



Clover Gazette

Berks County July /August 2013

1238 County Welfare Rd., Suite 110, Leesport, PA 19533-9709

610-378-1327 Fax 610-378-7961

Dear 4-H Friends and Family:

It's summer time and we are very busy with a variety of activities in 4-H, much of it focused on *science*. Our 4-H campers and counselors just returned from 4-H Camp Conquest, where The Mad Scientist, Mr. H, was the featured presenter. Campers completed the *National 4-H Science Experiment, the Eco-Bot Challenge* and activities from the new *Exploring Your Environment 4-H Project*. Our 4-H Gardening Club is thriving with productive vegetable beds located behind the 4-H Center. This new club is still taking new members, so come out to the 4-H Center on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. – rain or shine.

This month we will have both juniors and seniors completing the *4-H Veterinary Science Projects*. High school students are participating in the *Discovering Veterinary Science* program at Penn State Berks. We had an overwhelming response to our *4-H Veterinary Science* for middle school students to be held here at the Ag Center as well. Both groups of youth will have an opportunity to learn more about animal science and careers in veterinary science. And finally, speaking of animal science, our 4-H livestock club members will be testing their knowledge during the skill-a-thons.

We have a good sized delegation of teens registered to attend 4-H State Achievement Days. These youth participants will be demonstrating their project mastery in fashion revue, physical fitness, dairy bowl and dairy and horse judging. They will also have an opportunity to hear motivational speakers and meet teens from across the state. Enjoy these summer days!

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Dietrich
Extension Educator/4-H Coordinator

Phone Issues



We have been having routine problems with our office telephone connectivity over the past two months. If you call the office, and it just rings with no response, please try to send an email if possible. Try to contact Debbie at dad7@psu.edu or Sheila at skc11@psu.edu.

GIANT Gift Card Fundraiser

We still have gift cards available for sale. They can be used for groceries or gas. If you are a GIANT customer you can help by purchasing gift cards. Thank you! Submitted by George Dietrich, State 4-H Council Historian and Reporter.

Make a donation to Berks County 4-H while you search the internet or shop on-line!

The Berks County 4-H Program just received its first donation check of almost \$58.66 from GoodSearch.com. The site donates a penny plus for each search conducted through their search engine and a percentage of the total purchase from on-line shopping through their GoodBuy site.

Here's how you can help us earn even more:

- * Go to GoodSearch.com and designate Berks County 4-H as your charity.
- * Install GoodSearch on your computer tool bar.
- * Use GoodSearch as your search tool.
- * When you shop on-line, go into the store through GoodBuy by clicking on GoodSearch on your toolbar and then going into GoodBuy.

The search engine works as well as any and your on-line shopping experience will not be any different than it has ever been. Thanks for donating to Berks County 4-H!!

PENNSSTATE



Cooperative Extension
College of Agricultural Sciences

Meet the Reading Fair Outstanding 4-H Members

This month, the Agricultural and Horticultural Association of Berks County will honor two of our 4-H members at their annual banquet. Each year they honor two outstanding 4-H'ers with a \$100 award and recognition.

Kerissa Rohrbach

Kerissa is the 18-year-old daughter of Steve and Marlo Rohrbach of Perry Township. Kerissa's younger brother, Dustin, is also a 4-H member. Kerissa has been a member of the Tilden 4-H Sewing Club since 2005. She has completed a variety of clothing and textiles and foods and nutrition projects over the years.

Kerissa has served her 4-H club as President for the past 4 years. As one of the older members of her 4-H club Kerissa is routinely asked to share her sewing skills with the club's younger members. Kerissa also puts her sewing and baking skills to use in completion of community service projects. Over the years, Kerissa has sewn walker bags for nursing homes and baked cookies for our troops. Kerissa has qualified regularly for the Regional 4-H Fashion Revue and this year qualified for the State 4-H Fashion Revue to be held at State 4-H Achievement Days.

Kerissa has stated, *"There are so many things that can be learned from 4-H...for example one of the things I've learned from 4-H is that you don't have to compete just to win but to make friends through it too...learning how to properly do something and master it is a very exciting thing, especially in this organization where the leaders are so supportive."*

Kerissa graduated from Hamburg Area High School this June. An avid runner, in school she earned Varsity letters for winter track, spring track and the cross country teams. Kerissa and her family are active members of Belleman's Church. Kerissa will be attending Penn State, Hazelton, in the fall. She is pursuing an Associates Degree in Physical Therapy.

Jessica Spatz

Eighteen-year-old Jessica Spatz is the daughter of Harold and Carol Spatz of Centre Township. She has an older sister, Cassandra, who is a 4-H alumna. As well as a younger sister, Marissa, who is a 4-H member. Jessica's 4-H experience has centered on 4-H livestock projects. A 9-year 4-H member, she has completed market steer, breeding heifer, market goat and market swine projects.

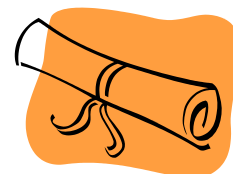
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Jessica has served her 4-H clubs in many officer roles over the years including Secretary and Treasurer. But it is her service as club President that has been most notable. Jessica conducts club meetings professionally and has even managed adult conflicts during club meetings with ease. Jessica has served as a 4-H Teen Leader as well. Jessica's 4-H community service work has focused on sharing information with the public about agriculture and her 4-H club activities at the Farmer for a Day tent at the Kutztown Fair and the 4-H Paper Clover Campaign at the Tractor Supply Company store.

Jessica has stated, *"I would encourage any younger child to participate in 4-H because of the many opportunities it presents. 4-H is not only a great experience, but it is a life experience. Through 4-H, a younger child could learn recordkeeping, public speaking, responsibility, leadership and so much more. It is also a great way to get out there and meet new people."*

Jessica graduated from Tulpehocken High School in June. There she was very active in the FFA Chapter where she served as Chapter President. Jessica's family is active in Belleman's Church where she is a member of the Hand Bell Choir. Jessica is planning to attend Berks Technical Institute where she will study Medical Assisting.

Note to 4-H Club Leaders



I have been waiting to notify you of your successful background check completion as I planned to also send you your Mandated Reporter Training Certificate and lanyard in the same mailing. Unfortunately, I have just learned that they will not be issuing the training certificates and lanyards I have been waiting for. It will soon be time for your background checks to be completed again for the new year. So, I will not be sending formal letters at this point notifying you of your successful completion of the PSU Background Check process. If for some reason you need/would like formal notification I will do that on an individual basis.

As you can imagine it has been very challenging to get 150 volunteers through both the Background Check and Mandated Reporter Training processes. The process must be completed annually and is changing for the coming program year. Leaders can expect to get a letter detailing the new processes in August.

Thank you for your past patience and your future commitment to ensuring the safety of our youth!

PSATA Youth Award Opportunity

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors invites youth groups which have undertaken a community project to apply for this award which recognizes their valuable lasting contributions. This is a group award. The application deadline is August 15th. Call the 4-H office for details.

Kutztown Fair Scholarship Opportunity

The Kutztown Fair Association has established a scholarship fund. Applicants must have been exhibitors at the fair during the previous two years, but that is not limited to only dairy and livestock exhibitors. Youth who exhibited vegetables, clothing, crafts, exhibits, etc., in the general exhibit building are also eligible. Go to the Kutztown Fair website to see the complete criteria and get an application form: www.kutztownfairgrounds.com/fair/scholarship.htm The deadline for applications is September 30th.

Pet Appreciation Day

The Tractor Supply Company in Temple is holding a *Pet Appreciation Day* on Saturday, August 17th. They would love to have the horse, dog or rabbit club members come and share their 4-H experience with the public. Please call the store manager, Bob, at 610-929-2134, if your club is interested in helping.

Community Service Opportunities

This service opportunity is for all 4-H members, not just the livestock club members.

The *Reading Fairgrounds* will be prepared for the livestock exhibits on Sunday, July 28. All help will be appreciated starting at 11:00 a.m. on the fairgrounds. Lunch will be provided by the livestock clubs. The work to be done includes setting up animal pens, planting flowers and decorating the fairgrounds for the public.

Easter Seals to Visit the Reading Fair

Our Easter Seals 4-H Club will be visiting the fair for a "Behind the Scenes" tour on **Tuesday, August 6th**. We are looking for 4-H'ers to talk with them about their project animals in the barns. Please call 4-H Summer Assistant, Jaimie Shipe, at the 4-H office if you are interested in helping with this community service event.

Fair Time is Fun Time

Just a reminder that both the Reading and Kutztown Fairs hold contests that you can enter during fair week. Some of the contests are educational, such as the dairy judging contest or the stockman's contest. In those contests you can improve your project skills and knowledge. Others are just plain fun, such as the hay bale throwing contest or the pie eating contest. Check out the fair's premium book for the schedule and contest details. We have a limited supply of premium books here in the office for pickup or you can visit their websites:

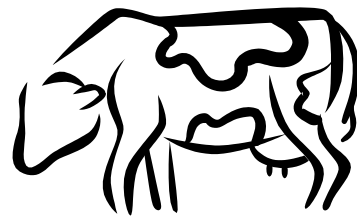
www.kutztownfairgrounds.com/fair/premiumbook.htm also under the contest department

www.readingfair.us look for Department 22 - Games and Contests. When I was checking out the Reading Fair site. I found this note on their home page and wanted to be sure to share it. I know that many of our 4-H families like to park at the 4-H Center and then pay their admission at the booth on the other side of the bridge.

From the Reading Fair website home page ...Note: This year the 4-H gate (This is the gate leading from the 4-H Center over the bridge to the Fairgrounds, not the gate where the livestock trucks and trailers come in) will be closed Sunday through Thursday, all guests must enter through the main gate on these days. We may, depending on weather, open the gate on Friday. The 4-H gate will be open on Saturday.

We also have a copy of the youth department catalog for the Allentown Fair if you are interested in entering that regional fair.

DAIRY DOINGS



District Dairy Show Information One show only in our area this year!

The SE District 4-H Dairy Show at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds will be held August 18 and 19. All 4-H dairy club members will receive their information packets soon in the mail. Please be sure to follow the show registration instructions and deadline of July 31st. **Note the PA State Junior Show is earlier this year on September 7th.**

Horse Happenings

Two Remaining Horse Shows This Summer

- July 28 Blue Ribbon Riders 4-H Fun Show
Kari Wolfe 717-933-0423 (h)
610-413-7441 (c)
- August 10 Rocky Mtn. Riders 4-H Fun Show
Peg Nahrgang 610-944-6662(h)
610-914-0980(c)

Contact your club leaders for show fliers or you can call the 4-H Office (610-378-1327) for a copy, or check out the Berks County 4-H website.

Livestock Notes

Livestock Judging Contest Results

At the Regional Livestock Judging Contest held the last week in June there were 33 juniors and 49 seniors in the contest. Marissa Spatz and Brent Stufflet participated in the Junior Division and Ty and Sierra Brown competed in the Senior Division. Marissa placed 3rd in swine, 6th in sheep, and 7th overall individual in the junior contest. Ty placed 9th in sheep and 10th in swine in the senior contest. This wraps up a very fun and exciting livestock judging season for our team. We look forward to having more livestock 4-H members join us next year! Submitted by Jodi Gauker, Livestock Judging Coach.

4-H Horse Scholarship Winner

Each year the Berks County 4-H Horse Council awards the Gwen D. Schwoyer Memorial 4-H Horse Member Scholarship to graduating seniors. This year's recipient is Madeline Shalters of the Blue Ribbon Riders 4-H Horse Club. Maddie is the daughter of Jean Shalters of Mohrsville and Lawrence Shalters of Centre Township.

Maddie's 4-H horse projects have included both Performance (riding) and Production (raising a young animal) projects. She is an accomplished showman having won Reserve Champion in Junior Showmanship at the State 4-H Horse Show. She has also entered 4-H driving classes with her horse as an additional challenge.

Maddie is a 10-year 4-H member who has served her 4-H club as President and 4-H Teen Leader. As the oldest teen in her club, Maddie serves as a role model and mentor for younger teens and members in her club. She assists with club events and activities including helping with the horse shows. Maddie also served on the Berks County 4-H Centennial Event Planning Committee and was part of the delegation of 4-H teens who accepted the County Commissioners Proclamation in honor of our Centennial. Maddie credits 4-H with helping her try new experiences such as public speaking. Maddie said, "4-H has given me the strength and guidance to do things that I never thought I would be able to do."

Livestock Council Benefit Auction

Saturday, August 17, 2013

Kutztown Fairgrounds



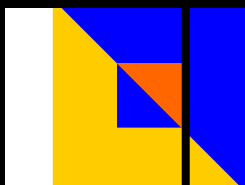
This is a livestock program fundraiser, therefore, each 4-H livestock family is expected to donate one item (value of \$20) or make a \$20 contribution to the Berks County 4-H Livestock Council. If you leave an item in the fair office for the auction, please clearly mark it for the 4-H Livestock Auction and put your family name on it so you receive credit for the contribution.

Skill-a-thon Dates Set

The dates for the skill-a-thons have been set. Remember, you must participate in your club's skill-a-thon in order to show and sell at the Roundup. If you are not going to be able to attend on the designated date, please contact Debbie Dietrich, to make arrangements for the make-up.

Sheep: Tuesday, July 9th, will be held as part of the evening's program which begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Ag Center. Remember you must take the sheep skill-a-thon in order to be eligible to show at the fairs.

Beef, Dairy Beef, Goat, Swine: Tuesday, July 16th, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. (please arrive early if you need to take more than one skill-a-thon) at the 4-H Center.



July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Gardening Club	4 4th of July	5	6
7 4-H Open Horse Show	8	9 Sheep Skill-a-thon Horse Council	10 Gardening Club	11 Blue Ribbon Riders 4-H Club	12	13
14	15 Vet Science 4-H Day Camp	16 Livestock Skill-a-thon Vet Science 4-H Day Camp	17 Gardening Club Goat Club Vet Science 4-H Day Camp	18 Vet Science 4-H Day Camp	19 Vet Science 4-H Day Camp	20 Berks /Lehigh Horse & Pony Roundup
21	22	23	24 Gardening Club	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Gardening Club			

- 3, 10 4-H Gardening Club; 5:00 p.m.
- 17, 24,31 Berks County Ag Center
- 4 4th of July Holiday—Office Closed
- 7 4-H Open Horse Show; 8:00 a.m.
Berks County 4-H Center
- 9 Sheep Skill-a-thon; 5:30 p.m.
Berks County Ag Center
- 9 4-H Horse Council; 7:00 p.m.
Berks County Ag Center
- 11 Blue Ribbon Riders 4-H Club; 7:00 p.m.
Berks County 4-H Center
- 15-19 Vet Science Day Camp; 9:00—3:00 p.m.
Berks County Ag Center
- 20 Berks/Lehigh Horse & Pony Roundup;
21 9:00 a.m.
Berks County 4-H Center
- 16 Livestock Clubs Skill-a-thon; 7:00 p.m.
Beef, Dairy Beef, Swine and Goat
Berks County 4-H Center



Donate to Berks County 4-H

The Berks County 4-H Program relies heavily on private donor support to provide its many programs and activities. You can make a tax deductible contribution by returning the form below along with your donation check made payable to:

Berks County 4-H Development Fund
1238 County Welfare Rd., Suite 110
Leesport, PA 19533-9709

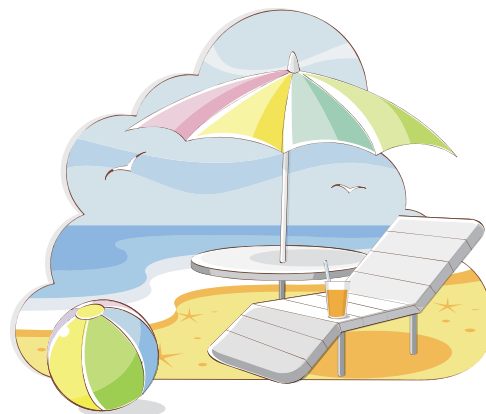
_____ Please accept my tax deductible contribution in the amount of \$_____.

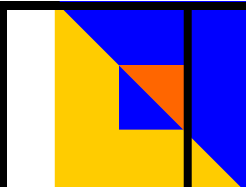
Donor Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone Number _____





August 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Reading Fair	Reading Fair	4-H Achievement Days Reading Fair	4-H Achievement Days Gardening Club Reading Fair	4-H Achievement Days Reading Fair	Reading Fair	Rocky Mt. Riders 4-H Horse Show Reading Fair
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Kutztown Fair	Kutztown Fair	Kutztown Fair Gadening Club	Kutztown Fair	Kutztown Fair	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			Gardening Club			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 4-10 Reading Fair
Reading Fairgrounds
- 6-8 Penn State 4-H Achievement Days;
Penn State, University Park
- 7,14, 21 4-H Gardening Club; 5:00 p.m.
Berks County Ag Center
- 10 Rocky Mt. Riders Horse Show; 8:30 a.m.
Berks County Ag Center
- 11-17 Kutztown Fair
Kutztown Fairgrounds
- 13-15 Ag Progress Days
Rock Springs, Pennsylvania

An **OUTREACH** program of the
College of Agricultural Sciences



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Berks County 4-H

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