Voice mail messages left at the number above after 5pm on weekdays will be picked up first thing the next morning.

WELCOME TO THE 2009-2010 - 4-H YEAR!

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<th>IMPORTANT DATES IN SEPTEMBER</th>
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GET READY FOR OCTOBER!

**October 1-7, 2009 is 4-H Week.** All clubs are invited to participate in celebrating National 4-H Week. Suggested areas are: window displays, special programs, civic organizations, radio and T.V., attend church as a group.

**October 3 Saturday**

4-H Sunday observance at St. Brigid’s Church – 6 pm. Any member interested in participating in the church service, please call Cheryl Mattos at 582-4621.

**October 3**

Mall Expo 10am – 2pm
Achievement Night 7:30 pm – Hanford West High School Cafeteria. 4-H’ers will receive their county recognition pins for record book judging. The new All Stars will be introduced, along with Emerald Star recognition. Each club is asked to bring two dozen cookies for the reception afterward.

**October 3**

Rabbit Show 8:30 am to 5:00 pm – Kings Fairgrounds
4-H EXPO AT HANFORD MALL

There will be an exposition of the 4-H Youth Development Program at the Hanford Mall. Each 4-H club will have the opportunity to showcase one or two projects from their clubs. If possible, we would like the displays to be interactive so that visitors can make or do something while they visit your display. Each club will have a table on which to exhibit non-animal projects. The possible exception will be rabbits, which may be able to be displayed in cages on a table. (PDR 6)

RABBIT MEETING

Kathy Lugo will be having a countywide rabbit meeting on Thursday, September 24th, at 6:30 pm at the CE Office multipurpose room. This meeting is for all Kings County rabbit members or anyone interested in having a rabbit project. For more information, please call Kathy at 582-4760 in the evening.

JUNIOR FAIR BOARD

Applications for the Junior Fair Board are available at the Kings County Fair office. Applicants must be in 8th Grade through High School. If you have any questions, please call Loretta Toledo (584-5177) or Sue Lafferty (584-4756).

RABBIT SHOW

The Central Valley Rabbit Breeders Association is having an open and youth Rabbit Show on Saturday, October 3, 2009, at the Kings County Fairgrounds in the Commercial Building. If you are interested in having a rabbit project for 4-H this year, or just a pet rabbit, this is a good place to see all of the different breeds and rabbit equipment. More than 2,000 rabbits of all shapes, sizes, breeds and colors will be on display. There will be rabbits for sale. The public is invited and admission is free. The show starts at 8:30 am and lasts all day until 5:00 pm. Come early, because the rabbits start to leave as the judging progresses. For further information, please contact Kathy Lugo at 582-4760.

STATE COMPUTER CORPS

2009 4-H Computer Corps applications are now available online. The 4-H Computer Corps is composed of youth, volunteers, and staff ages 15 and above. The 4-H Computer Corps administers the state 4-H website (www.ca4h.org), conducts computer trainings around the state, and helps 4-H clubs design web pages. Applications are available at: http://ca4h.org/wrp/compcorps/index.asp. The deadline for applications is September 30, 2009.

COUNTYWIDE POULTRY PROJECT

All members of any Kings County 4-H club are welcome. We will be learning about different breeds of birds, raising chicks and adult birds, breeding stock and market birds, types of feeds and supplements, as well as showmanship and preparing birds for show. If you are looking for an inexpensive project that is a lot of fun, please join us. **You do not have to own a bird to be in this project.** If you are interested in this project, when completing enrollment forms, sign up for Poultry and Game Birds. Dates and times of meetings will be announced soon. If you have any questions, please contact Don Mattos at 582-4621.
Would you like to run for governor of California? Talk with your senator or congressman? Do you like advocating for a cause or persuading others? You can be involved in any of these activities during the 2010 California Citizenship Focus Program. At California Focus, you become a registered voter in the state of Sierra Cascade and take on all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of citizenship. You learn how government works and enjoy the traditions and history of the Capitol. A visit with your elected officials is the highlight of the program.

California Focus is a unique 4-H Citizenship educational experience that combines hands-on participation in workshops, debates, and simulations with outstanding speakers and visits to historical, cultural, and governmental sites. California's capitol city, Sacramento, becomes a "living classroom" for this five-day, action packed adventure.

Registration materials will be available at the CE Office. Applications, with a non-refundable deposit of $100, are due in January. Members must have completed the 8th Grade by the conference. The cost is about $490.00 for youth and $575.00 for adults.

The Kings County 4-H Council is offering six scholarships of 1/3 of the fee to each member attending California Focus. Members must be in at least their second year of 4-H and at least their first year of Citizenship this year and submit a completed record book for the 2008-09 club year to qualify. The scholarships will be awarded to the first six to submit their record book from last year and a completed application and request a scholarship. A waiting list will be maintained after the first six in case one of those does not attend. Members may only receive this scholarship once.

Chaperone costs will be paid for one person or split between two. Chaperones must have completed two years as a 4-H leader before attending at council expense. Other leaders may attend at their own expense.

The State 4-H Leaders Forum provides a weekend retreat for 4-H volunteers across California to gather for networking, education, relaxation, and fun. Volunteers of all ages, experiences, and locations share this opportunity to further their volunteering "career," find new inspirations, and bring new ideas home to their counties and clubs.

Some of the best, most practical learning for 4-H leaders happens there. You’ll come home loaded with ideas and activities and the enthusiasm to implement them. You will return with a deeper understanding of the 4-H mission, a stronger sense of what has to happen to accomplish it, and an expanded capacity to make it happen.

Cost for a double room is approximately $280 per person, including two nights lodging, meals and conference registration. Further information will be available at: http://ca4horg/conference/slc/index.asp. If you wish to stay and eat off-site, the conference registration is $45. Individual meals may be purchased at the front desk.

Scholarships for First Time Attendees

Five $100 scholarships to attend the Forum are available from the Kings County 4-H Council for leaders who have completed at least two years and who have not received a scholarship to the Forum in the past. If you wish to be considered, call the CE Office and let us know. Selection will be on a first-come, first served basis.
CONTRACTS FOR USE OF FACILITIES
(Meetings, Parties, Field Days, Etc.)

All contracts and agreements for use of any facility by any 4-H group must come to the 4-H office for review and signature of the county director. The group insurance covering 4-H activities and events also requires that these contracts and agreements list the facility user as follows: "The Regents of the University of California" (not the 4-H club or leader's name). **LEADERS AND MEMBERS MAY NOT SIGN AGREEMENTS.**

Plan ahead! If the form includes a "Hold Harmless" clause, the County 4-H Office, and sometimes the State office, must review and approve it to insure that there are no provisions that would be detrimental to the interests of the University.

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WESTERN REGIONAL LEADER'S FORUM - “Blazing Trails”
March 11-14, 2010 – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Join 4-H leaders from 13 western states. Financial assistance will be available from the Kings County 4-H Council. Additional information is available at [http://aces.nmsu.edu/4h/wrlf2010/index.html](http://aces.nmsu.edu/4h/wrlf2010/index.html).

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CLUB BANK ACCOUNTS

All bank accounts must use the UCCE 4-H office mailing address as the address of record. No UCCE or 4-H staff should be signatories on 4-H accounts. The County Director or designee must review all monthly statements. Failure to follow the policies can result in revoking of the club or unit's charter. (all banking changes must be in place no later than July 1, 2008).

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CHILD HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY CLARIFICATION

On July 1, 2006, one of the most significant changes in the California 4-H Youth Development Program is the implementation of the revised Youth Protection Policies (Section 815 of the 4-H Policy Handbook) requiring every 4-H event or activity to have two adults available at all times to supervise youth. What is important to remember is that these adults should, whenever possible, stay within view of one another. The best practice is that both of these adults are appointed 4-H volunteers, no matter their age. (Note: The minimum age to be an appointed 4-H volunteer is 18.) An additional approach to implement this policy includes one appointed volunteer and one “outside” adult. The 4-H volunteer must be in charge of the event or activity. The “outside” adult must be over the age of twenty-one (21). This is not optimal, but it is an acceptable approach to implementing the “two adults” at all times policy. For additional information, see: [http://ca4h.org/4hresource/handbook/index.asp](http://ca4h.org/4hresource/handbook/index.asp).

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4-H PROJECT MENTORS

We would like to have leaders as mentors who would be interested in sharing their experience and insight with new leaders. Their responsibilities would be to:

- Call the new leaders at least three times a year to offer support and encourage;
- Offer suggestions for planning successful annual project plans and meetings;
- Encourage leaders to plan activities that will contribute to the development of leadership, citizenship, and life skills among the members;
- Answer questions about the county 4-H program as needed.

Please contact Denise at 582-3211, ext. 2734, to become involved with this program.
Judges for State Record Book Judging

The State 4-H Office is recruiting judges for **2009 State 4-H Record Book Judging** to be held at UC Davis, December 4-6, 2009. Judges will take part in a Friday evening orientation and two days of judging. Applications are available at: [http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/ir/recordbook/competition.asp](http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/ir/recordbook/competition.asp) and are due September 30, 2009.

NEW LEADER ORIENTATIONS

New Leader Orientations are scheduled as follows at the C. E. Office:

- **September 10, 2009**, at 7 pm;
- **October 6, 2009**, at 6:00 p.m.; and
- **October 28, 2009**, at 7:00 p.m.

Please encourage the attendance of new leaders, as it is absolutely necessary that they complete an orientation in order to be a 4-H leader.

ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT - INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BOOTHs

We have received many requests to make informational announcements at Achievement Night concerning events, such as Washington Focus, California Focus, Domestic Exchange, etc.

We are offering one spokesperson a 3-minute time slot and the ability to set up a booth (card table that you provide) around the room. By setting up before the event, people can visit and ask questions about your display. Please contact the C.E. office if you would like to be a part of this.

FASHION REVUE COMMITTEE

If you would like to be on the Fashion Revue Committee, please contact Denise at dhcuendett@ucdavis.edu, or 582-3211, ext. 2734. We will be planning a meeting for November.

STATE 4-H EQUINE FIELD DAY

Mark your calendars!! The State 4-H Equine Field Day at UC Davis on **Saturday, October 24, 2010** has just been confirmed! There will be speakers from UC Davis and surrounding areas. Early registration will be due Friday, October 16th. More information will be available soon on the web site at [http://ca4h.org/projresource/horse/](http://ca4h.org/projresource/horse/). Plan now to attend!
**2010 SFR Theme is: “What’s in YOUR closet?!?!?!?”**

If you are a County winner, then you qualify for SFR. The categories are Traditional, purchased, Recycled, Wearable Arts and Challenge (vest), with in the age groups of Junior (9-11), Intermediate (12-13), Senior (14 and up).

We can’t wait to see what’s in YOUR closet.

**Hats Off to Kindness :**

COME ONE, COME ALL: 4-H’ers, Leaders & Parents. YES that’s you! **Hats Off to Kindness** is a great citizen project at the state level. Sew or make a hat at home and bring it to SFR, but first decorate it and make it fun. When you bring the hat to SFR it will be donated to a cancer patient. This is a great way to not only participate in a state event but to do a kind thing. Be prepared to model your hat on stage before donating it, but, if you are a SFR participant, you need a substitute model.

**CHALLENGE: Simplicity Pattern # 4762**

Make an in-VEST-ment in your closet with this year’s challenge! Make a lined vest but don’t forget to spice it up. It could be reversible, have pockets, frills or whatever fits YOU!

**First Year Showcase:**

Is this your FIRST year in sewing? Do you want a taste of participating at a state event? The answer is SFR “First Year Showcase”. If you didn’t qualify for SFR in your county, you can still come to SFR, if you are a first year clothing member! This is not a competition, but just a positive critique of your outfit. You will be evaluated by experienced youth on how you could improve your skills.

For more information, contact Karli Draxler at: Chat2kd@unwiredbb.com, or watch your ‘Youth Talk’ for more details as they become finalized for both County & State Contests.
## SEPTEMBER 2009

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**WINDOW IN CE OFFICE, REFRESHMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS AT COUNCIL MEETING:**

**Armona 4-H Club**
4-H COUNCIL BARBECUE

November 7, 2009

Tickets will be available at your September club meetings for the annual barbecue.

This is the only fundraiser for the Council, and the proceeds are used for the many awards and events during the year.

All members are encouraged to sell tickets for the lunch, which will be held at the fairgrounds at the same time as Judging Day. (PDR 3)

Take-out meals are also available.

Please support the 4-H Council and all that it does for 4-H members by selling your BBQ tickets. Tickets are $8.00. Get them from your club leader.