July 1st marks the start of a new 4-H Year, and it is time to think about re-enrolling in 4-H! The California 4-H Online enrollment system is now open. Please click on this link to enroll for the new year~ https://california.4honline.com/Login.aspx?40472F4547534E39717170733D.

For returning 4-H members or leaders, you must use the SAME EMAIL ADDRESS you have used in the past for your family. DO NOT create a new email. If you do not remember what email you used, contact the UCCE Office at 852-2730. Instructions for the enrollment procedure is available at http://cekings.ucdavis.edu/Kings_County_4-H_Program. If you have forgotten your password click on “I forgot my password” and a new one will be emailed to you.
4-H Program Fees Increase for New Club Year

The economic climate has created extreme economic challenges in continuing to provide strong volunteer and programmatic support for 4-H locally. For the past several years, in the face of declining funding from state and federal resources, UC Cooperative Extension and 4-H at the state level have tried to absorb budget shortfalls in order to keep from raising fees to participants. Unfortunately, the point has been reached where the costs are no longer able to be absorbed and fee increases are needed to support and grow our local programming. These program fees will be used to provide partial funding for direct local program costs including 4-H staff who support you, our local volunteers. For 2012-2013, fees will be increased to $10.00 per adult and $28.00 per youth. Local staff and volunteer leadership are encouraged to work with the State 4-H Office to strategize together around the development of local funding to keep 4-H strong and growing. The California 4-H Foundation is a valuable resource with whom to partner in developing a local funding plan. The level of success of such coordinated local fundraising efforts is hoped to mitigate the need for future increases.

Our Apologies

In the June Issue of the Youth Talk, the front page included the Brazil Memorial All Star Scholarship recipients. One recipient was omitted—Lauren Smith from Lemoore 4-H. Congratulations to Lauren and our apologies!

Oh Say Can You See….

When you hear that phrase—“Oh say can you see...” hopefully you think of a pristine American flag waving in the breeze. The American and 4-H flags here in the UCCE Office need help in staying clean and serviceable. Would any 4-H'er be willing to construct storage bags to enable the flags to stay in good condition? If you are interested, please contact the UCCE Office at 852-2730.

Still Time to Register for 2012 State Leadership Conference

August 9 - 12, 2012
UC San Diego

Theme: California Dreamin', California Leadin'
Age Requirement: 8th grade and up
Registration fee: $489/per member
Deadline to register: July 13th

SLC is a great opportunity to gain leadership skills, meet new people, stay on a college campus, and learn many different things! Participants may register at: http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=7308.

Kings County still has scholarships available for those 4-H members wishing to attend SLC, covering 1/3 of the conference fee. Members must meet the conference age criteria, have completed 2 years in 4-H at the time of the conference and submit a completed Record Book from at least the previous year. The scholarship is available once per member.

Emerald Star Program

Attention 4-H members who intend to apply to become a Kings County All Star in the future: Completing an Emerald Star project is a requirement for those applying for All Star.

Purpose: The purpose of the Emerald Star Program is to provide leadership opportunities to 4-H members.

Eligibility: Members who have completed two years of 4-H and will be at least 14 years of age by January 1, 2012 are eligible to apply for the Emerald Star Program.

Project Requirements: Emerald Star projects must demonstrate the member’s leadership ability, the ability to work with others, and the ability to plan and conduct a successful program of work. The project must have an adult advisor and must provide service to the Kings County 4-H program.

Procedure: Click on the following website for more details.

http://cekings.ucdavis.edu/files/88224.doc

Applications are due August 24th to the UCCE Office. Interviews will be held in September. Check the August issue of the Youth Talk for future details.
Let’s Hear it for 4-H Record Books!

With the 4-H year ending, it is time to record the year’s happenings in your 4-H Record Book! A completed record book for regular 4-H members consists of a Personal Development Report Form (PDR), your 4-H story and an Annual Project Report form for each project you have completed. Primary members may fill out the Primary Member Project Record which is optional. Be sure to be familiar with the date your club has set for turning in your completed Record Book, so your book is submitted on time.

(Record Book covers are available from the UCCE Office for $3.00 each.)

New this year, **ALL Record Book** judging and **Project** judging will be done at the club level. Members meeting the established “Medal” criteria for Record Book and Project Judging will receive their award(s) at County Achievement Night held in the fall.

Books competing for the Brazil (sheep), Toledo (dairy) and Perreira (photography) awards are due to the UCCE Office on Tuesday, August 7th. The criteria for Record Book awards, Project awards and for the Brazil, Toledo and Perreira awards are on the Kings County 4-H website at http://cekings.ucdavis.edu/Kings_County_4-H_Program/4-H_Forms_and_Resources/.

Kings County guidelines for record books differ some from the State guidelines. The exceptions are:

- There are no formal formatting guidelines (ie.– no font, margin, spacing etc.)
- Title page, table of contents and section dividers are optional
- In the PDR-
  - **Farm Day**: each presentation given is counted for separate presentation under category “6”- Communication Skills/4-H Presentations, due to the considerations that each class of 3rd graders attending is a new audience.
  
  - **Presentation Day/Favorite Foods Fair/Table Setting Contest**: three separate events being held on the same day. They each can be counted under category “3”- 4-H Events Attended, if the member attended each of the separate events.

- **State Field Day**: This event incorporates multiple events into one day, these events include but are not limited to the State Fashion Revue, State Presentation Day, Logo Design Contest. These events may be counted under category “3”- 4-H Events Attended, if the member attended each of the separate events.

If you are interested in submitting your Record Book for competition at the State level, please be sure to read the guidelines on the CA State 4-H website after July 15th for the most current information on procedures, requirements and due dates. (The format for Kings County differs from the State Guidelines.)

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**4-H Marketing & Recruitment Committee**

How does 4-H tell it’s story? How can we spread the word about what a valuable youth organization we have in our community? How do we “grow” the program? This committee will analyze these questions and access the resources available in our community to help tell the 4-H story. If you would like to help with this endeavor, please plan to attend the meeting on:

Tuesday, July 17th
7:00 PM @ the UCCE Office
Plan to attend and bring your ideas!

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**Calendar & Budget Committee**

The new 4-H year has arrived and it is time to set the dates for all the upcoming activities for the 2012-2013 4-H Club Year. Then, how will the dollars be allocated to enable the activities to occur? The Calendar and Budget Committee will discuss all of the above and make recommendations to the Council for approval. Be a part of this planning process and attend the meeting on:

Tuesday, July 24th
6:30 PM @ UCCE Office
Bring any important dates that may influence the decisions to be made.
August Council Potluck Planned

The Kings County Council takes a break during the month of July, but will resume meeting the 1st Tuesday of each month beginning in August. The Council is the decision making body for the Kings County 4-H Program. Each club needs to be represented at the meetings, and all 4-H families are welcome to attend. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to get involved! In addition, there will be a potluck dinner! (YUM!)

Tuesday, August 7th at the UCCE Office at 6:30 PM

Meat, rice, rolls and beverage will be provided. Please bring a potluck dish to complement the menu.

The Kings County UCCE Director, Mr. Jim Sullins will be attending. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet our new County Director, and hear an update on happenings regarding budget, staffing etc. in the 4-H Program.

Western Region Leaders Forum
March 21 – 24, 2013 in Hawaii

Hawaii 4-H members, volunteers, faculty and staff are looking forward to seeing you in Hawaii March 21 – 24, 2013 for the Western Region Leaders Forum. The planning committee is hard at work planning an event you will enjoy and remember because of what you will learn and the people you will meet. At the forum you will definitely enjoy the beauty and climate of this place many people only know as Paradise.

The conference site is the Waikiki Beach Marriott and Resort. It is a beautiful hotel located on Waikiki Beach in Honolulu. You will need to register at the hotel before you register for the conference so you will have the confirmation code required to avoid the surcharge for those who choose to attend WRLF and stay at another place. Reservations at the Marriott may be made at 800-848-8100 or by using the local number of 808-922-6611. We have reserved a block of rooms which you will need to refer to when you register by giving the code, WR4A, to the person taking your reservation.

Registration for the forum may be completed by going to: http://www.etahr.hawaii.edu/wrlf/

DEADLINES: Deadline for Early Bird Registration is July 15, 2012 - $295 Deadline for Regular Registration is December 31, 2012 - $375

2012 California 4-H State Leaders Forum
November 9-11

Brrrring! Wake up to the possibilities that await you at the 2012 California 4-H State Leaders’ Forum! The conference will be held at the beautiful Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, from November 9-11. Early bird registration fees expire on September 1, so log on to http://ucanr.org/slf2012 for complete details. Registration is online or using printable forms. Reservations for the Asilomar lodging/meal package are now being accepted. The committee has received exciting workshop proposals but is looking for more, especially from volunteers, so the workshop deadline has been extended until July 31, http://ucanr.org/2012slfworkshop. Highlights of this year’s Forum will include:

~A keynote address by Nancy Franz of Iowa 4-H that will transform the way you present 4-H to your community.
~A schedule that balances informative workshops with time to enjoy the Asilomar Conference Grounds and State Beach.
~Assemblies filled with both fun and information including “Minute to Win It” competitions between 4-H sections.
~Opportunities to network with your 4-H peers from throughout the state.
~$60 registration; $235.50-374.50 per room. Room reservations due by September 9 at http://www.ca4h.org/files/141178.pdf
Announcing the New Highest California 4-H Youth Award!

“DIAMOND CLOVER”

The Incentives and Recognition Advisory Committee is pleased to announce the launch of the California 4-H Diamond Clover Award. The Diamond Clover is awarded to the highest achieving 4-H youth members through an application and essay process. All youth who achieve the qualifications are eligible for this award. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year and while a young person is between 17 and 19 years of age. Each quarter, applications are reviewed by the Incentives and Recognition Advisory Committee and awards are given. Awardees are announced annually at the State Leadership Conference. Applications are available now for submission beginning July 1, 2012 at http://www.ca4h.org/Administration/Advisory_Committees/IR/.

Rationale: Most youth serving organizations have a highest honor – Boy Scouts have Eagle Scouts, Girl Scouts have the Gold Award, Camp Fire USA has the WoHeLo Award. While the 4-H State Ambassador Program is a very high honor, it is a working honor and is prohibitive to many who may be deserving of a highest youth award.

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4-H Shooting Sports Workshop

Dates: Saturday, July 28, 2012 @ 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. & Sunday, July 29, 2012 @ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A 4-H shooting sports workshop for the rifle discipline will be held at the Concord Police Association Range, 5060 Avila Road in Concord. Participants must attend both days of training to receive certification. Upon successful completion of the course, the participant will be certified as a rifle trainer and can lead a rifle project at the club level or serve as county trainer to certify other leaders. There is no cost for the course. To register for the course contact John Borba at: jaborba@ucdavis.edu.

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Children's Hospital Central CA

Island 4-H members would like your help in collecting crayons, coloring books, games, puzzles, new stuffed toys and new books for the younger children in the hospital and gently used books for the literacy program.

All of us know a child who has been treated at Children’s Hospital, and we know what a treasure this hospital is to the children in this valley. Please help by providing some activities to pass their time while in the hospital. Call Bonnie Lowas at 924-0634 for more information.

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Regional 4-H Thrive Master Trainer Trainings and Updates

Save-the-date! Regional 4-H Thrive Master Trainer Trainings and Updates are scheduled for 2012. The Master Trainer Training is for volunteers who wish to become part of their county's training team. Current Master Trainers who wish to extend their service an additional year will attend a one-day update training on Saturday. New Master Trainers will attend the whole weekend. All conferences are sponsored by 4-H Thrive and will cover the cost of conference, travel and lodging. The Regional Training Dates are:

- **Central**: August 25-26, 2012, Granlibakken Conference Center & Lodge Tahoe City, CA
- **Southern Valley**: September 8-9, 2012, Visalia Marriott at the Convention Center, Visalia, CA
- **Southern**: September 22-23, 2012, Doubletree Hotel (pending contract approval), Ontario, CA
- **Far Northern**: September 29-30, 2012, Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center, Redding, CA

If interested in being a part of your local Master Trainer Team, please contact the Kings County UCCE Office at 852-2730. For general information about 4-H Thrive or about these regional trainings, contact Scott Mautte at scmautte@ucdavis.edu