

## THE LUCKY 4-H'ERS GAZETTE



Volume 10 Issue 1

January—February 2009

### NEW YEAR BRIGHT FOR MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H

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As beautiful white holiday lights fill each street I pass, I recall the many bright moments of our 4-H year. There are many shining images that create lasting impressions. 4-H alumni returning to become 4-H club leaders....4-H parents offering to volunteer as a way of “giving back” and saying thanks for the confidence 4-H has instilled in their children...4-H’ers engaged in community service projects which help the needy in Monmouth County find hope....youth finding in 4-H a new place of belonging from which to grow to their potential.... teachers grateful to 4-H for tapping new avenues of expression in their students....4-H’ers achieving new found confidence in public speaking through 4-H public presentations...4-H families choosing to spend their vacation time volunteering at the county fair....social workers acknowledging positive changes in their young clients as a result of 4-H participation...These and so many more bright reflections of 4-H fill memories of 2008.

Thank you to all those who have made 2008 a shining 4-H year. May 2009 be filled with much happiness and contentment. And throughout this new year may you be guided by the knowledge that our youth and the communities are all the better for your role in Monmouth County 4-H. Happy new year!

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER – February 13, 2009**  
**PUBLICATION March-April 2009**

**NEW LEADERS:****Karla Moshett—Backstage to Broadway****Christy and Randi Martin—14 Carrot Rabbit Club****Donna Peles—Paws 4 A Cause****ANIMAL SCIENCE**

Mikayla N. Harris

Nicholas H. Arcomano

Toni C. Au

Nalini Balakrishnan

Hannah T. Kaplan

Raashi Khanna

Tori L. LaPonta

**14 CARROT RABBIT CLUB**

Raymond N. Gray

Alixandra W. Bleetstein

Dalia E. Bonett

Erica P. LiBerman

Sindhu V. Mannava

Matthew H. Hervilly

Frank E. Borowsky

Danielle r. McPeak

Madison Personette

Jenny Cai

Julie Minnischl

Edrie A. Careial

Krista N. Neal

**CURRY COMBS**

Jillian E. Haliskoe

Jacqueline B. Chia

Hope M. Nilson

Kayla M. Kramer

Jane E. Chung

Catherine R. O'Leary

Abbey W. Lanz

Maureen N. Ciccocanti

Cait O. O'Neill

Elisa S. Duante

Jay V. Pandya

Diana R. Evensen

Prutha S. Patel

**FREE SPIRIT GOAT CLUB**

Rebecca E. Carmeli-Peslak

Marina Ghatiey

Jacob E. Persily

LeeAnn Giordano

Jacquelyn R. Persson

Henrietta Y. Hanson

Dat H. Pham

**4-H HEALTH & SERVICE**

Kathleen M. Alvarez

Abigail C. Harmon

Daniele P. Raneri

Hiban J. Iqbal

Nicole Rivera

*Ellen Williams*Ellen Williams  
4-H AgentVirginia Krzyzanowski  
4-H Program AssociateMariela Osorio  
Monmouth 4-H Cares Program LiaisonKelly Valenti  
4-H Program AssistantRita Silvestri and Gladys Tarantino  
4-H Secretaries**4-H Mission Statement**

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development program uses a learn by doing approach to enable youth to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need to become competent, caring and contributing citizens of the world. The mission is accomplished by using the knowledge and resources of the land grant University system, along with the involvement of caring adults.

**WELCOME NEW LEADERS, MEMBERS & CLUBS (cont.)**

**ALLIED HEALTH & SERVICE (cont.)**

Sarah Rizk  
Samantha H. Snyder  
Katharine M. Starke  
Alysa R. Vied  
Annie E. Warner  
Jamie Yim

**HORSIN' AROUND**

Danielle C. Dimino  
Melanie E. Peterman

**INDEPENDENT PROJECT**

CJ Halpin– Horse  
Bobbi Kass– Monmouth Cares  
Kacie Moran– Horse

**NATURE'S NAVIGATORS**

Gautam Boggavarapu  
David J. Jolly  
Madison Personette  
Gillian Zgich

**OCEAN GROWN LIFE LEARNERS**

Matthew D. Acacia  
Evan g. Chester  
Krystle R. DiCristofalo  
Kiera K. A. Leer

**PAWS 4 A CAUSE**

Melanie N. Arolick  
Theodore Conrad  
Isabel D. Schnaidt  
Courtney B. Tobio  
Matthew R. Tobio

**PUPPET CLUB**

Lauren M. Marcolus  
Scott R. Schaaf

**RAGING REPTILES**

Jeevan Bogg  
Ramya Bogg  
Leeav Cohen  
Daniel J. Moore

**S.W.A.P.**

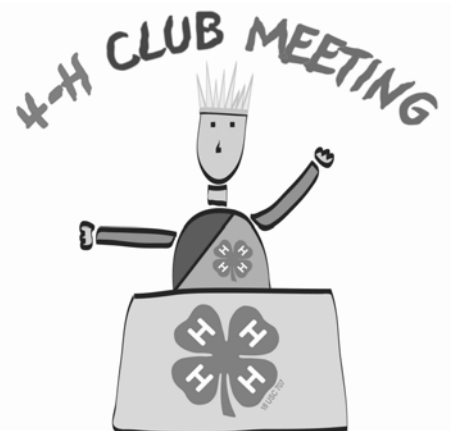
Sarah I. Keeley  
Lauren V. Richard

**TEEN SMALL ANIMAL**

Laura A. Dvwlet

**VARIETY CLUB**

Andrew H. Bennett  
Bryan J. Fentiman  
Justin T. Lynch  
Madeline E. Williams



# Heard Around The 4-H Clover

## THUNDERHOOFS

**By: Nyna McKittrick, Leader**

The Thunderhoofs are off to a good start with our community service projects. We have been getting a great response to Melissa's Treasure Chest Project with many generous donations. Thanks again to everyone who has taken the time to bring in things for the box. Last month someone kindly donated puzzles to the box, and this month we have quite a few stuffed animals.



Erin and Gabrielle put their donations into Melissa's Treasure Chest Box.



Some of the donations for the SPCA Eatontown.

The club donated snack bags to The Center, and we have been collecting items for the SPCA in Eatontown.

At our November meeting we had a guest speaker of Ms. Ellen Williams. Ms. Williams presented a wonderful program that used many of our club's favorite things: hands on art, story telling and presentations. We had a great time learning a new way to offer information through story telling.

The program started with club members deciding on a general theme that they wanted to use. Then they made puppets out of paper bags. Next they created a story using their puppets as the main characters. We had the zoo keeper from Central Park with "George" the monkey in one skit. Another skit featured two cows and a pig that had to learn to get along better with each other. The last skit was about a black stallion and a dog and their adventures. We had time to see two of the plays and an interesting discussion time as we talked about the skits and the lessons learned from them. We decided to continue the program in December at our Party Meeting.



The Zoo Keeper by Melissa.



Ashley R with her pig puppet.



Justin R. makes his monkey puppet



Gabrielle and Erin presenting their play

At our December meeting we will decide on our fair booth theme, and enjoy our 6<sup>th</sup> year of "Pass the Presents". We will also be having some special snacks like snowman treats and chocolate pretzels, plus some fun games and time to hang out.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year !



## CURRY COMBS

By: David Sagui, Leader

The Perfect Day – The Curry Combs held their first Annual Trail Ride and Picnic on Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup>. On this crisp, bright, colorful autumn morning we gathered at Hanson's Horse Feather's Ranch in Freehold. Ten riders saddled up and headed out for a two and half hour trail ride. While the riders enjoyed exploring the fall scenery in Turkey Swamp Park, other members spent the morning doing crafts, playing tag, and grooming and riding the ponies around the ranch as parents watched, chatted and helped to prepare the feast. When our fearless trail blazers returned and cared for their horses, we enjoyed a sumptuous repast and then spent more time with the horses, tooling around the ranch bareback, trading mounts with friends, older members teaching younger ones and everyone (including the dog) having a chance to ride. The fun continued with a scavenger hunt for treats in the woods and dipping apples in gooey caramel. The camp fire did not work out too well (all the wood being wet from the storm the previous evening), but even the horses got in on the fun with a bobbing for apples contest just for them (Apache was the champ!). Of course the day would not have been a success without the contribution of all the parents, but special thanks need to go to Herb Hansen, Bill Teller, Denise Moran and of course Marie Shoemaker for organizing this amazing event. Horses and ponies, friends old and new, chili and corn pudding, wild turkeys and cows all on a gorgeous day, what else could be wanting!



# Heard Around The 4-H Clover (cont.)

## S.W.A.P.

**By: Susan McLoughlin, Club Leader**

We had our annual Christmas Gingerbread House Making Pizza Party on December 5th. Everyone makes the gingerbread house of their own design using graham crackers, home made cement, and all different types of candies. It is time to think out of the box — all houses go, including those with swimming pools and cabanas. Afterwards, we have a pizza party with a grab bag. This meeting was so much fun.



Hannah designs her house.

Johanna and Ashley work on their houses.



All the girls with their houses. From left to right: Ashley, Amanda, Monica, Sara, Patricia, Hannah, and Johanna.

We have two dates planned for community service in December. We will be helping at Lunch Break again this year, a soup kitchen for the poor and needy that serves wonderful fresh food and not just soup. We will be serving the lunch on December 15th. It is humbling to serve those in need. We will be going back on December 30th early in the morning to help prep the lunch. Our projects in the kitchen have helped prepare us for this work.

## FREE SPIRIT GOAT CLUB

**By: Carly Eidman**



In the last few months the Free Spirit Goat Club has done many fun things. For our November meeting we brought our goats to Turkey Swamp for a goat walk. Everyone thought that it would be more of a goat “drag” but it turned out that the goats had a fabulous time together and walked with ease. They were so excited to get out of their pens and go on an adventure, that they were running and playing with each other. It was so much fun to see our “kids” enjoy their day out.



In the beginning of December, we had a meeting and made goat treats to help us train our goats for the Monmouth County Fair. It was a fun experience because all members, no matter what age, could participate and the goats really enjoyed them. I hope to make them again with the club some time soon! This is a great start and I know we will have an amazing year!





## NATURE'S NAVIGATORS

By: John Redding, Reporter



Nature's Navigators at their November meeting experimenting with "Dry Ice & Dawn".

In our November meeting we had some more new members. The meeting was called to order and adjourned as usual. Afterward, the activities were a continuation of science experiments. We all enjoyed the experiments, two (2) of which involved dry ice. Some of our future plans may include birdhouse building and a hike later on in the year.

This December, the meeting activity was making Sputnik Christmas ornaments, along with pinecone ornaments as well. During this month we

have a lot to consider, such as changing the location of the campgrounds for our yearly camping trip in June. (We usually go to the Nomoco Campgrounds at Turkey Swamp Park.) We also need to decide which weekend to go camping; possibly a 3-day weekend, or if we will even camp in June this year. At the meeting a volunteer spoke to us about donating some of our time for a nice cause at the Senior Center.



December meeting of Nature's Navigators making ornaments from natural and recycled items.

Nature's Navigators is proving to be very busy now and in the near future.

## 14 CARROT RABBIT CLUB

By: Paul Yoncak

Our Thanksgiving project was to collect items for the S.P.C.A. and the Humane Society. Many club members brought items to our November and December meeting and the club voted to give each organization a donation from the club to help them out.

In December we welcomed Randy and Christie Martin as co-leaders to serve with Lorraine Yoncak our present leader. As the club has been growing in membership we look forward to having the help that the Martins can provide in leading our club. Our holiday gift exchange with the Write Family turned out to be much fun and our animals received some nice presents.

We are looking forward to a busy 2009 with the club. Our club level presentations will be given on January 26th so we are working on those now. Several members hope to attend 4-H Winter camp and go to the Somerset County Small Animal Show in February. We are interested in going to see the Harlem Globe Trotters as a club in March at Brookdale. Then we hope to visit a senior residence with our animals also in March.

Our club wishes the other clubs to have a fantastic 4-H year in 2009. Let's all "Make the Best Better!"

# Heard Around The 4-H Clover (cont.)



## 4-H MONMOUTH S.E.T.

The Junior First Lego League Team 4-H Monmouth S.E.T. will be participating in a Tournament on December 6th at Flanders, New Jersey



Junior First Lego League Team  
4-H Monmouth SET  
Their Climate Connection project: A Floodgate Barrier with Service Station  
Members Noah L. Rachel L. Carla R. Ian S.  
Noah M. Jayden M  
Mentors: Jake S. & Ian A. R.

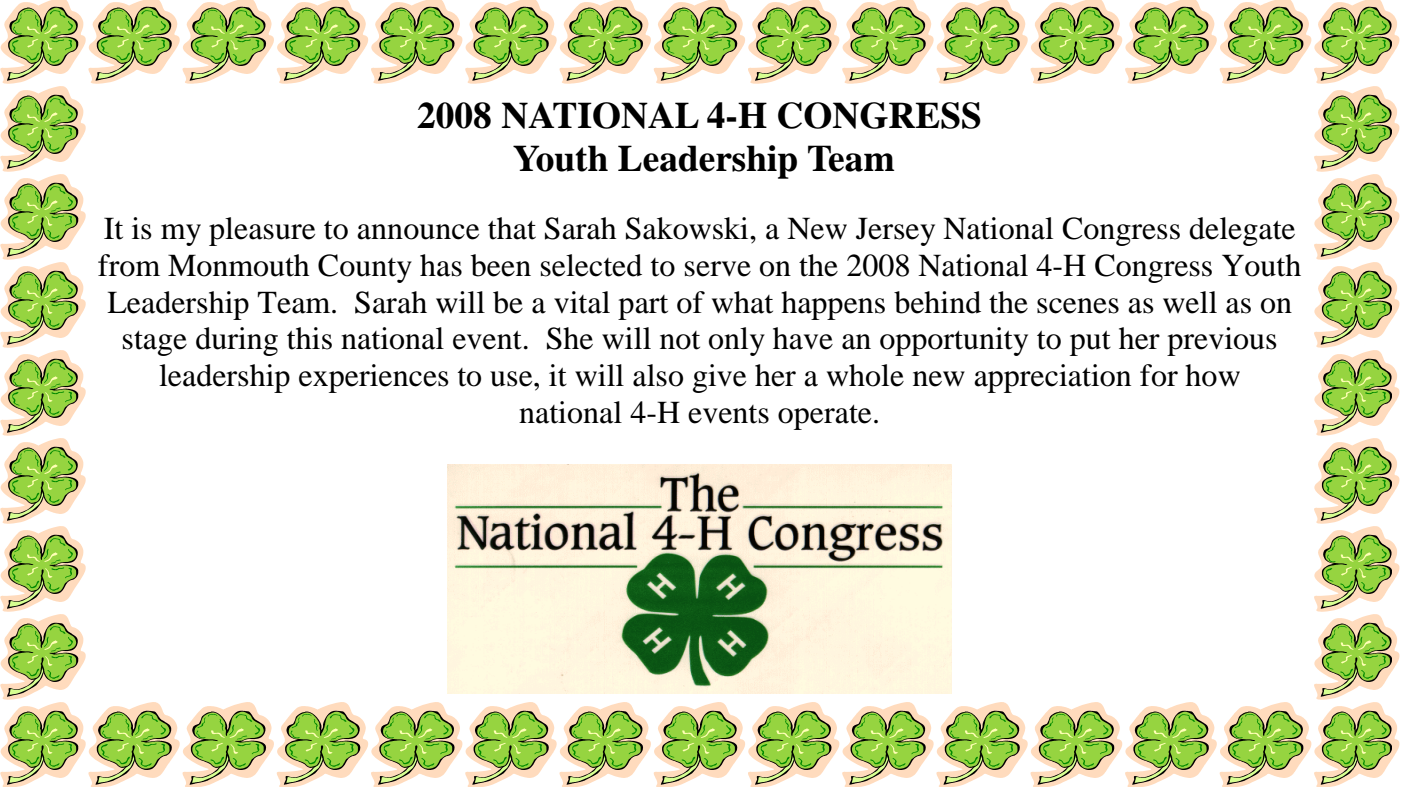


4-H Monmouth S.E.T. Group A Junior First Lego League Team Presenting at Atlantic Highlands Public Library December 4, 2008.





**CONGRATULATIONS**



**2008 NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS  
Youth Leadership Team**

It is my pleasure to announce that Sarah Sakowski, a New Jersey National Congress delegate from Monmouth County has been selected to serve on the 2008 National 4-H Congress Youth Leadership Team. Sarah will be a vital part of what happens behind the scenes as well as on stage during this national event. She will not only have an opportunity to put her previous leadership experiences to use, it will also give her a whole new appreciation for how national 4-H events operate.



**2008 EASTERN NATIONAL 4-H ROUND-UP RESULTS  
FOR NEW JERSEY TEAMS**

**HORSE BOWL TEAM**

New Jersey Horse Bowl team was fifth place out of 23 teams! Congratulations to Christin Sagui who represented Monmouth County.

**THANK YOU**

**MUCH THANKS TO 4-H ASSOCIATION OFFICERS  
FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE**

As the 2008 year comes to an end, we extend our deepest thanks to the Monmouth County 4-H Association's outgoing officers:



- |                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Meg Whitehouse            | President       |
| Ann Grega and Robin Bloom | Vice Presidents |
| Stella Almeida            | Secretary       |
| Swapan Chattodphay        | Treasurer       |



These individuals have given selflessly of themselves for the betterment of the 4-H program and the youth we serve. They have devoted countless hours to the Monmouth County 4-H program and their service is deeply appreciated.



## RESOURCES

### CHRISTMAS TREES

By: Alex Kubiak, Garden Ambassador

Want to know what to do with a real Christmas tree after Christmas? Well don't throw it away. Here are some things you can do with the tree.

**Coasters:** You've seen them before—those round, thin slabs of wood some folks have for coasters. They're super easy to make yourself with a hack saw. Just make certain you use a new blade for best results. After you've cut your slabs, sand them a bit and then coat with a thin layer of white glue (this keeps the sap off your glassware and table surfaces).

**Fire Starter Bundles:** With a pair of old tree/bush pruners, cut one foot lengths from the branches, leaving the needles on them. Tie about 6-8 of the trimmings in a bundle, around the center, with cotton string. Piled in a pretty basket, these useful fire starters look gorgeous!

**Make Potpourri:** Combine a couple of cups of the needles with whatever you have around the house: small pine cones; old potpourri; dried flower petals; old herbs/spices from the kitchen. Add a teaspoon of your favorite flavoring extract or 15-20 drops of your favorite essential oil(s). If you don't have those but do have some old cologne or perfume sitting around, use that. Mix everything up very well and pour into a pretty bowl or dish.

**Critter Sanctuary:** If you have the land and don't have outdoor cats, why not take your spent tree to a secluded spot on your property for birds and other small, wild critters? If you've made popcorn and/or cranberry garlands for your tree, you can leave them right on there for an extra-special critter treat!

**Outdoor Window Box/Planter Filler:** The trimmed branches from your Christmas tree are wonderful for filling outdoor window boxes and planters. Let the size of the containers determine the lengths of the branches. Or spread the branches around tender perennials to protect them from winter.

There are many more things you can do with the Christmas trees besides throwing them out. All you have to do is use a little imagination.

Source: <http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/homesteading/30789>



# RESOURCES (cont.)



## Focus on Life Skills



Life skills are positive habits learned through practice that help us achieve our goals in life.

Through participation in 4-H, we can practice and learn many different life skills. See if you can match each life skill on the right to one of the 4 essential 4-H elements on the left.



<b>Sense of Belonging</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Shear a sheep
	<input type="checkbox"/> Decide on your own
<b>Mastery of Skill</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean up at a park
	<input type="checkbox"/> Join a committee
<b>Independence</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Listen and share
	<input type="checkbox"/> Present a talk
<b>Generosity</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sew on a button

For more information about the 4-H Essential Elements visit the National 4-H Headquarters website at:  
[http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/about/4h\\_elements.htm](http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/about/4h_elements.htm)

Answer Key:
Sense of Belonging- Join a committee, Listen and share.
Mastery of Skill- Shear a sheep, Sew on a button.
Independence- Decide on your own, present a talk.
Generosity -Clean up at a park.

## GET MOVING GET HEALTHY

By: Clair McKittrick

1. Take a walk



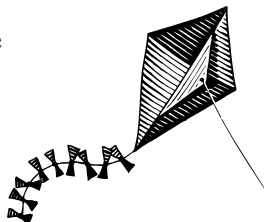
2. Dance in your room to music



3. Go for a ride on your Bike



4. Fly a kite



5. Run up and down steps 10 times



## IN THE NEWS

### 4-H CLUBS UTILIZE FREEHOLD ROTARY FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

As a result of a \$500 Freehold Rotary donation to 4-H, clubs have initiated community service projects with this new funding. Issues of our newsletter will feature these club's activities. In this newsletter issue, the Knitting for the Needy project is highlighted. This project was initiated by the 4-H Health and Service Club at Allied Health and Science High School.

#### ROTARY CLUB 4-H CITIZENSHIP PROJECT

**Name of Project:** Knitting for the Needy  
**4-H Club:** 4-H Health and Service Club at Allied Health & Science High School  
**4-H Club Leader:** Joan Lynch  
**4-H Club President:** Tina Chou  
**Project Completion Date:** 12/19/08

**Description of Project:** To have 4-H students teach knitting skills to other 4-H students to enable them to create scarves and blankets for the needy. Expected delivery date will be 12/19/08 to the Jersey Shore Pediatric Clinic and the A Team (clinic for persons with HIV).

In this struggling economic time 4-H has committed to helping with some of the basic needs of life such as food, and clothing for warmth. The scarves will meet the needs of various size persons and can be used to cover the head and ears as well. Each scarf will be made with compassion and sent with an intention of a wish for good health.

Open to all members of 4-H: Leaders Tina Chou and Alexa Bogstahl.

#### Testimonials:

**Sindhoori Nala:** 12th grade- "Learning to knit with the knifty nitters has really helped me. I have made many hats and scarves from it. I really enjoy knitting because it is not only relaxing and therapeutic, but it also makes me feel like I have made a difference in the community when I donate them to charity. I think Allied Health and 4-H is doing a great job teaching students to knit and should continue to emphasize the importance of it."

**Emily De Marco:** 11th grade- "Knitting is a great way to connect with people. Friends can socialize while working on knitting projects and the people who receive our work really appreciate the effort of handmade donations."

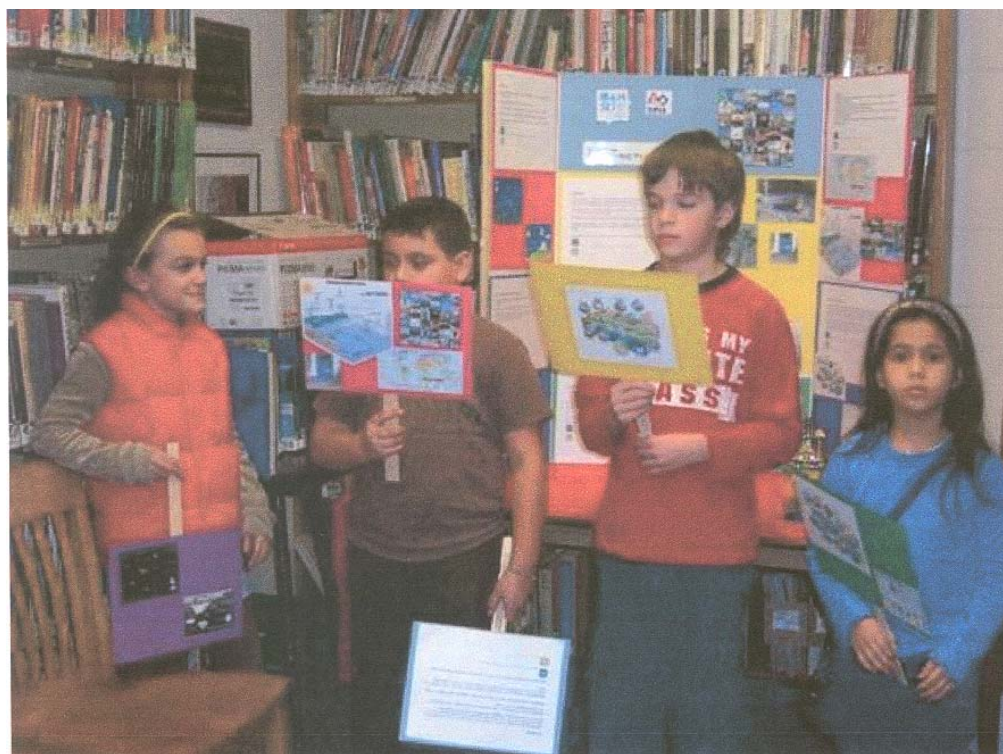
**Alexa Bogstahl:** 12th grade- "Knitting for others is a simple task that can greatly impact the recipient of the gift as the creator. I enjoy knitting scarves for people who truly need them. It makes me feel as if I am making a difference and really helping someone out."



**IN THE NEWS (cont.)**



Junior First Lego League Team: 4-H Monmouth SET presenting Climate Connections at the Atlantic Highlands Public Library



## **ASBURY PARK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN 4-H HEALTHY LIFESTYLES PROGRAM FOR NEW JERSEY PEDIATRIC COUNCIL ON RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**

On November 6th and November 19th, the SPOT Express, a group of Asbury Park High School Students, performed songs and dramatizations for the New Jersey Pediatric Council on Research and Education (NJPCORE) vaccination awareness conferences in Burlington and Somerset counties. The audience consisted of over 600 physicians and nurses in New Jersey. The presentation promoted understanding of how teens perceive the medical information they receive and encouraged medical staff to develop new ways of communicating with youth. The SPOT Express developed out of a 4-H Creative Writing program conducted at the SPOT, Asbury Park High School's School Based Youth Services Program. Ellen Williams, 4-H Agent conducts the 4-H creative writing program and directed the performance.



**More Than You Ever  
Imagined!**





## RABBIT AMBASSADOR

Are you interested in representing Monmouth County as our Rabbit Ambassador? We are looking for members working in the small animal project who are in 7th-12th grade. If you are interested, applications are due to the 4-H office by April 1, 2009. Contact the 4-H office if you have any questions (732)431-7263.

## ALL ANIMALS

### **Reminder:**

All (non-horse) animals need to be registered with the 4-H office no later than May 1st, 2009. Included with this newsletter (pg. 21) is the Livestock registration form. All members who have a 4-H project, that includes, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Market Lamb, Wool/Breeding Sheep, Swine, Rabbits, Cavy, Herpetology, and Small Animal, need to complete this form. Horse project member do **NOT** need to complete this form. Please note that to participate in the fair and some county and state events, 4-H'ers must have owned the animal by May 1st and have this paperwork on file in the 4-H office. If you need a lease agreement, please contact the 4-H office or visit the county website at:

[www.visitmonmouth.com/07050coopext/](http://www.visitmonmouth.com/07050coopext/)

All of these forms are available on the site.

If you have any questions contact the 4-H office at (732)431-7263.

## HORSE QUALIFYING SHOW DATES:

English	April 26, 2009 @ E. Freehold Park
Western	May 9, 2009 @ E. Freehold Park

## HORSE REGISTRATIONS DUE!

**REMINDER:** Horse Registrations are due annually and it's that time of the year again! All registration forms are due to the 4-H office **no later than April 1, 2009** (you can bring them with you to the YHC meeting or Horse Leaders Meeting).

Remember, horses must be registered to be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show, fair, trail and some other county, state and national events.

Here are some additional tips to ensure your paperwork will be accepted for 2009:

1. Each registration form must be submitted in **triplicate**.
2. All information must be complete, legible and accurate.
3. If applicable, complete the lease/borrow form in **triplicate**.
4. The photo of the animal(s) must be in **color** on each copy and **fit** in the square on the form.
5. The helmet policy must be signed and on file in the 4-H office.
6. The health records and current coggins are not due until April 17, 2009.



## MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H ASSOCIATION NEW OFFICERS FOR 2009

Robin Bloom	President
David Sagui	Internal Vice President
Wayne Smith	External Vice President
Nyna McKittrick	Secretary
Amy Barker	Treasurer

# ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)



## HOLD THE DATE

Saturday—March 21, 2009  
 Cook College  
 Campus of Rutgers University

NJ Junior Breeders  
 and  
 Young Farmer Symposium

Information/Registration call  
 (609)984-4389

or e-mail:  
 Lynn.mathews@ag.state.nj.us  
 or  
 Debra.moscatiello@ag.state.nj.us



### 4-H Club Members

### Discount Tickets to the Harlem Globetrotters Game

The World Famous Harlem Globetrotters are bringing their 2009 World Tour to Lincroft, New Jersey on March 17th and 18th 2009.

If you are interested please contact Cyndee Young of Cyndee Young Group Sales  
 Phone: (330)262-9790  
 Fax: (330)262-9800  
 E-mail: cygroups@ssnet.com



## JUNIOR EQUESTRIAN OF THE YEAR

Applications are due  
 March 10, 2009.

Junior Equestrian of the Year contest is open to all horse project members in the 7th and 8th grade.

Please contact the 4-H office at  
 (732)431-7263  
 for more information.

## 4-H VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR INTERGENERATIONAL PROJECT

4-H is a most welcome presence at the Frances Asbury Manor, Ocean Grove at our monthly Saturday program there. If you would like to join in the current activities of music and oral history or offer a new activity, please contact Ellen at the 4-H office. You can participate individually or as a club. All are welcome. You need not commit to being available every month. This intergenerational program enriches all youth and elders who participate, for the social interaction is invaluable. Adam Black, 4-H Independent Project 4-H'er, is assisting with program coordination. To receive more information on future dates at the Frances Asbury Manor, contact the 4-H office. Next program date—January 10th, Saturday, Frances Asbury Manor, 1:30-3:00PM.

## GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT 2009 NEEDS YOU!

Bird and nature fans throughout North America are invited to join tens of thousands of everyday bird watchers for the 12th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), February 13-16, 2009.

A joint project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society, this free event is an opportunity for families, students, and people of all ages to discover the wonders of nature in backyards, schoolyards, and local parks, and, at the same time, make an important contribution to conservation. Participants count birds and report their sightings online at [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org).

Anyone can take part, from novice bird watchers to experts, by counting birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the event and reporting their sightings online at [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org). Participants can also explore what birds others are finding in their backyards-whether in their own neighborhood or thousands of miles away. Additional online resources include tips to help identify birds, a photo gallery, and special materials for educators.

The data these “citizens scientists” collect helps researchers understand bird population trends, information that is critical for effective conservation. Their efforts enable everyone to see what would otherwise be impossible: a comprehensive picture of where birds are in late winter and how their numbers and distribution compare with previous years. In 2008, participants submitted more than 85,000 checklists.

Want to get out of the house? Join Monmouth County Audubon Society as we participate in this great event at the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center in Howell. We will be there all four days counting the birds, and our totals will be recorded on a “tote board” by the observation window. If you get tired of counting at home, feel free to join us for an hour, or an afternoon.

“The GBBC has become a vital link in the arsenal of continent-wide bird-monitoring projects,” said Cornell Lab of Ornithology director, John Fitzpatrick. “With more than a decade of data now in hand, the GBBC has documented the fine-grained details of late-winter bird distributions better than any project in history, including some truly striking changes just over the past decade.”

Each year, in addition to entering their tallies, participants submit thousands of digital images for the GBBC photo contest. Many are featured in the popular online gallery. Participants in the 2009 count are also invited to upload their bird videos to YouTube; some will also be featured on the GBBC web site. Visit [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org) to learn more.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is made possible, in part, by support from Wild Birds Unlimited.



Picture by: Judy Howle.  
Northern Cardinals visit the feeders frequently at the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center.

**SOURCE:** The Osprey, Newsletter of the Monmouth County Audubon Society, Volume 44, Issue 2, December 2008/January 2009, page 2.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)



**\*\*Paws 4 A Cause Service Project\*\***

### **~Please help the Texas flood victims~**

Although there is nothing currently in the media, the devastation left behind by hurricane Ike will be felt for many years to come. The people who once had lives, homes and family in the flooded areas are now living in tents, trailers, etc with nothing left.



Hygiene kits desperately needed to distribute to displaced people currently living in shelters in Texas. Included in the hygiene kits are:

- 1-Hand towel (approx. 16" x 28"; no fingertip or bath towels)
- 1-Washcloth
- 1-Wide Tooth comb
- 1-Nail Clipper (no metal files or emery boards)
- 1-Bar of soap (bath size in original wrapper)
- 1-Toothbrush (in original package)
- 6-Bandaids

*Your club is welcome to join the Paws 4 A Cause Club in either donating preassembled Hygiene Kits or donating items needed to prepare the kits.*

**Please contact Donna Peles, Assistant Leader  
with questions, comments or ideas!**

**732-303-8125**

~The Old Tennent Church in Manalapan has volunteered to store and ship either completed Hygiene Kits or materials necessary to assemble them~



## 4-H COUNTY PUBLIC PRESENTATION REGISTRATION FORM

**Please check the date you will present:**

- March 27, 2009 at 6:30pm**      **OR**       **April 1, 2009 at 6:30pm**  
 **I have a conflict with these dates & need to be contacted for a make-up date.**

### REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 6, 2009

*Note: Please remember that all members are eligible to participate in County Public Presentations as long as they completed a Club Presentation. The presentation you present at the Club level needs to be the same as the County level presentation. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the 4-H Office.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Club(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Explanation of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_

- I will need to use the power point equipment.  
 I will be bringing in an animal for my presentation. It is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
 I am giving a team\* demonstration. My partners name is: \_\_\_\_\_.  
\*horse teams are only two 4-H members

#### **Category: Please indicate what type of presentation you will be conducting.**

- Demonstration** -teaches through showing and explaining. The member describes activity and completes a product using actual ingredients, tools etc.  
 **Illustrated Talk**-tells how something is done and must include visuals. An illustrated talk is fundamentally the same as a demonstration, except the visual aids (flip charts, power point, transparencies, display board etc.) are used instead of having an actual product.  
 **Formal Speech**-given from memory with brief notes or an outline on index cards used as an aid. Purpose is to stimulate thought or present a point of view. Equine states this category as Public Speaking.  
 **Performing Arts**-integrates performing arts with public speaking. The performing arts presentation includes introduction, information on performance content, performance summary and question/answer period. Performing arts includes: puppetry, movement/dance, instrumental, vocal, oral interpretation, gymnastics and double dutch jumping.

Please note that the time frame for presentations is as follows:

Prep Grades 1-3	no time requirement
Grades 4-7	5-7 minutes
Grade 8-13	8-15 minutes*

\*Horse Project members presenting on a horse topic need to follow these time guidelines: Team Demos 10-15minutes, Individual Demos 9-12 minutes and Public Speaking 7-10 minutes. Those scoring an excellent will be eligible for State Equine Presentations in addition to the regular State Presentations. For full set of rules contact the 4-H office.

***All equipment such as easels, slide projectors, extension cords, etc. must be provided by the presenter.***

I will volunteer to be a room host.      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No  
*A room host introduces the judge and assists the judge as necessary.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leader's Signature



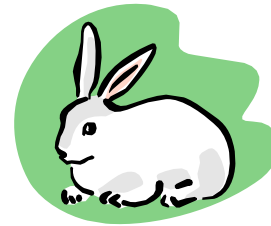
**UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)**



**MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H  
SMALL ANIMAL CLUBS PRESENT:**

***MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H RABBIT, CAVY,  
SMALL ANIMAL AND HERPETOLOGY SHOW***

**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2009  
TAYLOR PAVILION, BELMAR, NJ**



**FREE DRESS-UP CONTEST  
POSTER CONTEST**

***DOORS OPEN AT 8:00AM, JUDGING PROMPTLY AT 9:00AM***

**THIS IS A 4-H SHOW ONLY**



**ENTRY FEE: \$3.00 PER ANIMAL**

**CALL THE 4-H OFFICE FOR A SHOW CATALOG  
(732) 431-7263**

*Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, educational programs are offered without regard to race, sex, disability or handicap, color, national origin, or age. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*



# MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK REGISTRATION

Animal's Species - Please use a separate form for each species (Check One):

Beef  Dairy  Goat  Market Lamb  Wool/Breeding Sheep  Swine  Other \_\_\_\_\_

1. Only animals properly enrolled in the 4-H Office by May 1st will be eligible to show at any County, Regional or State 4-H event.
2. All registered animals must be in the name of the 4-H member. If this is a lease/borrow project, attach a copy of the lease/borrow form.
3. Animals must have been the member's project prior to **May 1** of the current year or born to a registered project animal.
4. All animals of one species should be listed on one pre-registration form. Each form must be accompanied by a photo or drawing of the animal showing color and markings. (For registered dairy animals a copy of the official breed registration has the markings diagramed and may be used.)

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School as of September 2008 : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Club(s): \_\_\_\_\_

## UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)

	Name of Animal	Animal's Date of Birth	Breed	Sex	Registration Number/Tattoo/Tag #/ Ear Notches (if applicable)	Lease/Borrow (Circle one)*
1						Yes No
2						Yes No
3						Yes No
4						Yes No
5						Yes No
6						Yes No
7						Yes No
8						Yes No

\*Remember to attach a copy of the lease/borrow form.

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parent or Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to your county 4-H Office by May 1.





# Save the Date

**S.E.T Your Mind to 4-H  
South Jersey Teen Conference  
March 13, 14 and 15, 2009  
Quality Inn/Grand Versailles in Maple Shade**

**Open to 8<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> graders**



South Jersey Teens will look to the future, exploring Science, Engineering and Technology. Friday night meet the candidates for South Jersey Representative and get acquainted with the other teens. Saturday you'll participate in workshops, a grand luncheon, then off to an indoor water park for the rest of the afternoon. Saturday evening is sure to be a treat. Sunday morning we'll enjoy a memorable breakfast along with special guests that will inspire us. Sadly the conference will end by 11 am and everyone will be off to reflect and share new ideas with other members back in your county.

**Don't be left out, plan to attend.  
So mark your calendar and look for the registration  
information in January.**

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# UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)



## Monmouth County 4-H First Annual Arts Show Invitational Hosted by S.W.A.P. 4-H Club

Saturday, April 18th  
8:30-4:30 PM

Agriculture Building; 4-H Department  
4000 Kozloski Road; Freehold NJ 07728

Open to all NJ 4-H members registered as  
of  
February 1, 2009

For more information contact:  
Ellen Williams, 4-H Agent

At (732)431-7266, e-mail: [williams@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:williams@aesop.rutgers.edu)  
Or Susan McLoughlin, S.W.A.P. Club Leader  
e-mail: [keybuzz@comcast.net](mailto:keybuzz@comcast.net)



Don't want to wait until the Fair to perform or display your art or creative writing? Now, you don't have to wait any longer.

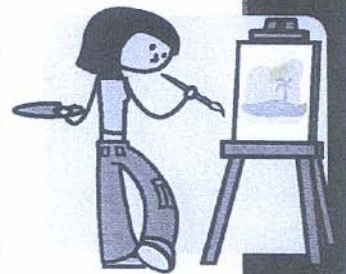
Ever wish there was a show for the arts, like the small animal or livestock divisions have? Well, now there is!

Entries in: Visual Arts; Performing Arts; Photography; and Creative Writing. Prep entries awarded participation ribbons. All standard entries will receive Excellent, Very Good, or Good ribbons. There will also be a Best in Show award!



You don't need to be registered in an Arts Club. You don't need to have previously shown your art work or performed in any county fair.

Watch for more information in the next newsletter. Ask your 4-H leader for registration forms coming in February.



## UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)



# NJ 4-H



## SKILL-A-THON

### Multi-Project ADVENTURE

**Where: Hunterdon County Extension Office Bldg 1**

**When: Sunday February 15, 2009**

**Snowdate – February 22, 2009**

**Time: 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

**Cost: It's FREE!**

So what is a Skill-a-thon Multi Project Adventure? At the event there will be a large room filled with activity stations. Each station will test your knowledge on topic related to a 4-H project. So you may have chance to identify various breeds of sheep. At another station you may have to identify the tools in a sewing box. The stations will represent a wide range of 4-H projects. There will be something to pique everyone's interest and knowledge. You can even bring your own station to challenge the group. More details about that will come out soon.

At the end of the day, you will have met 4-H members from across New Jersey and learned a lot more about what 4-H has to offer.

**Sponsored by: NJ 4-H APAC**

**Please RSVP**

By January 31, 2009

With the number of people attending

To: Annette Devitt, Salem County 4-H Agent

RCE of Salem County

51 Cheney Rd., Suite 1, Woodstown, NJ 08090

Phone: 856-769-0090 Email: devitt@njaes.rutgers.edu

This will help us plan the amount of food and number of freebies to have.

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.



# ALUMNI NEWS



By: Lorraine Yoncak

The Monmouth County 4-H Alumni had a wonderful covered dish dinner on the evening of December 6th. We honored Meg Whitehouse as our Alumni of the Year for 2009. Meg, as a youth, was a 4-H'er here in Monmouth County with the Jumping Brook Riders. She has been a leader of many clubs including the Thunderhoofs and now the Animal Science Club. She has served for several years as the President of the Monmouth County Leaders Association and is an advisor for both the horse clubs and small animal committees on the county and state levels. Meg shows all the qualities of an exemplary volunteer and 4-H alumni.

The Louise & Alex Basista scholarship was granted to Leigh Whitehouse, Meg's daughter. Leigh is attending the Rutgers School of Engineering with a major in Civil and Environmental Engineering. She had been in 4-H for thirteen years and continues to help out with the program while at school.

Sarah Sakowski, a 4-H member of one of Meg's clubs, was granted the Francis Arbaczwski Memorial Scholarship. Sarah is attending Brookdale Community College and has been a 4-H member for thirteen years. She has been volunteering in the 4-H office for the past two summers helping to "Make the Best Better."

We elected new officers for 2009 and are happy to present our slate. Past President—Marilyn Kothe; President—Debbie McCandless; Vice Presidents—Courtney Augustin and Chuck Wojtaszek; Secretary—Jillian Augustin; and Treasurer—Lorraine Yoncak.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday February 24th at 7:00 PM at the 4-H office. Please join us to share in planning a year of events for all past 4-H members, leaders and volunteers.



Lorraine Yoncak presenting Leigh Whitehouse with the Louise & Alex Basista scholarship and presenting Meg Whitehouse with the Alumni of the Year award for 2009. Congratulations to both of you.

Lorraine granting the Arbaczwski scholarship to Sarah Sakowski. Congratulations Sarah!

The Monmouth County Alumni wish you and yours the Very Happiest of Holiday Seasons and Best Wishes for the 2009 4-H Year.



# 4-H CAMP NEWS



## 2009 TEEN WINTER CAMP



**Where:** L.G. Cook 4-H Camp, Stokes State Forest

**Who:** 4-H Teens, grades 8<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> year in college

We will be attending with Sussex, Essex, Union & Hunterdon.

**When:** February 6-8, 2009

**Cost:** 1 Youth = \$55.00, 2 Youth = \$100.00, Adults = \$50.00  
(Cost includes camp fee, meals, activities and insurance.)

**Transportation is NOT included.**

Join the fun-filled weekend. Make new friends and spend time with old ones. Hike or cross country ski in the scenic wilderness of New Jersey. Skate, sled and toboggan if weather permits. Indoor recreation includes crafts, baking and games. Enjoy a warm fire, good food and fellowship.

***SPACE IS LIMITED SO DON'T DELAY!***

Send registration form and check made payable to Monmouth County 4-H Teen Council, Att: Virginia, RCE 4-H Office, 4000 Kozloski Road, P.O. Box 5033, Freehold, NJ 07728 by the extended deadline of Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**4-H Teen Winter Camp**      February 6-8, 2009

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

A confirmation letter with more details will be sent once your registration is received.



*Lindley G. Cook 4-H Youth Center for Outdoor Education provides youth and adults with a safe environment for fun, hands-on residential outdoor educational experiences; fostering independence, leadership development, respect, tolerance and positive self-esteem. This is accomplished under the guidelines of 4-H and Rutgers Cooperative Extension principles and missions.*

# 4-H CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## *January 2009*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Member Reg- istration Dead- line/New Years County Office Closed	2	3
4	5 Livestock Advisory Mtg. 7:00 pm	6 YHC 6:30pm Horse Leaders Mtg 7:30pm	7	8	9	10 Pomona Grange Farmingdale 10 AM Grange; Frances Asbury Manor 1:30 PM
11	12	13 Small Animal Adv. Mtg. 7:30pm	14	15	16	17 Prep Program Jungle Safari 10am-1:30pm 4-H Office
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Office Closed	20	21	22 Yearbook Com. Mtg. 7:30pm/4-H Association Mtg. 7:00pm	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## *February 2009*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Livestock Adv. Mtg. 7:00pm	3 YHC 6:30pm Horse Leaders Mtg. 7:30pm	4	5	6	7
					L.G. Cook Teen Winter Camp 2/6 to 2/8	
8	9	10 Sm. Animal Adv. Mtg. 7:30pm	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday Office Closed	13	14
Winter Camp Teens Return						
15	16 Presidents' Day Office Closed	17	18	19	20	21 State Equine Presentations
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County  
4000 Kozloski Road, PO Box 5033, Freehold NJ 07728

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