



January 2014

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**Marin County 4-H
Newsletter**

Marin County 4-H
Youth Development Program
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Marin County Cooperative
Extension website:
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State 4-H website:
<http://ca4H.org>

Mark your Calendars!

January

Jan 13 Camp Meeting

Jan 23-25 C.A.L. Conference

February

Feb 10 Camp Meeting

Feb 13 Registration Due for
County Presentation Day

Feb 22 County Presentation Day
2:00 PM
Vallecito School, Terra Linda

Feb 27 Sectional Presentation Day
Registration Due

March

Mar 10 Camp Meeting
Mar 12 County Council Meeting
6:30 PM
Marin County 4-H Office

Mar 19 Farm Day
Marin Civic Center

Mar 28 Sectional Presentation Day
Welman Hall, UC Davis

April

Apr 26 Marin County Fashion Revue
& Favorite Foods Day

The newsletter is sent to all 4-H families with completed and approved registration. A digital version of the newsletter is available on our website. To discontinue receiving a paper copy, call the office at 415-473-4207.

County & Regional News

Presentation Day!

It isn't too early to begin thinking about this year's Presentation Day. Clubs usually begin reviewing presentations possibilities and types in January, then have an opportunity for practice in February, in preparation for County Presentation Day. This year's County Presentation Day will take place:

**Sunday, February 22, 2015
1:00 PM
Vallecito Elementary School, Terra Linda**

Those members who receive a Gold, in the Junior age bracket and up, may choose to go on to the Sectional Presentation Day, held on March 28th at U.C. Davis. Members receiving a Gold award as Sectionals may compete at State Presentation Day, part of State Field Day on May 30th.

For more information on the types of presentations and judging standards, please visit: <http://4h.ucanr.edu/Programs/Projects/Leadership/PublicSpeaking/>

UPCOMING SHOOTING SPORTS TRAINING

**4-H Shooting Sports Workshop - Rifle Discipline
Safety First Association - River Oaks Range
Winton, CA (Merced County)**

**Saturday, February 7, 2015 – 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 8, 2015 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

A 4-H shooting sports workshop for the rifle discipline will be held at Safety First Shooting Association – River Oaks Range, 11584 N. Shaffer Road in Winton (Merced County). 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 or receive more information, contact John Borba at: jaborba@ucanr.edu

For directions to the facility visit:

<http://www.safetyfirstshooting.org/html/directions.html>.

Participants will be required to fill out a facility waiver to participate. To view the language of the waiver or to download it and sign it prior to the meeting you can go to:

http://www.safetyfirstshooting.org/SFSA_Risk_Agreement_rev1a.pdf

Club News

What's been happening in Tri-Valley 4-H?

By Derrick Pomi

In December the Tri-Valley 4-H club was busy doing lots of activities. At our monthly meeting we had a gift exchange with all the members. We also asked our members to write a letter to a veteran thanking them for their service to our country. The club members also brought unwrapped gifts to donate to our local Christmas Cheer.

One of our favorite community service activities was also in the beginning of December: the Annual Hospice "Light up a Life" in downtown Petaluma. This is where the members help put the paper stars on the candles then they hand out the candles. During a certain song in the program, the older Tri-Valley 4-H members light the candles. If you have seen the big pine trees in front of Mc Near's restaurant, they are the trees that Hospice lights up. You will notice that most of the lights are white and there is a red light on each. This represents the heart of the tree, and the white lights represent lives past or lives present.

This month at our general meeting we are going to learn how to do a short presentation, getting ready for presentation day in February.

Book Drive! Support Children's Literacy

San Rafael 4-H is collecting children's books (new or gently used) for students in Kindergarten through 8th grade. The books will be given to a reading tutoring project that supports students in the San Rafael School District.

All members and clubs may participate. Please bring books to the 4-H office. There is a collection box where you can drop your books. You may also give books to your club leader who will be attending the Council Meeting January 15th. Leaders often take turns attending council meetings so be sure to check first!

Thank you for supporting children's literacy!



4-H Book Event at Book Passage on January 25, at 1:00PM!!!

Our Amazing 4-H Program has become the subject of a book written by
the Senior Editor of *Mother Jones*.

**Kiera Butler - Raise: What 4-H Teaches Seven Million Kids & How Its
Lessons Could Change Food and Farming Forever**



“When city-dwelling journalist **Kiera Butler** visits a county fair for the first time, she is captivated by the white-uniformed members of the 4-H club and their perfectly groomed animals. She sets off on a search for a “real” 4-H’er, a hypothetical wholesome youth whom she imagines wearing cowboy boots and living on a ranch. Along the way, she meets five teenage 4-H’ers from diverse backgrounds and gets to know them as they prepare to compete at the fair. Butler’s on-the-ground account of the teens’ concerns with their goats, pigs, sheep, proms, and SAT scores is interwoven with a fascinating history of the century-old 4-H club as it solicits corporate donations from top agribusiness firms such as DuPont, Monsanto, and Cargill. Her quest takes her from California’s cities and suburbs all the way to Ghana, where she investigates 4-H’s unprecedented push to expand its programs in the developing world—and the corporate partnership that is supporting this expansion.”

Marin County 4-H will provide brochures and Flyers to The Book Passage for this event. This event is open to the public to learn more about 4-H and the unique, diverse program that it has become over the past 100 years.

For more information please visit: http://bookpassage.com/events_calendar

You also may be interested in this article about the book:

Not Your Grandparents’ 4-H: How a New Generation is Learning to Farm

<http://civileats.com/2015/01/08/not-your-grandparents-4-h-how-a-new-generation-is-learning-to-farm/#sthash.FhlBWzag.dpuf>

From the Staff

CAMP UPDATE

Mark your calendar with these important dates!

4-H Camp: July 12—18
***Teen* 4-H Camp: July 19-25**

Both will be held again at Las Posadas

Staff applications will be available the middle of January.

Camper Applications will be available in April.

The Camp Board will meet at the 4-H Office on January 13th at 6:30 PM



4-H in the Classroom News

4-H in the Classroom has a great start this year with our first offering, "Rockets to the Rescue!"

In January and February, our second offering of the year, "Trees 4 You and Me" will be ready to deliver to classrooms and afterschool programs. This program is a series of activities which debuted at the 2012 Bay Area Science Festival and has been adapted for classrooms by Janice Alexander, Marin UCCEs Sudden Oak Death Coordinator.

Please contact the 4-H office if you know of a school or afterschool program that might enjoy this program.

Do you know someone who is interested in working with youth? We are looking to fill our new volunteer positions:

Classroom Ambassador—individuals who go to classrooms and do the activities

Classroom Coordinator—one individual to work with schools and after-school programs and schedule offerings for them.

Please contact the 4-H Office if you are interested!



University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

This Newsletter is Presented by :

David Lewis
County Director

Allison Keaney
4-H Program Representative

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