Winter is finally over and summer is quickly approaching and Passaic County 4-H is gearing up for another amazing summer.

First I would like to say Congratulations to all of our graduating high school seniors. We are so happy for each of you and I hope you will stay connected to 4-H and keep us updated on all of your future successes and accomplishments.

I’m so happy to say that all of our clubs have been extremely active this spring, participating in North Jersey Teen Conference, Public Presentation Night, Town Days, Workshops and other events.

I am looking forward to all that’s to come this summer as we prepare for the Passaic County Fair in August. Two new 4-H clubs have just started meeting and we look forward to welcoming all our new club members to future events/activities. A new group of Passaic County teens will be attending the Rutgers 4-H Summer Science Program on campus in July and our very own Nicole Harden will be attending Leadership Washington Focus at the National 4-H Conference Center this summer.

Please enjoy this issue of the Passaic County 4-H Happenings.

**Congratulations to our graduating 4-H members!**

Aliya Blackwood of the Teen Crusaders (Carnegie Mellon University)

Sonia Bernal of the Teen Crusaders (Fordham University)

Patricia Iglesias of the Teen Crusaders (The College of New Jersey)

Gabriela Lizarbe of the Teen Crusaders (Montclair State University)

Zahra Rana of the Teen Crusaders (Rutgers University)

Julia Semeraro of the Preakness Aggies (North Eastern University)

Payal Shah of the Teen Crusaders (Rutgers University)

"When you get, give and when you learn, teach." — Maya Angelou
Public Presentation Night 2014

2014 Public Presentation Night: Oh so many talented club members! In April, 4-Hers from around Passaic County were able to show off their public speaking skills in front of parents, club members and judges. Participants performed, displayed and recited their different presentations such as traditional restaurant serving styles, farm chickens and the history of Walt Disney. Three teens qualified for State presentations: Gianna Aquino, Arianna Bos and Chelsea Semeraro. Gianna and Chelsea will be attending State Presentations this month. Congratulations and good luck! Thank you to all of our Passaic County Public Presentation participants for their excellent presentations this year.

A special thanks to all our volunteer judges for giving your time. Without your help this event would not be possible. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Passaic County 4-H Open House

This May Passaic County families were invited to attend the Passaic County 4-H Open House held at the new location in Wayne, New Jersey. Families learned about the various clubs through leaders, members and posters that were displayed. Families were able to get information about joining a club and/or volunteering. Open House was a successful night and families went home with a better understanding of what Passaic County 4-H has to offer.

Families participated in hands on science and healthy living activities and giveaways.
2014 North Jersey Teen Conference

This year seven teens from Passaic County attended the 7th annual North Jersey Teen Conference in March. Attendees participated in various ice breaker challenges to get everyone situated and comfortable with one another. Throughout the weekend teens attended various workshops and learned about different topics such as getting into and surviving college, dance and the history of chocolate taught by fellow teens. Teens also spent a day at the Paterson Museum and learned about the history of Paterson and its impact on the industrialized world. Teens celebrated their weekend experience with a dance and other fun activities.

Passaic County 4-H is Looking New Clubs Members

Junior Council

Junior Council is looking for new club members in grades 6-8 who are interested in making new friends while learning and improving team building and leadership skills. The Passaic County 4-H Junior Council will begin laying the foundation for future leadership opportunities in Teen Council, state and national 4-H trips. The club will focus on team building, teamwork and leadership. Members will become more comfortable sharing ideas with a group, learn to work on committees and learn to problem solve as a group. Additionally, members will learn about officer roles and how to lead in committees. Youth will enhance their decision making skills by guiding club decisions and projects. Members will also gain experience in service learning, community service and citizenship. They will learn what it means to be a good citizen; learn to identify the needs in their 4-H program and communities and how to work towards them. Finally, Junior Council members will provide leadership to the Cloverbud (K-3) programs by helping with Cloverbud club events, camps and other programs. If interested or need more information please contact the Passaic County 4-H office.

Healthy Living Club

The Passaic County 4-H Healthy Living Club will be a great way for the youth of the community in grades 4-8 to make new friends and learn ways to incorporate a healthy lifestyle for themselves, their families and their communities. The club meetings will focus on fun and educational activities that will teach the youth different tips for healthy snacking and meal planning, food safety tips, fun and family friendly physical activities and much more.

The 4-H Healthy Living Club will have its first meeting Monday June 16th at the Alfred H. Baumann Library, 7 Brophy Lane, Woodland Park, NJ at 6:00pm. This club will meet monthly the 3rd Monday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00pm. If interested or need more information please contact the Passaic County 4-H office.

“The great art belongs to all people, all the time—that indeed it is made for the people, by the people, to the people.” — Maya Angelou
I See For You Puppy Club

After a long, snowy, and bitterly cold winter, our puppies and their raisers are happy to be out and about on socialization outings. These events get the puppies used to new situations, crowds of people, and loud noises in preparation for their formal training by a Seeing Eye instructor.

March was a very busy month for our puppies. Autumn, Callie, Gregory, Hudson and Whitley, with their puppy raisers, marched in the Morris County St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Many Seeing Eye puppy clubs participate in this event and it is a chance to meet some puppy siblings. Passaic County also had a parade in Ringwood and Gregory, Callie, Valet and Victoria took part with their raisers and other club members.

Every year, the Seeing Eye arranges a trip to Newark Airport. Whitley, Autumn and Gregory experienced fire equipment, a bus ride, and went through security. They walked through the terminals, navigated through crowds of people, went up and down the stairs, boarded a plane, and checked out the baggage carousels.

Several puppies went on a school visit to Stoneybrook Elementary School in Kinnelon. Hudson, Callie and Victoria enjoyed meeting the children and teaching them about the training and work of a guide dog.

Also in March, “Fantastic Sam’s” hair salon in Boonton hosted a cut-a-thon to raise money for our club. Gregory, Victoria, Whitley, Autumn, Hudson, Valet, and Callie, with their raisers, were there throughout the day to meet and greet customers.

On April 26, Gregory and Callie went to Rutgers University’s Cook Campus to participate in Ag Field Day. Callie won a 4th place ribbon in the 4-H dog show. It was a fun experience for the puppies, especially meeting various farm animals.

On May 2, Autumn, Callie, Gregory, and Victoria went to the open house at the new office of the Passaic County 4-H. It was a good opportunity for our members to meet the 4-H staff and learn about other clubs. The puppies practiced being well-behaved in public and meeting new people.

The next day was an outing to Hoboken for Victoria, Callie, Autumn and Gregory. We met at the Clifton station and took a train to the city. In Hoboken, we walked the streets, which were filled with many distractions such as moderate traffic, people, loud noises, squirrels, strange dogs, sidewalk grates and drains, and food on the ground. We ate our lunch in the park and walked along the river before heading back to the station and boarding our train back to Clifton. The weather was beautiful and everyone had a great time.

On May 31st several members of our club and their puppies took part in the “Liver Life” walk in Verona. Donations raised by walkers help the American Liver Foundation provide critical research funding, public education, and patient support.

The “I See For You” puppy club meets at 6:45 p.m. every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at the Pompton Reformed Church on Hamburg Turnpike in Pompton Lakes. Everyone is welcome to attend a meeting and learn more about raising a puppy for The Seeing Eye.

"Try to be the rainbow in someone's cloud." — Maya Angelou
West Milford Velveteen’s

Hear ye, hear ye! Spring hath sprung and the farm is teeming with activity and life. Announcing: The Royal New Zealand Bunnies begat a litter of three kits over the winter despite the cold start, and they are flourishing. We added a pair of barred rock and silkie chickens donated by the Newark Conservancy, and 37 New Hampshire chickens to the club flock raised by Arianna, who qualified for State Public Presentations. Arianna was a guest speaker at Mike’s Feed Farm Chicken Network Night. In other fowl news, Hailey has incubated a clutch of bantam babies and frizzle chickens and helped plant flowers at Veteran's Park in time for the up-coming parade.

Every single package of seeds Murad had for the library seed bank has been distributed, and High Mowing Organic Seed Company has offered to send 100 seed packets soon. The Time Bank reports the seed swap was a huge success for them, and thanks all the teens who help with their babysitting. The Scrimgeour girls planted lots of sunflowers that are needing to be transplanted, and the pansy flowers and lettuce both look terrific. With Gail's help we donated three flats of pansy flowers to the United Methodist Church, and 8 members helped with the church's Beautification Day. Brendan and some other club-members helped the club earn a $250.00 donation from Hazelman Farms for some recycling work after school. Volunteer Chris Magnus reports he will be in town over the next two weeks and hopes to finish the Turkey House.

Rutgers Day was amazing, with Amanda, Rebecca, Murad and Brendan scampering off to enjoy an art treasure hunt and even perform some street brain surgery! Meanwhile, the club has spent a lot of time on a fabric craft this year using medieval heraldry to demonstrate what 4-H means to them. It was great to see the older kids helping the younger ones design their shields and cut-out things club-members want to learn more about, everything from farm animals to tornadoes to pretty bows for hair art. The older kids are hoping to take a 4-H camping trip together this summer at Cooper's Lake, Pennsylvania, to participate in re-creating the Medieval world of Pennsic; we will soon know if this lofty goal is possible. To help Mary-carmen's recruitment of new club-leaders, we are making a banner for our Memorial Day Parade float, that says "Find Your Quest in 4-H!" Huzzah!

Preakness Aggies

The Preakness Aggies have been busy! We have made crafts, gone places and have given 4-H Presentations. Since Snow Tubing in January, the Aggies have made Decorative Dinner Plates, Rice Snowmen, Clay Animals, Decorated “Car Cakes”, planned a trip to the Bronx Zoo and Marched in the Wayne Township Memorial Day Parade. Most of our Members gave 4-H Presentations and Julia Semeraro is going to Rutgers on June 14th to present in the New Jersey’s State 4-H Presentation Day! Way to Go Julia!!

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel" — Maya Angelou
Club Update—Teen Crusaders

A group of Passaic County 4-H Teen Crusaders were invited to teach a program for the Morris County 4-H Science-Sational Day held at the Morris County Community College. These Teen Crusaders taught multiple groups of students in grades 4-6 “Fun with Electricity” and during the sessions the teen crusaders saw just how much fun youth can have experimenting with electricity, lights, and batteries. With every rotation of groups, the children seemed even more eager to learn, and the teens were surprised to see just how knowledgeable these younger youth were!

The Passaic County 4-H Teen Crusaders have decided to host monthly food drives in attempt to assist those in need within Passaic County. Each month the teens will be collecting a certain food item. For example, the teens will be collecting canned vegetables during the month of June. The teens hope to see participation from friends, families, and anyone else who can help.

A few of the Passaic County 4-H Teen Crusaders along with one Passaic County 4-H VISTAs ran a short one day program at the Clifton Boys and Girls Club. Those who attended were teens from various local high schools who were interested in learning about ways to create a healthier lifestyle. The teens participated in discussions pertaining to alternatives to unhealthy snacks, TV habits, and new exercise routines that are easily implemented into a daily routine.

4-H Camp

Schools out for summer! And there is no better way to enjoy the summer then going to the best camp in New Jersey, 4-H camp! Get ready to have fun with campers from all around the state as they find their inner Katniss, sail the open seas and become king of the land all this and more at 4-H camp in Stokes State Forest.

To Learn more about 4-H camp, contact camp at 973 –948-3550 or email 4hcamp@njaes.rutgers.edu. Visit their website www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu

- June 30th - July 3rd — Science Engineering & Technology Camp
- July 7th - July 12th — Session 1: Hungry Games
- July 14th - July 19th — Session 2: Pirates
- July 21st - July26th — Session 3: Chaos
- July 28th - August 2nd — Session 4: Medieval Mythland
- August 4th - August 9th — Session 5: Super-Secret Agent Spy
- August 11th - August 16th — Camp Smorgasbord
**Upcoming Events**

**June**

☆ NJ State 4-H Public Presentation Day June 14, 2014, Rutgers University - New Brunswick, NJ

☆ Citizen Washington Focus (NJ State Delegate Selection Process), July 6- July 12, 2014, National 4-H Conference Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland

**July**


☆ County Fairs (Cumberland, Ocean, Burlington, Cape May, Monmouth, Morris, Gloucester, Warren)

**August**

☆ New Jersey State Fair & Sussex County Farm and Horse Show, August 1-10, 2014, Augusta, NJ

☆ Passaic County Fair, August 14-17, 2014, Paterson, NJ

☆ County Fairs (Camden, Mercer, Middlesex, Salem, Somerset, Hunterdon, Atlantic)

**Prepare For Fair!**

**West Milford Autumn Lights Festival October 11th, 2014**

This summer get your club ready for fair. Before the school time crunch take the time to:

- Check the fair exhibit guide (available on the Passaic County 4-H website) and make sure what your members want to exhibit is in there, if its not please contact the office.

- Prepare club displays, fair is a great chance to attract new members and volunteers. Make sure to have an informative club display for fairgoers.

- Record books keep getting better every year and our essential to keeping track of your 4-H experiences. Make sure club members have their record books if not contact the office. *Remember there are record books for almost every focus (horses, dogs, leadership etc).*

- Members in good standing: A 4-H member in good standing attends 70% of club meetings, has participated in public presentation at club, county or state level, submits a record book and has participated in a 4-H sponsored community service at club, county, regional or state level.

**Look for the Summer Issue of 4-H Happenings in August**
Passaic County 4-H is growing bigger every year and we want to welcome back our alumni to the Passaic County 4-H family. If you know any alumni who are interested in keeping up with Passaic County 4-H contact us at passaic4h@njaes.rutgers.edu or call 973-684-4786.

Passaic County 4-H is always looking for alumni to…

bullet Start a 4-H club or be part of an existing 4-H club
bullet Volunteer at 4-H events such as; Fair, Public Presentation Night, Awards Night and much more
bullet Please go to the link below and fill out the 4-H Alumni survey and make the best better!
https://rutgers.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_2l7Zb64hDD0D0gd
bullet Please visit the NJ 4-H alumni page. https://www.facebook.com/NewJersey4HAlumni

---

4-H Passaic County Newsletter

Marycarmen Kunicki
Passaic County 4-H
Senior Program Coordinator

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Passaic County
4-H Youth Development Program
1310 Route 23 North
Wayne, NJ 07470
Phone: 973-684-4786 Fax: 973-305-8865
E-mail: Passaic4H@njaes.rutgers.edu

Kenneth Faillace
Program Assistant

Passaic County 4-H Website: passaic.njaes.rutgers.edu
New Jersey 4-H: www.nj4h.rutgers.edu
National 4-H Website: www.4-h.org

Erin Holswade
Americorps VISTA

New Jersey 4-H Facebook: www.facebook.com/NewJersey4H
Passaic County 4-H Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Passaic-County-4-H

Robert Salkowski
Americorps VISTA

---

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF PASSAIC COUNTY

The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Cooperative Extension. 4-H educational programs are offered to all youth, grades K-13, on an age-appropriate basis, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. For additional information, contact 973-684-4786 or nj4h.rutgers.edu. Cooperative Extension encourages individuals with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you need special accommodations, have questions about physical access, or require alternate means for program information, please contact your local Extension Office. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination. 973-932-3583. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact your local Extension Office for information regarding special needs or accommodations. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination. 973-932-3583.

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.