## December 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DUE: Emerald Star Applications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>*Food Safety Training, 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Veronica Slaton</td>
<td>661-868-6235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>*Project Chair Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Veronica Slaton</td>
<td>661-868-6235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>*Winter Camp Planning Meeting</td>
<td>John Borba</td>
<td>661-868-6216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>*New Leaders Orientation</td>
<td>Veronica Slaton</td>
<td>661-868-6235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-31</td>
<td>UC Extension Office Closed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Indicates meeting is held at the UC Extension Office, 1031 S. Mt. Vernon Avenue, Bakersfield California

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## January 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>UC Extension Office Closed</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>East Kern Leaders Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Desert Empire Fairgrounds</td>
<td>John Borba</td>
<td>661-868-6216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>*Winter Camp Planning Meeting &amp; Chaperon Orientation, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>John Borba</td>
<td>661-868-6216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>*Horse Project Orientation, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Meredith Hendricks</td>
<td>661-324-2255</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>*Market Goat Leaders Meeting, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Paul Hudson</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>Winter Camp, Tehachapi Mountain Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>UC Extension Office Closed</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>*Home Ec Leader Meeting</td>
<td>Kimberlee Claffy</td>
<td>661-900-7888</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>*A Novel Idea, 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Kimberlee Claffy</td>
<td>661-900-7888</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>*Horse Leaders Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Meredith Hendricks</td>
<td>661-324-2255</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>*Leader Council, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Michelle Kern</td>
<td>661-979-3584</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>*Rabbit Member &amp; Leader Meeting, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Jana Goens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-31</td>
<td>LCORT</td>
<td>Veronica Slaton</td>
<td>661-868-6235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Medical Leave**

Kimberlee will be on Medical Leave from November 25th until approximately February 25th.
PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Clover Safe notes are intended primarily for 4-H volunteers and members nine years and older.

Each year, an average of more than 200,000 people are hospitalized and 36,000 people die from seasonal influenza (flu) complications in the United States. You can help keep yourself, your family, and your fellow 4-H volunteers and members healthy and prevent the spread of seasonal colds, flu, and other communicable diseases by practicing some simple measures at home, work, school, and other social settings. In fall of 2009, there is particular concern over the novel H1N1 influenza virus (also known as swine flu). The precautions to protect yourself from H1N1 are the same as those recommended for seasonal flu or other common communicable illnesses.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) urges you to take the following actions to protect yourself and others from the flu:

Take time to get vaccinated for seasonal influenza

- CDC recommends a yearly seasonal flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against seasonal influenza. While there are many different flu viruses, the seasonal flu vaccine protects against the three seasonal viruses that research suggests will be most common.
- Vaccination is especially important for people at high risk of serious flu complications, including young children, pregnant women, people with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes or heart and lung disease, and people 65 years and older. Seasonal flu vaccine is also important for health care workers, and other people who live with or care for high risk people to prevent giving the flu to those at high risk.
- A seasonal vaccine will not protect you against novel H1N1. A new vaccine against novel H1N1 is being produced and will be available in the coming months as an option for prevention of novel H1N1 infection to those at greatest risk. People at greatest risk for novel H1N1 infection include children, pregnant women, and people with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes, or heart and lung disease.

Take everyday preventive actions

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your sleeve. An informative and amusing video on covering your sneeze can be viewed at: http://www.coughsafe.com/
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.) Keep away from others as much as possible. This is to keep from making others sick.
- Visit the CDC website (http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/) to find out what to do if you get sick with the flu and how to care for someone at home who is sick with the flu.

Stay informed

In addition to the precautions above, it is important that you stay informed, especially during the upcoming flu season. Health officials will provide additional information as it becomes available. UC ANR EH&S has established a website at http://ucanr.org/h1n1 to provide links to information from CDC, the California Department of Public Health, and County Public Health Departments to help bring you national, state, and local guidance as the flu season progresses. Follow public health advice regarding school closures, avoiding crowds, and other social distancing measures. When planning for camp, consult CDC guidance (http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/camp/) and local public health officials and develop a plan to respond to an illness outbreak at camp.
Make an inVESTment in your future wardrobe with this year’s challenge. Sew a lined vest, but don’t forget to spice it up. It could be reversible, have pockets, frills or whatever fits your style.

Start with Simplicity pattern #4762. You must use this pattern; no substitutions. The possibilities for personalization are endless! You can make it shorter or longer, add trim or appliqués, and experiment with fabrics, colors or details. To alter the pattern for girls, move the buttons to the left side. If needed, add back darts or use the cinch and enlarge the front darts. Purchase or sew an outfit to coordinate with your vest.

For more information about State 4-H Fashion Revue, go to http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fashion
2010 Australia Exchange

Who: 4-H youth ages 16-19 (must turn 16 by the date of travel)

What: Travel to Australia with 4-H youth from across the U.S. and stay with an Australian host family in the state of Victoria during your stay. Similar to 4-H families, many of the host families will live in rural areas and/or on farms. An adult chaperone will travel with the delegation on all international flights and stay in Australia for the entire exchange period to assist with any delegate concerns/issues.

When: June 16 – July 15, 2010

Where: Group Orientation in Los Angeles prior to departure for Melbourne where there will be an Arrival Orientation to introduce you to Australia. At the end of the home stay, you will spend a few days in Sydney before returning to the U.S.

How: This exchange is coordinated with the Australian Exchange Network who will organize the Arrival Orientation and the host family stays.

Cost: Estimated at $2600 plus Airfare

Total program costs (program fee + airfare) are estimated to be $4600 - $5100 ($4900 - $5400 for non-participating states)

Final cost will be dependent upon currency exchange, transportation costs, and the delegate’s home airport.

Program Costs Include:
- In-Australia expenses: transportation, lodging, meals
- Sightseeing in Sydney
- In-state orientation
- Orientation in Los Angeles and Melbourne
- Health & Accident Insurance
- Australian Visa
- Pre-trip conference calls, orientation materials, t-shirt
- Administrative costs
- A portion of the adult chaperone expenses

Additional costs to be paid by each delegate may include:
- Some meals in Melbourne and Sydney
- Passport
- Gifts for host family members
- Spending money and all other personal items

Application Deadline: February 1, 2010

Payment Schedule
- February 1 Application
  $500 deposit made payable to States’ 4-H International Exchange (refundable until April 1)
  $100 deposit made payable to UC Regents (refundable until March 1)
- March 1 Airfare (estimated at $2000 – $2500 depending on home airport; non-refundable once issued)
- May 1 Remaining balance

Cancellation Policy
- Payments NOT refundable after each deadline (Airfare NOT refundable once issued)
- Cancellations must be made in writing
- For exceptional circumstances, refunds are made on a case-by-case basis
2010 Costa Rica Exchange

Who: 4-H youth ages 15-18 (must turn 15 by the date of travel)

What: Travel to Costa Rica with 4-H youth from across the U.S. and live with a Costa Rican host family during your stay. The 4-week program will include a trip to the rainforest and 4-days at camp with 250 Costa Rican 4-H’ers. An adult chaperone will travel with the delegation on all international flights and stay in Costa Rica for the entire exchange period to assist with any delegate concerns/issues.

When: June 19 – July 17, 2010

Where: Departure Orientation in Houston prior to departure for San Jose, Costa Rica where there will be an Arrival Orientation to introduce you to the country and culture.

How: This exchange is coordinated with the Fundación Nacional de Clubes 4S who will organize the Arrival Orientation and the host family stays.

Cost: Estimated at $1400 plus Airfare

Total program costs (program fee + airfare) are estimated to be $2200 - $2600 ($2500 - $2900 for non-participating states)

Final cost will be dependent upon currency exchange, transportation costs, and the delegate’s home airport.

Program Costs Include:
- In-Costa Rica expenses: transportation, lodging, meals
- 3 nights 4 days at a 4S camp
- Fieldtrip to the Rain Forest
- Orientation in Houston and San José, Costa Rica
- Health & Accident Insurance
- Pre-trip conference calls, orientation materials, t-shirt
- San José Airport facility tax
- Administrative costs
- A portion of the adult chaperone expenses

Additional costs to be paid by each delegate may include:
- Passport
- Gifts for host family members
- Spending money and all other personal items

Application Deadline: February 1, 2010

Payment Schedule
- February 1 Application
  $500 deposit with application (refundable until April 1)
  $100 deposit made payable to UC Regents (refundable until March 1)
- March 1 Airfare (estimated at $800 – $1200 depending on home airport; non-refundable once issued)
- May 1 Remaining balance

Cancellation Policy
- Payments NOT refundable after each deadline (Airfare NOT refundable once issued)
- Cancellations must be made in writing
- For exceptional circumstances, refunds are made on a case-by-case basis
# 2010 Japan Exchange

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 Week Program</th>
<th>8 Week Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Who:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Who:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H youth ages 14-18 (must turn 14 by the date of travel)</td>
<td>4-H youth ages 14-18 (must turn 14 by the date of travel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What:</strong></td>
<td><strong>What:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel to Japan with 4-H youth from across the U.S. (Adult chaperones on international flights and in Japan). Live with a Japanese host family during your stay.</td>
<td>For the first 4 weeks, stay with a host family in the Tokyo area, learn Japanese language in a classroom setting, and explore Japanese culture outside the classroom. After 4 weeks, you will move to a second host family in the Tokyo area or in another area of Japan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>When:</strong></td>
<td><strong>When:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 7 to August 5, 2010</td>
<td>June 10 to August 5, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How:</strong></td>
<td><strong>How:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This exchange is coordinated with the Labo Foundation. A group camp is offered.</td>
<td>The first four weeks of the exchange places the student in the Nihongo Language Program. For the second four weeks, each student moves to a new home for the four week homestay. A group camp is offered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximately $3300 - $4100</td>
<td>Approximately $4200 - $5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final cost will be dependent upon currency exchange, transportation costs, and the delegate’s home airport.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Fee Includes:**
- In-Japan expenses (transportation, lodging, all meals, etc.)
- Labo camp
- International Airfare
- In-state orientation
- One night Orientations in Seattle & Tokyo
- Medical Insurance

**Fee Includes:**
- In-Japan expenses (transportation, lodging, all meals*, etc.)
- Labo camp
- International Airfare
- In-state orientation
- Orientation in Tokyo
- Medical Insurance
- Japanese language & cultural sessions for the first 4 weeks

* Lunch not included on weekdays during the first 4 weeks when attending language classes

**Application Deadline:** February 1, 2010

**Payment Schedule**
- February 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Application
  - $500 deposit made payable to States' 4-H International Exchange (refundable until April 1)
- March 1<sup>st</sup>
  - $100 registration fee made payable to UC Regents. (refundable until March 1)
- May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Airfare (non-refundable once issued)
  - Remaining balance

**Cancellation Policy**
- Payments NOT refundable after each deadline (Airfare NOT refundable once issued)
- Cancellations must be made in writing
- For exceptional circumstances, refunds are made on a case-by-case basis
California Focus

June 25 – June 29, 2010

Are You…?
♦ A college-age young adult.
♦ A leader.
♦ Interested in planning an educational program for teens.
♦ Enthusiastic, positive, and self-motivated.
♦ Flexible and enjoy working with teenagers and adults.
♦ Interested in government and the political process.

Then this internship opportunity is for you.

Let California Focus offer you…

Citizenship Awareness
✓ Expand your understanding of the democratic process.
✓ Enrich your appreciation of California history.
✓ Increase your awareness of current issues.

Personal Enrichment and Life Skills
✓ Receive management and leadership training.
✓ Coordinate activities and arrangements.
✓ Plan and evaluate education experience.

Request materials outlining the District Leader position at California Focus, an intern opportunity with the University of CA, Cooperative Extension, 4-H Development Program. The University of California is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications and information are available on the web at:
http://ca4h.org/citizenship/focus/index.asp
or
Pat English - (530) 754-8520, or
pnenglish@ucdavis.edu.

2010 Study Travel Adventures for Teens and Adults

Washington Focus #1

Road to Democracy
June 27 - July 5, 2010
$1,875.00
For those who wish to travel on a 10 day trip to Washington, D.C., Jamestown, Yorktown, and Williamsburg

Heritage Trail I
June 2 - July 3, 2010
$1,655.00
For those who prefer to limit their travel to Washington D.C.

Washington Focus #2

Global Journey
July 11 – July 21, 2010
$2,100.00
For those who wish to travel on a 11 day trip to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and New York

Heritage Trail II
July 11 – July 17, 2010
$1,655.00
For those who prefer to limit their travel to Washington D.C.

Washington Focus Programs are open to all adult 4-H leaders and to all youth members who have completed their sophomore year in high school or will be 16 years of age by the time of travel.
Winter Camp 2010 – Tehachapi Mountain Park

4-H will have a fun-filled Winter Camp this year. **January 15-17, 2010.** Winter Camp is for **ALL** 4-H members, fourth grade and above. (NO CLOVERBUDS or younger family members.) Space is limited. Make your reservations early. **ONLY PAID RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED.** Reservations will be accepted (no postmarks) through **January 8, 2010.** No refunds will be given after **January 11, 2010.** Two adult leaders per cabin are needed for chaperones. (There is no charge for chaperones.) Leaders must have completed the orientation and fingerprinting process and be at least 21 years old. **Clubs must provide 1 adult chaperone for every five youth.** Code of Conduct and Medical Release Forms are required and can be downloaded from the State website at: [http://ca4h.org](http://ca4h.org) (under “4-H Resources” and “Electronic forms.”)

ENCLOSED IS $40.00, PLEASE RESERVE ME A SPOT FOR 4-H WINTER CAMP 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club</th>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male/Female Roommate Preference</th>
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<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Make check payable to: Kern County 4-H Council
Mail Reservation, Code of Conduct & Medical Release to:
Kern County 4-H Office
1031 S. Mount Vernon Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93307

We are pleased that you will be attending the 2010 Winter Camp at **Tehachapi Mountain Park** in Tehachapi the weekend of January 15-17. Please be mindful there will probably be snow, so plan accordingly. Here are your last minute instructions:

**What to bring to camp:**
- A positive and cooperative attitude.
- Plenty of **warm clothing and gloves.** Snow boots are strongly recommended. You may need to change clothes and shoes if you get wet in the snow.
- Slides, inner tubes, plastic sleds (be sure you do not bring skis, sleds, or toboggans with metal blades, etc.) any other play equipment for snow fun.
- A flashlight, **warm** sleeping bag, blanket, pillow, toilet articles, towel, soap, washcloth, etc. The cabins are heated, but they do get cold.
- Be sure to mark any items you bring with your name.
- Participants are asked to bring a bag of cookies to share for snack time.

**DO NOT BRING ELECTRIC APPLIANCES – HAIR DRYERS, CURLING IRONS, ETC.**

In case of emergency, and emergency only, the camp can be reached at 661-822-4632

**Code of Conduct:**
Read and sign the Code of Conduct and be sure you understand what is expected of you while at camp. Member and Volunteer Code of Conducts can be found at: [http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/forms](http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/forms)

**Medical Release Form:**
Parents must sign the Medical Release Form. Minor and Adult Medical Release forms can be found at: [http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/forms](http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/forms)

Bring the signed Code of Conduct and Medical Release Form with you to camp. You will not be able to stay at camp without these two forms completed and turned in.

**Times:**
- **Arrival time is 4:00 p.m., Friday, January 15. Camp will end at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, January 17.** Please pick up your campers by 10:00 a.m.

OLDER 4-H MEMBERS MAY NOT DRIVE THEMSELVES, OR OTHER MEMBERS, TO CAMP. DO NOT RING CONTRABAND ITEMS TO CAMP (Silly String, Shaving Cream, etc.). WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO INSPECT LUGGAGE. PARENTS: PICK UP YOUR CAMPERS AT 10:00 A.M. ON SUNDAY MORNING. No early pickups, the cabins and camp must be cleaned before the campers can be released.
Volunteer Website
The volunteer leader website is a new interactive and growing site that can be seen at http://ucanr.org/4-hvolunteers/. There are sections that will change monthly, a 4-H Blog, 4-H Volunteer Voices, and updates in the program. We hope you’ll enjoy seeing all the resources you need in one centralized location. In order to build this new section of the website, please send any recent stories of 4-H in the news in your community that you would like to share. You can email these stories to: fourhstateofc@ucdavis.edu

How do I reach my local 4-H Office?
John Borba 4-H Advisor
jaborba@ucdavis.edu 661-868-6200
Veronica Slaton 4-H Program Rep. II
vaslaton@ucdavis.edu 661-868-6200
Kimberlee Claffy 4-H Secretary
kgclaffy@ucdavis.edu 661-868-6233
(Special Projects Only)
Terrence Stroman Outreach/Prevention
tdstroman@ucdavis.edu 661-868-6200
Berney DeLaCruz Operation Military Kids
bdelacruz@ucdavis.edu 661-868-6200
Fax Number 661-868-6208

4-H Websites
http://www.areyouintoit.com
http://www.fourthcouncil.edu
http://www.4-h.org/fourweb
http://www.ca4h.org
4-H Enrollment Website
https://california.4honline.com

State 4-H Calendar
The State 4-H Calendar is available at http://www.ca4h.org/4hinfo/calendar/. The calendar contains nation, state, and multi-county events, deadlines, trainings, and conferences! County 4-H Staff are encouraged to use this calendar to list activities that may be of interest to others outside of your county. The calendar is particularly useful for scheduling multi-county, sectional and statewide trainings, committee meetings, and other events. Staff can access the calendar using the 4-H Information System (WRP).

4-H Handbook
An updated online and searchable 4-H Handbook was released on July 1, 2009. You can find it on the California 4-H Website. You can expect additional support documents throughout the year. Here are three new enhancements:
- Electronic Check Conversion Frequently Asked Questions (link) - provides an overview of the electronic check conversion process and how to review monthly bank statements that contain checks that have been electronically converted.
- 4-H YDP Petting Zoos and Interactive Animal Displays Frequently Asked Questions (link) - provides answers to safety resources and insurance coverage for these activities.
- 4-H YDP Shooting Sports Handbook provides updated guidance to the 4-H YDP shooting sports project and activities.

South Central Leadership Conference of Regional Teens (LCORT)
For counties: Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Mariposa, Stanislaus, Tuolumne
January 29-31, 2010
Wonder Valley Ranch, Sanger, CA
7th – 9th grade 4-Hers, $105.00
To define and develop your leadership abilities. To have an opportunity to meet and share ideas with other youth your age. To expand your perspective on the world around you and to have an enjoyable time. For more information contact Veronica Slaton at (661) 868-6235.

State Qualifying Dairy and Livestock Judging Contests
The 2010 Judging Contests will be held April 17, 2010 at Fresno State University in conjunction with a state FFA judging contest. Applications are due by February 19, 2010 to the State 4-H Office. The entry fee is $25.00/team or $5.00 per individual. The applications will be available on the state website after December 2009 and by contacting the State 4-H Office. (530) 754-8518.
2010 State 4-H Fashion Revue

“What’s in YOUR closet?” Panning has begun for 2010 State 4-H Fashion Revue, to be held during the State 4-H Field day at UC Davis! We’ll have new, exciting activities, so join us by serving on the State Fashion Revue Committee. Needle Arts will not be offered this year, but Traditional, Consumer Science-Purchased, Wearable Art and Recycled categories remain in addition to our new 2010 Challenge. The Challenge pattern is Simplicity #4762, a vest that can be customized to fit your needs. Is it a formal vest or a durable one for fishing or hunting? Need extra pockets? Leather trim? Vests can be made for girls with a few simple adjustments and can coordinate with many different outfits. Use your imagination to create a masterpiece for State Fashion Revue. For more information go to http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fashion or contact samoore@ucdavis.edu.

*A flyer for the 2010 Challenge Category is included in this newsletter.

Twilight Mini Book Workshop

To be Rescheduled

The Twilight Workshop scheduled for November 7 has been postponed until early next year. The date will be posted as soon as it’s available

Introducing a New County-Wide Project: “a Novel Idea”

A new project will be forming later this fall. “A Novel Idea” will begin shortly after the Kern County Fair. Books will be selected by the group, with theme related activities scheduled. Contact Kimberlee at 661-900-7888 for further information, or to register.

What are you Doing in Your County Clothing Projects?

State Fashion Revue 2010 will feature our County Corner where you can share innovative ideas from your county that relate to the Clothing and Textiles project including non-wearable items. To get more information check out our website: http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fashion/

The 2010 California State Fair

The California Exposition & State Fair Board has announced new dates for the fair. The 2010 California State Fair is now tentatively scheduled to run for 19 days from Wednesday, July 14 to Sunday, August 1, 2010. For more information, you may contact Erica Manuel of the California Exposition and State Fair at emanuel@calexpo.com. 4-H members, adults and staff may also contact 4-H Animal Science Committee Chairs Cynthia Barnett, ccbarnett@ucdavis.edu and Steve Dasher at hsdasher@ucdavis.edu for additional questions.

The American Red Cross Holiday Mail For Heroes

The American Red Cross (ARC), with the support of Pitney Bowes, is pleased to once again sponsor the Holiday Mail for Heroes. Our goal to let the military, their families, and veterans know that America cares. People can send their cards to the American Red Cross special mailbox from November 2, 2009 through December 7, 2009. We must strictly adhere to this date to ensure that there is time to screen, sort, and distribute the cards. Visit http://www.redcross.org/holidaymail for more information.

Fur and Feathers Show

4-H members are invited to participate in the Fur and Feathers show, a small animal breed show and showmanship event hosted by Ventura County 4-H and planned for January 16, 2010. The entry deadline is December 15, 2009. The event is for 4-H members statewide in Cavy, Poultry, and Rabbit projects. For more information contact Jenean Bass at jeneanbass@roadrunner.com.
2010 Citizenship Focus Program
California Focus June 25-29, 2010
http://www.ca4h.org/citizenship/focus

Online registration for the 2010 California Focus Program is available now and is due on January 15, 2010. 4-H members and leaders come together to run their own state government in the fictitious state of Sierra Cascade. Delegates draft legislation, participate in a mock trial, and run for office. Then participants interact with their legislators, court officials, and those close to current issues. Financial assistance is available for the program for members who could not afford to attend without help and the Young Civic Leader Scholarship is available for teens with an outstanding leadership and community service record. Those applications are due by January 7, 2010.

Washington Focus I
✓ Road to Democracy, June 27-July 5, 2010
✓ Heritage Trail I, June 27-July 3, 2010

Washington Focus II
✓ Global Journey, July 11-21, 2010
✓ Heritage Trail II, July 11-17, 2010
http://www.ca4h.org/citizenship/dcfocus/

Education Summits on Bio-Security in 4-H

In order to improve the understanding of 4-H adult volunteers, veterinarians, and administrators from fairs and exhibitions about existing bio-security risks associated with 4-H Animal Science projects in California and issues related to traceability, three Regional Education Outreach Summits will be offered by 4-H and Veterinary Medicine Extension. Each Education Outreach Summit will include four major components:

(a) an overview of current data on bio-security risks associated with 4-H Animal Science projects; (b) updated information from USDA on the current status of NAIS and animal traceability; (c) a listening session to provide stakeholders the opportunity to share their experiences and provide feedback on traceability issues to USDA and (d) a mini-training for 4-H teens and volunteers on the new 4-H Bio-Security curriculum. Dates and locations of the Education Outreach Summits are: December 12, 2009 – UC Davis; January 16, 2010 – UC Tehama County; and February 27, 2010 – UCCE Kern County. Times for all summits will be 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Register at:
http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=4238. For more information, contact Martin Smith (mhsmith@ucdavis.edu) or Steven Worker (smworker@ucdavis.edu).

Western Regional Leaders’ Forum

The 2010 Western Regional Leaders’ Forum is scheduled for March 11-14, 2010 in Albuquerque, NM. Some key upcoming dates youth development professionals will want to save include:

December 15, 2009:
✓ Early Bird Registration Deadline, $200
January 15, 2010:
✓ Regular Registration Deadline. $250
✓ Share Faire Registration Deadline
✓ 4-H Display Registration Deadline
✓ Volunteer Leader Award Deadline

Biosecurity for Birds Calendar Photo Contest

If you have an enthusiasm for birds and have some wonderful photos of birds to share, consider entering in the Biosecurity for Birds Calendar Photo Contest by the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection. The contest entry is deadline is January 31, 2010. The winning photos will be displayed in the 2011 Biosecurity for Birds Calendar. Everyone is encouraged to enter at: http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov
4-H Babysitting Curriculum
The 4-H Military Partnership Program is offering free training courses on the 4-H Babysitting Curriculum at the following locations:

Kern County 4-H Office, January 16, 9:30-4:30
Ventura County 4-H Office, January 30, 9:30-4:30

The Babysitting Curriculum is designed to help middle school teenage youth learn what it takes to be responsible, caring, trustworthy, competent, capable, and safe babysitters. This course can be beneficial in training youth in your 4-H clubs and military after school sites. The training is open to all 4-H Staff, 4-H Volunteers, and Military and Community Partner Agency personnel. You will receive a Babysitter’s Tool bag, an Instructor’s Guide and Student Handbook. Bring a doll! For more information, contact Jeanne Christenson jpchristenson@ucdavis.edu or (530) 219-6608.

2010 State 4-H Horse Events
Dates have been set for 2010 State 4-H Horse Events. The state 4-H Horse Classic – Educational Contest will be held April 24 & 25 at Reedley College, Reedley, CA (southeast of Fresno). The Championship Horse Show will be held at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds in Watsonville on Thursday, June 24 through Sunday, June 27. Tentatively, the English classes and Over Fences will be held on Friday, Western classes on Saturday and Gymkhana on Sunday. More information will be available by December 1st on the web site at: http://ca4h.org/projresource/horse/.

2010 State 4-H Field Day
The 2010 State 4-H Field Day is planned for May 29, 2010. The event will include a variety of interests including presentation day, state fashion revue, a plant science contest and interview contest amongst many others. If you are interested in this exhibiting in this event visit: http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fieldday/SFD-App-Form2010.pdf for an application. Applications are due April 2, 2010.

State Leadership Conference
The 2010 year’s theme is “Operation 4-H,” and is an annual event in which high school age members from across the state meet to develop leadership skills through workshops, games, and evening activities. We are now accepting applications for educational session/track presenters. Please share your knowledge about all things leadership and help Operation 4-H be a success. Visit the California 4-H website at: http://www.ca4h.org/conference/slc to download a proposal. Proposals are due at the State Office by February 26, 2010. You may contact Quang Tong for additional questions at (530) 752-5644.

4-H Shooting Sports
Workshop Rifle Discipline
Tulare, CA
Saturday, January 9, 2010 – 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday, January 10, 2010 – 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

A 4-H shooting sports workshop for the rifle discipline will be held at Rankin Field Range, 20000 Road 140 in Tulare. Participants must attend both days of training to receive certification. Upon successful completion of the course, the participant will be certified as 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 and receive more information contact John Borba at: jaborba@ucdavis.edu

For more information about the facility and a map, please visit the range website at: http://www.tcdsa.org/documents/rankin_field.htm
Kern County 4-H
Welcomes Home the Troops!
By: Melissa Hardy
Golden Empire 4-H

Our Veterans' Day evening, along with a few other Kern County 4-H members, was spent on the lawn of the Bakersfield National Guard Base southwest of the fairgrounds. We were posted along the sidewalk to the main entrance with our flags, banners, signs, and of course cameras. Although the troops were scheduled to arrive at 4:00 p.m. sharp, their plane was delayed and we finally saw the police escort’s flashing lights and the buses turn the corner over two hours later, at 6:15 p.m. Though it was dark and the night was just beginning to cool down, the cheering and shouting was just as loud as it would have been anytime! These particular troops had been serving in Kosovo for thirteen months, detecting land mines and in general, helping keep peace throughout the country. Many families were beyond happy to have their husbands, dads, brothers, and uncles back on American soil again. In the future, Kern County 4-H plans to attend more homecomings for our troops with a hopefully increasing number of greeters. It was a great experience and I highly encourage all other 4-H families to attend next time!