



# Around the State in 4-H

June 2007

Office of 4-H Youth Development

# GROW

## Resilient Children and Youth

PENNSTATE



an **OUTREACH**  
Program of  
the College of  
Agricultural  
Sciences

June 2007

### It's the Growing Season

by *Christy Bartley*

Spring is here with summer soon to come. All around me things are growing even with the lack of rain. The pastures have young animals trying to get a footing in their new world. The fields have already yielded hay. Have you looked at your 4-H program lately? How is it growing? What is happening in the program to ensure sustainability from year to year? Are you trying new programming techniques? Are volunteers helping by taking on more activity responsibilities? Think about how you would like the 4-H program to grow and strengthen in your county. Begin to invest the time and materials to reach the goals you have established. Enjoy the pleasure you find in achieving those goals and seeing the smiling faces of children involved in your program.

### Volunteers and Major Gifts

By *Eric McGinnis*

Volunteers are the lifeblood of 4-H and effective use of their valuable time is paramount to keeping them engaged with your program. As our efforts increase to encourage philanthropy to 4-H, it is important that we bring our volunteers along for the ride. Taking advantage of your volunteers' collective knowledge of the community will greatly assist you in identifying those individuals who are interested in and capable of making a major gift to your program. The first step in this process is deciding whether a discussion about potential major gift donors is welcome by all of your volunteers. Some counties will be able to engage the entire 4-H or Extension Board in an identification exercise; others will garner more value from engaging a smaller group of connected and interested volunteers. Volunteers and volunteer boards have personalities and only you will know which approach is most productive for your county.

Once you have decided which volunteers to ask to help you identify major gift prospects, it is important to be clear about what you are asking them to do. At this time you are asking for their expertise of the community and its members. You may mention that once potential donors are identified the development office will develop strategies to help with engaging the donors.

Volunteers and staff can meet to discuss the top individuals and organizations that have the interest and ability to make a major gift to 4-H in your county. Each county should strive to identify twenty to thirty potential major gift donors. This may seem like a lot, but by including bequests and land gifts, I'm sure a number of names come to mind immediately. Additionally, University Development can provide a list of individuals in your county who may have the ability to make a major gift or who have supported 4-H through Penn State in the past. This list can be used by your volunteers to identify people they know or who are connected with your organization who should be considered as potential major gift donors.



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## The People Speak Global Debates

Submitted by Christy Bartley

We know that you have opinions about global issues. Now we're giving you a chance to make your opinion heard and see how your views compare to high school students across the country and around the world.

The People Speak (TPS) is sponsoring two Global Debates during the 2007-2008 school year. During two one-week periods in the fall and spring, the TPS Global Debates will allow students at U.S. and international high schools to hold debates and discussions on two of the most critical global issues of our day: climate and water.

All participating schools will be eligible to compete to send their four-person student debate team (plus two teachers/adult chaperones) to the **United Nations Foundation Global Student Leadership Summit** in New York City. Held in July 2008, this will be an opportunity to meet other student activists, learn even more about the issues and take advantage of special opportunities including a special UN tour and the opportunity to meet high ranking UN officials.

### How can I get involved in the TPS Global Debates?

**Step 1: Build Your Team!** Are you passionate about global issues? Are you always the one debating ideas with your friends? Find three more people and start a TPS Global Debate team. Your team will research the Global Debate topic and prepare clear, persuasive arguments for both sides of the issue.

**Step 2: Register Your Debate.** Any U.S. or international high school can participate in the Global Debate. You must register your event to be eligible to vote. Register your school online at <http://globaldebates.thepeoplespeak.org>.

**Step 3: Find out more!** Go to [www.thepeoplespeak.org](http://www.thepeoplespeak.org) for hints and strategies on how to create a public debate in your school and topic guides, "Debatebases", research and other resources to help you prepare your arguments.

**Step 4: Debate and Vote!** We'll provide the ballots for every student in your school to vote on which side of the debate they found the most compelling. Your goal is to reach the largest audience possible and to get as many students as you can to vote on the Global Debate topic. Try to get your school to re-

serve some time during a school assembly for the Global Debate. Another idea is to hold an after-school event. You could even film your debate and ask teachers show the video in their classes.

### What is the Fall 2007 Debate Topic?

October 2007 Debate Topic: *Resolved:* Market mechanisms are preferable to regulatory approaches in reducing carbon emissions. (October 12-22, 2007)

### About The People Speak

The People Speak is an educational campaign designed to engage young people on the global issues that will shape their future. Young people are ready to take on some of the most serious challenges and exciting opportunities facing our nation and the world. By engaging them on issues of poverty reduction, global health, climate change and more, TPS is inspiring young people to be a positive force for change in the world. Learn more at [www.thepeoplespeak.org](http://www.thepeoplespeak.org).

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



The 2006/2007 4-H Calendar can be found at:

<http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/>

#### JUNE

- ◆ **June 26**  
4-H Advisory Council Meeting

#### JULY

- ◆ **July 10**  
Registration Deadline for 4-H State Days
- ◆ **July 24—26**  
4-H State Achievement Days
- ◆ **Future Dates to Remember and Mark Down**  
State Days 2008 August 5-7  
State Days 2009 July 28-30  
State 4-H Leaders Forum February 1-2, 2008  
4-H Leadership Conference Feb. 15-17, 2008



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## **4-H Afterschool Conference Creating Partnerships** **February 6 - 7, 2008** **Celebration Hall, State College, PA**

Audience: Extension Educators and Community After-School Collaborators

- ◆ Learn about after-school resources, curricula and activities, funding and evaluation strategies, and best practices in after-school programming!
- ◆ Look for registration information in the Fall

*This publication is available in alternative media on request.  
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## **NRG Summit**

by Christy Bartley

NRG is a campaign for teens ages 13-18 to lead change for nutrition and activity choices. An NRG Summit will be held on September 25, 2007 in Lancaster, PA at the Willow Valley Conference Center. The summit will bring teens, advisors, and industry together for an action-packed day focused on the messages, ideas, and technologies for channeling nrg to improve nutrition and activity choices. For more information go to: [www.hmc.psu.edu/ce/nrgsummit](http://www.hmc.psu.edu/ce/nrgsummit). For registration go to <http://www.poweredbychoice.org/>.

- ☀ Keynote speaker [Kevin Carroll](#), the inspiration behind Livestrong bands
- ☀ Cutting-edge “how to” sessions
- ☀ Hands-On Learning Exhibits, including Apple Technology
- ☀ Interactive demonstrations, featuring HOPSports
- ☀ Cool contests
- ☀ Live panel with today’s teens
- ☀ Networking opportunities, and much more!

## **Tidbits of Information**

- ◆ **4Rev It Up! Training Modules**  
FFA has some new training modules called Rev It Up! One of the modules is on Positive Youth Development found on the Volunteerism CD-ROM. Check it out at [www.ffaunlimited.org/evitup.html](http://www.ffaunlimited.org/evitup.html) or obtain a copy from your local FFA advisor.
- ◆ **Spend A Summer Day at Penn State**  
Spend a Summer Day at Penn State is designed to help you learn about admissions, academics, and student life at the University. You and your family are invited to join us at any of our undergraduate campuses. Soon to be high school seniors are especially encouraged to attend.  
  
Penn State offers many opportunities, including over 160 majors and 1,200 student clubs and organizations throughout our multi-campus system. We would be happy to show you more during our summer programs. During these events, you will have the opportunity to tour our facilities and meet with faculty, admissions staff, and Penn State students.

Spend A Summer Day programs fill quickly, to learn more and to register visit:  
<http://admissions.psu.edu/sasd/>

## **THINGS TO DO**



- ◆ Identify Youth to go to National Congress
- ◆ Recruit State Days participants & register them



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## Indiana County Wins Big at 2007 Forestry Field Day

by Sanford Smith

Indiana County was the big winner at this year's 4-H Forestry Field Day held at Laurel Haven Conservation Education Center in Julian, PA on May 12, 2007. Four of the top five winners were from Indiana County 4-H. The top five winners (in order) included Jackie Beisel and Ashley Kuntz of Indiana County, Rebecca Picone of York County, and brothers, David and Jonathan Fluharty of Indiana County. The four Indiana County winners will represent Pennsylvania at the 2007 National 4-H Forestry Invitational held in July at Jackson's Mill 4-H Conference Center, Weston, WV. Participants in both the state and national program demonstrate their skills in tree measurement, tree identification, forest health (insect and disease identification), compass use, forestry principles, and forest evaluation.

David Jackson, Extension Forestry Educator in Centre County and Sanford Smith, Extension Specialist, in Penn State's School of Forest Resources organized this year's event. The Field Day consists of junior and senior tracts. The junior tract (non-competitive) teaches younger 4-H members basic skills relating to forestry; while the senior tract is a competitive event where 4-H "foresters" from across the state demonstrate their knowledge and forestry skills. For more information, contact Sanford Smith at [sss5@psu.edu](mailto:sss5@psu.edu) or David Jackson at [drj11@psu.edu](mailto:drj11@psu.edu).

## Camp Grants Awarded

by Christy Bartley

The 4-H Camp Endowment provides funding each year for children who may not otherwise be able to attend camp as a camper or counselor. In 2006, some camp endowments were used for the following:

In Union County, 2006 was the first year at camp for both scholarship recipients. From the 4-H'ers comments after camp, this certainly will not be their last! Both members were excited about camp, and learned many new skills, especially in leisure education. One camper participated in the Outdoor Adventures in-depth workshop, and the other in fishing. In addition, they were involved in a variety of other workshops and activities each day that exercised their bodies and taught life skills. Without financial support, these 4-H members may not have been able to attend 4-H camp.

In Westmoreland County, the 4-H Program collaborated with two foster care agencies in the community to offer camp.

The

foster care agencies not only had campers that attended the program, but also teen counselors as well. Both the campers and counselors came from very diverse backgrounds (i.e. ethnicity and socio-economic status) and some of the youth had never taken part in an inclusive camp setting such as this. There were 12 teens from the two foster care agencies that attended camp counselor training and the three day camps. The camp was a very important learning experience for them, because most had never served in this type of leadership role. The counselors who were 4-H members were helpful in working with the new teens as they taught them camp songs and games, shared their experiences with campers, and basically helped the new teens feel like they belonged. Although there were some rough spots here and there, the camp was highly successful, both for the campers and the counselors. On the counselors' part, the teens from the foster care agencies learned responsibility, leadership, communication, conflict resolution, and how to work with younger youth. The younger foster care youth who were campers were able to mingle with both traditional and non-traditional 4-H members and learn new things while also meeting a lot of new faces.

In Lehigh County, the scholarship was used to support a family of four children to attend camp. The four children were from a home with financial difficulties due to a health issue with the mother.

Many other programs were supported by these funds. It is amazing what all of you can do with a few dollars to help support those children and families in need. For 2007, the camp endowment awardees are:

Lehigh County  
Somerset County  
Clarion County  
McKean County  
Potter County  
Delaware County  
Westmoreland County  
Bradford County

**Congratulations to all!**

**EDITOR'S PAGE**

Christy Bartley  
State 4-H Program Leader

In Consultation with  
4-H Youth Development Faculty & Staff