some new programming ideas and ways to increase the 4-H program enrollment for you! If you want additional information about the program, please contact the extension educator noted in the article below.

Berks County 4-H Environmental Education Excellence **Deborah Dietrich**

Kids are eager learners about the environment. They are fascinated by nature and all its aspects—critters, plants, trees, weather, mountains and lakes—eager to understand what they see and experience when out of doors. Recognizing that enthusiasm for learning about nature, the Berks County 4-H Program offers several different programs in environmental education. This was an active year for the Berks County 4-H Environmental Education Program.

Summer Camp at Penn State Berks: For six summers now, the Berks County 4-H staff have partnered with our Penn State Berks Outreach colleagues to provide a summer camp experience for middle school youth that includes environmental education. In 2005, the 4-H water conservation and quality curriculums were a part of the program.

Ten middle school youth completed all three of the 4-H water projects—Water Conservation, Incredible Water, and Water Quality Matters! The pre- and post-test evaluation for the 4-H water projects indicated that the youth did learn new concepts. The average pre-test score was 81% with the average post-test score rising to 89%; 40% answered all of the post-test questions correctly. Campers also expressed new knowledge of water conservation and water quality assessment when they were asked to describe three things they learned during the week. One camper commented, “I didn’t want to come here this week. I’m glad I did, though, because I learned a lot that they didn’t teach us in another environmental science camp.”

Traditional 4-H Club Appeals to Outdoor Enthusiasts: The 4-H Outdoor Adventurers Club, organized in 2003, appeals to boys and girls alike with its learning emphasis on outdoor recreation. This active club, which meets in the Sinking Spring area, meets as a traditional volunteer-led 4-H club. Members have

learned about the science behind catching fish as they completed the National 4-H sport fishing project, *Take the Bait*. Club activities include guest speakers such as an officer from the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission and field trips to Limestone Springs Trout Hatchery and Cabela’s—and evening fishing all summer long. In 2005, the club boasted 11 active members between the ages of 9 and 13, both boys and girls.

School Program: Knowing that educators are looking for hands-on curriculum to use in their classrooms that meet Pennsylvania’s Academic Standards, the Berks County 4-H Program has developed teaching kits that provide the materials needed to teach the 4-H Water and Forestry curriculums. Additionally, the 4-H program partnered with the Berks County Master Gardeners to offer the Trees in the Classroom Training. This unique teacher training provides educators with an opportunity to learn basic tree identification skills. Additionally, educators become familiar with the new Master Gardener-produced, *A Teacher’s Guide to the Trees of Charles Evans Cemetery*, which features the trees of the cemetery.

In two trainings offered in April and June of 2005, a total of 20 educators and community volunteers became more knowledgeable about trees and these local resources for teaching youth about trees. Training evaluation results showed 83% of the participants felt they gained a “moderate amount to a great deal of new knowledge” about the topic of tree identification, while 89% gained a “moderate amount to a great deal of new knowledge” about the trees in Charles Evans Cemetery, and 67% gained a “moderate amount to a great deal of new knowledge” about the 4-H forestry curriculums. As a result of attending the training, Reading School District summer school program staff enrolled their two classes of 27 students in the 4-H Trees + ME = Forestry Project.

Congressional 4-H Caucus **Christy Bartley**

The Congressional 4-H Caucus is a great way for our national legislators across Pennsylvania to learn more about 4-H and the youth development accomplishments of the program. I encourage you to work with your development and advisory boards, providing them with information about the 4-H Caucus. You may want to share local enrollment numbers, impact stories, the national 4-H strategic plan, and personal success stories. Volunteers can then discuss the program with legislators and encourage them to become actively involved.



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4-H Forestry Field Day Sanford Smith

Pennsylvania's 4-H Forestry Field Day will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2006, (9:30 am - 3 pm). The location is Laurel Haven Conservation Education Center near Julian, PA (10 miles west of State College). This event is open to all 4-Hers who have taken, or are planning to undertake any 4-H forestry or wildlife project. The event has two options: an "Exploratory Tract" for younger 4-Hers (ages 8-11) and an "Competitive Tract" for older youth (ages 12-18). All adults and 4-H volunteers are welcome to attend.

Participants signing up for the Exploratory Tract will explore tree identification, compass use, and tree measurement, which are all components of the *Trees + Me = Forestry* 4-H project. This tract is educational, and study is re-
exploratory Tract. competitive Tract forestry judging revised project thing one needs
non-competitive, fun. No advance quired for the Ex-4-Hers in the Com-will participate in a contest. A newly book, with every-to know about forestry judging, is available through your Cooperative Extension Office or as a download at the event web site. The top four teen winners of the judging contest will go on to participate in the National 4-H Forestry Invitational.



There is no fee for this event, but all youth and adults planning to attend should sign up through their County Cooperative Extension Office. Participants must bring their own bag lunch and drink, and everyone is encouraged to dress for field conditions. Additional information, directions to the event and a downloadable version of the Forestry Judging project book can be found on the event web site: <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/forestryfd.html> The sign-up deadline is May 1, 2006. Plan to attend and sign up early!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



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

- ◆ **March 12-18**
Pennsylvania 4-H Week
- ◆ **March 23**
Meet Up Professional Development Call-Working with 5-8 Year Olds
- ◆ **March 25-30**
National 4-H Conference
- ◆ **April 1**
4-H Leaders Forum
- ◆ **April 22**
Wildlife Field Day
- ◆ **April 23-25**
Capital Days



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March is Women's History Month – Test Your Knowledge of Women Who Have Made Important Contributions, Past and Present

Patreese D. Ingram

Match the names of women on the left with the biographical information on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Marie Curie | a. Author and winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Literature, the National Book Award for Fiction, and the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. |
| 2. Indira Gandhi | b. First woman Supreme Court Justice in 1981. |
| 3. Nancy Lopez | c. Although she could not walk until she was 8 years old, she won three gold metals in the 1960 Olympics for track events. |
| 4. Wilma Rudolph | d. Raised in Poland and educated in France, she married and had two children before she won the Nobel Peace Prize with her husband for work in science. |
| 5. Georgia O'Keefe | e. Astrophysicist, astronaut; first American women in space (1983). |
| 6. Kristi Yamaguchi | f. In 1995, she was the first woman appointed chief of the Cherokee Nation, one of the largest tribes in the United States. |
| 7. Sandra Day O'Connor | g. Artist who stamped her mark on 20 th century art and culture. She created simple paintings with broad areas of smooth, delicate colors. She lived between 1888 and 1986. |
| 8. Wilma Mankiller | h. Assassinated in 1984, she was the first woman Prime Minister of India. |
| 9. Sally Ride | i. U. S. Champion, World Champion, and 1992 Winter Olympics Champion in figure skating. |
| 10. Toni Morrison | j. She became the youngest winner of the \$100,000 golf championship. She also won Rookie-of-the-Year (1978) and Player-of-the-Year Honors (1979) for golf. |
| 11. Linda Chavez-Thompson | k. Discovered that genetic material shifted its location in chromosomes from generation to generation; major contributor to DNA research; winner, Nobel Prize, Physiology or Medicine. |
| 12. Barbara McClintock | l. Exec. VP, AFL-CIO; the first person of color to serve on the organization's executive council. Leading woman in national labor movement of 1990's. |



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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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