



Around the State in 4-H

November 2006

Office of 4-H Youth Development

GROW

Resilient Children and Youth

PENNSTATE



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

Camp Endowment Grants

by 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, 2007. 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 emailed to cek4@psu.edu.

In 2006, counties receiving support from the endowment used the funds in the following ways:

In Lehigh County, the camp grant was used to support camp registration for four children whose family was unable to send them to camp due to large medical bills that were owed.

In Delaware County, the grant allowed the camping group to increase diversity at 4-H Camp Shehaqua by partially covering the enrollment fees of two 4-H volunteers. Both volunteers, African American, and new to 4-H camping, served as outstanding role models for the diverse group of campers from Delaware, Chester and Bucks Counties. In addition to adding diversity to the staff, each volunteer played an important role that impacted the camping program. One was trained to assist with the ropes challenge course, providing additional adult supervision during a high-risk activity. This reduced the need for an additional Extension staff member and freed-up a staff member to supervise other activities. The volunteer also assumed leadership during evening activities and camper free time, assisting the extension staff as needed. The other volunteer assumed leadership in the girls' cabin area,

assisting the counselors in the unit. She also volunteered in the camp store and was responsible for setting out the afternoon snack each day. Both activities allowed an Extension educator to manage other tasks. While accompanying a 4-H educator on an unplanned trip to the hospital emergency room, she kept two campers calm and relaxed. Both volunteers were recognized as authority figures and were a tremendous asset to the camping program. As a result of their participation, both have indicated a desire to return to camp next summer as volunteer staff members.

In Somerset County, this year's camp theme (4-H CSI) featured workshops on crime scene investigations. Campers were presented with a scenario and had to work in groups to try and solve the mystery through various science-based experiments. Through these experiments, campers increased their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. As a result of the scholarships, two families and five youth were able to participate in a 4-H camp experience this year.

Be creative and apply for your camp grant today!

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Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences

by Ketja Lingenfelter

It goes without saying that 4-H Leaders play an invaluable role in the future of agriculture in the State of Pennsylvania, and beyond. Many of the students who participate in the State's agriculture programs will go on to become influential agricultural leaders. In support of your efforts as a 4-H Leader, the State established the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences (PGSAS) in 1986, a familiar fact for those of you already aware of PGSAS.

PGSAS is a five-week, intensive program for selected high school sophomores and juniors throughout the State. It provides a unique blend of hands-on learning in classes, field trips, research, and social opportunities. Together these opportunities provide students with a unique and exciting chance to explore the breadth of the agricultural sciences.

As a 4-H leader, you should be receiving a package of information about PGSAS in the coming weeks. We encourage you to make an effort to share that information with the outstanding sophomores and juniors you know. PGSAS is searching for those students who have demonstrated exceptional ability in the sciences and who have a strong interest in food, agriculture, and the natural resource sciences. As a 4-H leader, you are in a great position to know who these students are and tell them about this opportunity.

This spring, 64 students will be chosen from across the state to participate in PGSAS 2007. To be one of the 64, the student's application must combine a strong academic transcript, strong teacher and counselor recommendations, and carefully written essays. The most difficult of the three is the essay section.

If you are assisting students to complete their applications, encourage them to carefully write their essays. The essays play a significant role in selecting students. Essays must provide a sense of personal voice--that is, they should provide a clear sense of who the student is and evidence of a strong interest in the agricultural sciences. Additionally, like many things in life, it helps to be creative.

PGSAS will be held from June 24 to July 28, 2007. The deadline for this year's applications is February 1, 2007.

Applications are currently available through the students' high school counselor's office, your local extension office, or they can be downloaded from www.pgse.org. Free DVDs are also available to show to interested students. If, in the months to come, you or your students have questions about the application procedure or would like a DVD, please feel free to contact me, Ketja Lingenfelter, PGSAS Assistant Director at 814-863-3943 or ketja@psu.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



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

- ◆ **November 24-28**
National 4-H Congress, Atlanta, GA
- ◆ **December 1**
Registration Open for 2007 Capital Days
- ◆ **December 8**
4-H State Council Nominations due
- ◆ **December 23 - January 2**
Penn State University closed for Christmas Holiday

Tidbits of Information

- ◆ 4-H Hall of Fame nominations due February 20, 2007 to Christy Bartley. Watch for more information in December's newsletter.



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Wise Use of Project Books

by Christy Bartley

The system to reorder project books has been organized and is based on annual use of project books over the last two to three years. When county educators order more project, leader, club officer, and marketing materials than they need, they skew the usage data leading to materials being ordered when they are not needed or decisions are made to drop projects that have not been used for several years. Please try to order enough materials to fill county needs for one year. Lydia Everhart has been working with the Publications Distribution Center to ensure availability of materials needed.

In 1976, a Senate resolution authorized the president of the United States to declare the week of October 10-16 as Native American Awareness Week. Later in 1990 President H. W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month." It has been celebrated during the month of November ever since 1990.

Today, the population of American Indians and Alaska natives is estimated at 4.5 million, or 1.5 percent of the United States population. States with the highest populations, in order, are California, Oklahoma, Arizona, and New Mexico. States with the highest proportion of American Indian/Alaska Natives are Alaska, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, in that order.

There are about 560 federally recognized tribes with about one-third of the population living on reservations. The ten largest American Indian tribal groupings include: Apache, Cherokee, Chippewa, Choctaw, Iroquois, Latin American Indian, Lumbee, Navaho, Pueblo, and Sioux.

The following are websites that contain youth activities and resources for learning more about Native Americans.

http://www.education-world.com/a_lesson/lesson209.shtml

<http://www.cookingpost.com/recipe.cfm?cfd=166875&cftoken=50485>

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/aihm1.html>

Share Program Successes

by Christy Bartley

Another NAE4-HA meeting has passed. There were many opportunities to attend poster sessions, workshops, and super seminars as well as socializing with peers across the nation. As I was talking with some educators from Pennsylvania, one educator stated there are many 4-H programs in our state of higher quality than those shared at this year's conference. I strongly agree, but unfortunately no one will learn about these quality programs unless you submit a proposal for a seminar or poster session. I encourage all of you to consider submitting a proposal. I'll be happy to review or discuss a proposal. Take the next step in your professional development.

THINGS TO DO



- ◆ Apply for a camp endowment grant, due January 24, 2007.
- ◆ Encourage 4-H Members to apply for the Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences. Applications due February 1, 2007.
- ◆ Register teens for the 2007 4-H Leadership Conference, Pioneering the Way.
- ◆ Recruit 4-Hers to attend 4-H Capital Days, April 15-17, 2007.

November is American Indian Heritage Month

by Patreese Ingram

November is National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. This celebration originated in 1915 when the Congress of American Indian Associations issued a proclamation declaring the second Saturday in May of each Year as American Indian Day. The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York.



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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.

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 Christy Bartley 814-863-3828 in advance of your participation or visit.

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