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4-H So Much More Than Livestock

In the last hundred or so years, 4-H has seen a lot of change in the programs it offers.

4-H began in 1902 as a hands-on learning experience to benefit both urban and rural areas across the country as youth adult partnerships. Researchers at Land Grant Universities found that youth took pride in their efforts and were open to the experience of being guided through shared knowledge. As a result, the youth discovered that working as a team, not only with their peers but through the Land Grant University (LGU) experiment stations, they were able to share these successes with adults with whom they were connected.

4-H across our nation has evolved to be so much more than agriculture and has a much broader focus. Activities and 4-H projects are no longer just agriculturally focused although these projects are an excellent opportunity for youth to learn essential transferrable life-skills to take into adulthood.

Each year, 4-H offers opportunities for members and non-members to participate in events at a National level that bring together youth from diverse backgrounds. Across the nation, 4-H club activities can be formed anywhere from a large urban metropolis to a small town of less than a thousand people. In either scenario, the 4-H mission is the same to make a difference in the lives of youth and their families whenever possible. The statement "4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills" encapsulates the National mission of the 4-H youth development program. 4-H members across America can strive to have the opportunity to join other youth at National events held each year.

National 4-H Congress, Conference, Citizenship Washington Focus, to name a few are national events that 4-H members from each of the 50 states and Puerto Rico are carefully selected to attend. The intensive selection process for most states includes an application, interview, and evaluation to determine eligibility to attend. In this

process, the transferrable life skill being taught is perseverance in achieving a goal. These events are once in a lifetime privileges that attendees are able to apply what they have learned from the event when they return to their communities.

During these conferences, youth have the opportunity to meet other 4-H members from across the country that are from different backgrounds but have very similar 4-H goals. They are given opportunities to work together on community service projects such as "Habitat for Humanity," leadership workshops, and team building while forming friendships and alliances from other states.

Those teen youth that attend Congress can apply to be on the "design team" for the next year's National 4-H Congress event.

Another exciting opportunity for millions of youth 4-H and non 4-H across the country during National 4-H week is becoming scientists for a day. This offers an opportunity to highlight the unique benefits of 4-H membership and make youth aware of local 4-H programs that would not otherwise have the exposure to 4-H.

On October 9, 2013 youth participants across the country were challenged to be geospatial thinkers and work as a team to plan a recreational park. This is one example of how 4-H brings people together face-to-face in a nation that is becoming more divided due to technological progress. According to the overview of National 4-H Science Day on the 4-H.org website, "National 4-H Science day is the premier rallying event for year-round 4-H STEM programming, bringing together youth, volunteers, and educators from the nation's 109 LGUs simultaneously."

National 4-H Youth Science Experiments has been conducted for six years and assist youth in discovering their interests and capabilities as scientists.

This story was written using information from "4-H History" at 4-H.org, National 4-H Congress Atlanta, GA and National 4-H Conference Chevy Chase, MD.



Washoe County All-Leaders Meeting

Washoe County 4-H leaders are invited to attend the Washoe County 4-H All Leaders' meeting on Monday, November 4, at 6:30 p.m. at the UNCE Washoe County Office, 4955 Energy Way, Reno.

This a kickoff event for the new 4-H year, the beginning of the anniversary celebration of the Smith Lever Act and 100 years of Extension in NV. Mark Walker, UNCE Dean and Director will make a brief presentation and be on hand to answer questions.

Washoe County 4-H leaders are encouraged to attend and help celebrate one of the most vibrant 4-H Youth Development Programs in Nevada.

For more information, call Sam Mitchell at 775-336-0259 or email mitchells@unce.unr.edu.

National Council Adult Program Assistant Positions

Are you an adult 4-H'er with a passion for government, history, political science, working with youth, public speaking, or leadership? If so, you are encouraged to apply for the position of Program Assistant (PA) at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center!

Application deadlines are approaching soon. 4-H alumni and collegiate 4-Hers have an opportunity to make a difference during the spring or summer semester. PAs will be reaching thousands of middle and high school students from all over the country while working for the Wonders of Washington (WOW) or Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) program in Washington, D.C.

The Wonders of Washington program gives young people the chance to explore, develop, and refine skills necessary to become outstanding citizens and leaders in their communities. Using the living classroom of Washington, D.C., Program Assistants teach about the history of our nation, its various leaders, and how youth can put their skills of leadership and citizenship to use. Application deadline is November 15.

Citizenship Washington Focus gives 4-H'ers the opportunity to strengthen their communication, leadership, and citizenship skills on a national level. Program Assistants will lead 1,500+ 4-H'ers at Citizenship Washington Focus, facilitating hands-on activities, simulations, and tours of various monuments and memorials, CWF Program Assistants help create, develop, and facilitate curriculum to be used during the 2014 program. Application deadline is January 15,

The programs are looking for individuals with a high school diploma (preferably some college experience) and a passion for one of the following areas: youth development, hospitality, teaching, history, politics, or leadership.

To view job descriptions and application materials go to www.4HCenter.org and look under Programs. For more information, please contact JaQuan Bryant, Youth Program Specialist at JBryant@4HCenter.org.

Carson City/Storey County 4-H Invites Members to March in Parade of Lights

Virginia City will hold its annual Parade of Lights on the evening of December 7. All 4-H members in Carson City/Storey County clubs are welcome to gather at the Senior Citizens Center, 100 Mill Street in Virginia City, at 3 p.m. to help decorate the Comstock Hot Shots' float. This year, there will also be a second float by the Comstock Explorers (See next story).



If members cannot arrive early to help decorate, meet the group after 4 p.m. at the Old 4th Ward School where participants will gather for the start of the parade at dusk. Participants are encouraged to dress warmly.

If the Senior Center is available, there will be a potluck dinner there after the parade, members can also enter the Holiday Hat contest for fun prizes. More information will be forwarded to members once the reservation can be secured.

Storey County's New Comstock Explorers

"Comstock Explorers" is a new 4-H Community Club open to Storey County youth. The club meets alternate Thursday nights at the Roasting House on "C" Street, in Virginia City from 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Members are electing officers and coming up with a calendar of fun events, field trips and guest speakers for the 2013-2014 4-H year, including marching in the Veterans' Day Parade and entering a float in the Parade of Lights.

Meetings are scheduled for the November 7 and 21. Storey County youth who are interested in joining can contact Sandy Wallin at 775-887-2252.

Slip In To Carson City's New 4-H Club

It's "Slithers, Scales and Fins" and it begins November 14, at the UNCE Carson office conference room, 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 12, from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Area youth are invited to join this brand new 4-H club and learn more about snakes, lizards and fish.



Come join the fun as we investigate which of these species make the best pets, how to keep them healthy, invite guest speakers and maybe take a field trip to the Sacramento Zoo. Call Sandy Wallin 775-887-2252 to sign up or for more information

"Caged Critters" Begins November 19

Not everyone lives where a larger pet is allowed. Youth who have or are considering smaller pets: hamsters, rats or birds are invited to join the new 4-H "Caged Critters" club. The kick off meeting for this new Carson City club is Tuesday, November 19, at 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 12, at 6:30 p.m.

Come and learn why these critters make great pets and how we can work with them to make them more fun. Please call Sandy Wallin 775-887-2252 for more information.



4-H Pet Treats Fund Raiser!

It's time once again for the Douglas County 4-H Pet Treats Fund Raiser. There will be prizes for the top selling member: Movie Matinee tickets for four!

4-H Youth sell high quality pet treat packages to businesses, friends and neighbors, just in time for holiday stocking stuffers for beloved pets (dog, cat and horse treats available). This is a really popular fundraiser and the treats are easy to sell!

The fundraiser is for 4-H Youth Events including Award's Night, Fall Family Costume Ball, Parades, Scholarships, and more. Participation counts towards members' year-end 4-H awards.

All 4-H members are asked to sell a minimum of four items. (Families may donate \$20 in lieu of sales). Be sure to let your customers know that they may also purchase treats for donation to the local animal shelter (mark the donate column on the order form, please.)

Members received Pet Treat order envelopes and order forms in their bag when they enrolled for their projects at Member/Parent Orientation Night.

Money and orders are due at Community Club Night at 6:30 p.m. on November 18, at the Carson Valley Methodist Church 1375 Centerville Lane in Gardnerville. (No late orders accepted).

The pet treats will be ready to pick up a month later on Wednesday, December 18, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the 4-H office, 1325 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville. Please call, 775-782-9960 for more information.



Regional WRLF in Billings, MT

The Western Regional Leaders' Forum (WRLF) is in Billings, Montana, March 27-30, 2014. Registration opens November 1, 2013.

The Keynote Speaker is Richard M. Lerner, Director of the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University. Find out more at www.wrlf2014.com or see the flyer at <http://www.unce.unr.edu/calendar/files/pdf/RegionalFlyer.pdf>

Community Service Opportunity

Twice a year Truckee Meadows Habitat for Humanity sends out bulk mail to our area. They need help stuffing envelopes with Christmas cards, and sealing the envelopes. The Christmas mailing started October 21, but will go on through late November. There will also be a yearly newsletter mailing done in March. You do not have to commit to the entire time. Even a few hours is helpful.

If you or your club are interested in participating, please call their office at 775-323-5511.



Douglas Community Club Night

Douglas County 4-H families are invited to the Community Club Night Monday, November 18, at 6:30 p.m., at the Carson Valley Methodist Church, 1375 Centerville Lane in Gardnerville. Here are all the fun things we will be doing:

- Food drive for the local food closet (Bring non-perishables)
- Make holiday cards to send to our troops
- Turn in all Pet Treat order monies and order forms (No exceptions)
- Pick up T-Shirt, if you ordered them
- Pick up Portfolio Record book packets

Attendance at this event fulfills many of the annual requirements needed by Douglas County 4-H members to receive their county Year Pin award at year end.

For a 4-H member in Douglas County there are four things that must be accomplished each year in order to receive your Year Pin: attend 75% of your project meetings, participate in a 4-H community service, participate in a 4-H fundraiser and display your project in a show or event (this requirement varies depending on your project, so please check with your leader). Additionally, youth turning in a Portfolio/Recordbook at year end will receive their county Project Medal award.

This community service/fundraiser project is sponsored by your Douglas County 4-H Leaders Council and Teen Leadership. There are no fees to attend. Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Call 782-9960 for more information.

4-H Day at UNR Football Game

The Nevada Wolf Pack presents 4-H Day with the Pack. 4-H members are invited to the Nevada vs. San Jose State game on November 16 (game time to be determined).

Enjoy discount tickets for all members, staff, volunteers, families and friends. Help form a tunnel for the Wolf Pack. There will be free bounce houses, kid's activities and discount coupons for Silver and Blue Outfitters.

For more information and ordering form, go to <http://www.unce.unr.edu/4H/calendar/files/pdf/4HDay.pdf>. Or call Derek McCarty at 775-327-5003.



Washoe Leader Nominations

The Washoe 4-H Year-End Awards are coming soon on December 6. Members who completed record books, as well as all leaders, will receive invitations prior to the event. Club members, parents and leaders should consider nominating Washoe County 4-H volunteers for special recognition.

Nominations can be made in the following categories: New Leader of Merit, Project Leader Service, Resource Leader and Outstanding 4-H Leader of the Year. The deadline for nominations is November 22.

Nomination forms are available for download at www.facebook.com/WashoeCounty4H or on the Washoe County 4-H Calendar. For more information, please contact Sam Mitchell at 775-336-0259 or mitchells@unce.unr.edu. Nominate your 4-H Leader today!

Western Area November Dates to Remember

Nov. 11– Veterans' Day Holiday
UNCE Offices Closed

Nov. 16– 4-H Day with the Pack
UNR vs. San Jose State

Nov. 28-29– Thanksgiving and Family
Day Holiday- UNCE Offices
Closed

JOIN | THE REVOLUTION 
OF RESPONSIBILITY

WESTERN AREA OFFICES

**Carson City/
Storey County**
(775) 887-2252
2621 Northgate Lane
Suite 15
Carson City, NV 89701

Douglas County
(775) 782-9960
1325 Waterloo
Gardnerville, NV 89410
PO Box 338
Minden, NV 89423-0338

Washoe County
(775) 784-4848
4955 Energy Way
Reno, NV 89502

Your STEM* Minute

**4-H Science, Technology, Engineering and Math*

A BFF robot? Baxter, a new workbot design from Rethink Robotics, is an early example of a new class of industrial robots created to work alongside humans. Like many industrial robots, It has big strong arms, a flatscreen display and its hands perform repetitive manual tasks. But it's different in three significant ways.

First, it can look around and indicate where it is looking by shifting the cartoon eyes on its head. It can perceive humans working near it and avoid injuring them. And workers can see whether it sees them. Current industrial robots can't do this, and have to be physically segregated from humans. The typical factory robot is caged behind a chain link fence or in a glass case. It keeps them from working in small shops, where isolation is not practical. They are simply too dangerous to be around, because they are oblivious to others.

Baxter, however, is aware. Using force-feedback technology to feel if it is colliding with a person or another bot, it is courteous. You can plug it into a wall socket in your garage and easily work right next to your new robot friend.

-Information from Wired Magazine

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4-H Events Calendar November 2013



| DATE | WESTERN AREA | CARSON CITY/STOREY COUNTY | DOUGLAS COUNTY | WASHOE COUNTY |
|-------|--|---|--|--|
| 4 | | Cook Lovers, VC Sr. Center, 4-6 p.m. Target Rippers, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. Silver Sage, Leader's house, 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Teen Leadership, 2:30 p.m. | All Leaders Meeting, UNCE, 6-8 p.m. |
| 6 | | Bouncing Bunnies, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | |
| 7 | | Comstock Explorers, V.C. Roasting House, 6-7:30 p.m. 4 Paws, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | |
| 8 | | Carson Hot Shots, Capitol City Gun Club, 6-9 p.m. | | |
| 11 | | Comstock Explorers, V.C. Veterans' Day Parade, Virginia City | | |
| 11 | VETERANS' DAY HOLIDAY - OFFICES CLOSED | | | |
| 12 | | 4-H Council, 6:30-8:00 p.m. | | Horse Leaders Mtg, 6 p.m. |
| 13 | | Carson Cluckers, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | |
| 14 | | Slithers, Scales & Fins, UNCE Conf. Room, 6:30-8:00 p.m. 4 Paws, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | Please note: Due to the number of club meetings in Washoe Co., we cannot list them all here. |
| 16 | 4-H Day with the Pack football, UNR vs. San Jose | | Cloverbud Pet Show Day, 10 a.m. | |
| 18 | | Cook Lovers, V.C. Sr. Center, 4-6 p.m. Target Rippers, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. Silver Sage, Leaders' house, 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Teen Leadership, 2:30 p.m. Community Club: Pet Treat Orders and monies due. Food Drive and T-shirt pick-up, Record Book pick-up, CV Methodist, 6:30 p.m. | |
| 19 | | Caged Critters, UNCE conf. rm., 6:30-8 p.m. | Please note: Douglas County currently has too many 4-H Project specific meeting dates to publish. Please refer to your Project Leader and Calendars for meeting dates. | |
| 20 | | | | Livestock Leaders' Mtg., 6 p.m. Small Animal Leaders' Mtg., 7 p.m. |
| 21 | | Comstock Explorers, V.C. Roasting House, 6-7:30 p.m. 4 Paws, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | |
| 22 | | Carson Hot Shots, Capitol City Gun Club, 6-9 p.m. | | |
| 25 | | | Teen Leadership, 2:30 p.m. | |
| 28-29 | THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - OFFICES CLOSED | | | |



Veterans' Day, November 11



Thanksgiving Holiday, November 28-29

Upcoming 4-H Events Calendar



| DATE | WESTERN AREA | CARSON CITY/STOREY COUNTY | DOUGLAS COUNTY | WASHOE COUNTY |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|
| December 2013 | | | | |
| 2 | | Cook Lovers, VC Sr. Center, 4-6 p.m. Target Rippers, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. Silver Sage, Leaders' house, 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Teen Leadership, 2:30 p.m. | |
| 3 | | | Small Animal Portfolio Workshop, 6:30 p.m. | |
| 4 | | Bouncing Bunnies, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | |
| 5 | | Comstock Explorers, V.C. Roasting House, 6-7:30 p.m. | | |
| 6 | | | | Year-end County Awards, 6:30 p.m. |
| 7 | | V.C. Parade of Lights, 4-9 p.m. | Parade of Lights, 3:30 p.m. | |
| 9 | | 4-H Council, 6:30-8:00 p.m. | Teen Leadership, 2:30 p.m. | |
| 10 | | | | Horse Leaders Mtg, 6 p.m. |
| 11 | | Carson Cluckers, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | |
| 13 | | Carson Hot Shots, Capitol City Gun Club, 6-9 p.m. | | Year-end Horse Awards (location and time TBA) |
| 14 | | | Cloverbud Sewing Day, 10:00 a.m. | |
| 16 | | Cook Lovers, VC Sr. Center, 4-6 p.m. Target Rippers, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. Silver Sage, Leaders' house, 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Teen Leadership, 2:30 p.m. | |
| 18 | | | | Livestock Leaders' Mtg., 6 p.m. Small Animal Leaders' Mtg., 7 p.m. Leaders' Council mtg., 7:30 p.m. |
| 19 | | Comstock Explorers, V.C. Roasting House, 6-7:30 p.m. | | |
| 25 | CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY - OFFICES CLOSED | | | |
| 27 | | Carson Hot Shots, Capitol City Gun Club, 6-9 p.m. | | |
| January 2014 | | | | |
| 1 | NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY - OFFICES CLOSED | | | |
| 2 | | 4 Paws, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | Please note: Due to the number of club meetings in Washoe Co., we cannot list them all here. |
| 6 | | Cook Lovers, VC Sr. Center, 4-6 p.m. Target Rippers, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. Silver Sage, UNCE conf. rm., 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Please note: Douglas County currently has too many 4-H Project specific meeting dates to publish. Please refer to your Project Leader and Calendars for meeting | |
| 9 | | 4 Paws, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 6:30-8 p.m. | | |
| 10 | | Carson Hot Shots, Capitol City Gun Club, 6-9 p.m. | | |
| 13 | | Cook Lovers, VC Sr. Center, 4-6 p.m. | | |
| 14 | | | | Horse Leaders Mtg, 6 p.m. |
| 15 | | | | Livestock Leaders' Mtg., 6 p.m. Small Animal Leaders' Mtg., 7 p.m. |
| 16 | | Carson City/Storey County Awards Night, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 7-9 p.m. | | |
| 18 | | Fabric and Rummage Sale drop off, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | | |
| 20 | MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY HOLIDAY - OFFICES CLOSED | | | |
| 24 | | Carson Hot Shots, Capitol City Gun Club, 6-9 p.m. | | |
| 25 | | Fabric and Rummage Sale drop off, Fuji Exhibit Hall, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | | |
| 27 | | Silver Sage, UNCE conf. rm., 6-7:30 p.m. | | |



Christmas Holiday, December 25