Summer 2015 has been a busy one here in Passaic County. We have had several successful summer events and look forward to planning many more. While I missed some of our large events while I was gone (Public Presentations) we were lucky to have Kenny here in the office. Kenny was able to keep everything moving along. We are fortunate to have him! Thanks to Kenny for all his support and great work while I was out.

It’s great to be back. Upon my return, with my little helpers Jonathan and Emily—we were able to put the skills of our new Babysitting Trainees to the test at our 1st Babysitters Training Course. I officially returned to the office the beginning of July to right away spend a week with our newest Science Ambassadors down at our Rutgers 4-H Summer Science Program. Some of our new ambassadors have joined our Teen Crusaders club and many will be starting in our new CYFAR funded Science Pathways program at the Boys and Girls club of Paterson.

August brought us the Passaic County Fair and our 4-H tent was even bigger and better than ever. We had a great turn-out from club members, entering exhibits and attending to help out. We look forward to even more participation next year. Start thinking about member exhibits and club displays! We hope to see even more of you at the fair next year.

With the start of the new club year, we would like to welcome all of our new club members and look forward to a wonderful new 4-H year here in Passaic County.
4-H Babysitters Training

Earlier this summer Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic counties held its first ever Northern NJ 4-H babysitters training. A program for aspiring babysitters. Held in the Passaic County Public Safety Complex in Wayne this day long program taught teens the essentials that every babysitter should know. From how to entertain children to following correct safety procedures and even learning how to make a fun, healthy snacks that kids will want to eat.

This is the first of many combined efforts from the surroundings 4-H counties to bring quality youth programming to northern New Jersey.

Rutgers 4-H Summer Science Program 2015

This past July, 9 teens from Passaic County 4-H participated in the Rutgers Summer Science Program sponsored by Samsung. This week long program allowed the teens to gain the college experience by living on campus in a dorm working alongside students and faculty. The week began with a campus scavenger hunt that took the students throughout the campus to take pictures of some historic places and things on the Rutgers campus. During the week the teens had an opportunity to participate in a Discover STEM roundtable discussion with some of Rutgers Scientists and following got the chance to tour their labs.

As the week progressed students participated in all-day sessions focused on Environmental Science, Engineering/Maker Projects, Food Science, Exercise Physiology, Marine Science and Computer Science. Following this in-depth experience teens worked in teams and created research posters on the topic of their session. Teens spent the week learning and making new friends. Some even discovered that science is fun!

Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known. ~ Carl Sagan
Thank you to all of our volunteers and 4-H members. You are the reason we can keep getting bigger and better every year and your time and effort is very much appreciated.

Club Update — The Hoofers

The Hoofers (aka Bauer’s Bunch) have been quite busy this summer. After a frightfully cold winter that kept us inside (and away from the horses) the Hoofers have spent the past few months working alongside our favorite teaching horses, D.A. and Champagne. From learning the basics of fire safety and first aid to vet wrapping and polo wrapping both each other and then the horses, the members were excited to get their hands back on the horses. We even spent our July meeting learning how to bathe and wash a horse, which allowed for some nice cool water relief during the hot summer heat! While a few of our members were showcasing some awesome public presentation topics, we reviewed some earlier topics, such as breeds, colors, and parts of the horses with the help of the North Jersey Equestrian Center staff!

The Hoofers would also like to give a special shout out to member Nicole Swan for showing off her awesome trail riding skills on her horse Allegra at the Sussex County Fair and Horse Show. Together the pair did awesome, and we are excited to see them hopefully conquer the course again next year!

Upcoming the Hoofers are looking into learning some harder horse topics this upcoming year as well as enjoying a well-earned trail ride that the members earned after a lot of hard work fundraising!

Passaic County Fair 2015

What a scorcher! The 2015 Passaic County Fair was bigger, better and hotter this year and the 4-H tent was no exception. To combat the sweltering heat this year 4-H brought several new attractions to the Passaic County Fair. Fairgoers got treated to a healthy snack on the brand new 4-H smoothie bike, and yes it is exactly what it sounds like a bike that makes smoothies! And for the first time ever the Passaic County Fair had a 4-H archery range! The fun continued at the 4-H tent with puppies, butterflies and chickens. The classic 4-H watermelon eating contest and even added a 3 legged race! Another great fair to cap off a great 4-H year!
Hello, it’s Arianna with my report on the West Milford Velveteens latest activities.

**State Presentation at Rutgers**, New Brunswick was quite the experience. I met many interesting people while making new friends. I got to see some old ones. Murad did very well on his presentation. Next year, I can’t wait to try again with maybe more members participating.

**Passaic County Fair** We were sorry we could not help much. Nearly all regular club-members and leaders were working all summer and so were most of us! We were only able to enter the Critters Against Litter animal signs and Brendan entered an airplane he crafted from wood. Both won blue!

**Plant Sale & Seed Bank:** We helped the Friends of Wallisch Homestead by transplanting thousands of flowers and growing many vegetables. Brendan built a lot of flats and filled them with soil, and the rest of us transplanted and transplanted. There were 10,000 petunias and 10,000 begonias. Rebecca planted 1500 marigolds herself in just one day. We grew a lot of vegetable plants that came from a huge donation from our partners at Lake Valley Organics and High Mowing Seeds. These companies sent us enough seeds to continue our seed bank in a very big way with 2 more African mission groups including Zimbabwe and Uganda, a case that went to Mexico through a local church, the local library seed bank and more. The Beautification and Recycling Committee is giving each contestant of their “House Beautiful” contest 12 packages of these seeds each. We had some perennial flowers Gail started last summer as well. At the end of it all, we were tired! Later on, we learned to air layer perennial plants.

**Chestnut Trees!** We partnered up with The American Chestnut Foundation which gave us seeds and seedling trees, and then we waited and waited to get them planted. A huge thank you to Randy who offered to care for them in his greenhouse while we waited for approvals to move forward planting them at the Wallisch Homestead. The Friends of Wallisch helped by digging the holes and building cages for the trees, which are now in the ground, and John Hef-feron and his wife Sandy built a display board to explain to the public what this little grove is all about. The saplings have put on new shoots since planting, and despite the heat they seem to be doing well, plus we planted more nuts, ten of them have sprouted. We will bring these tree babies to a blessing of the trees event on Monday, followed by a Wallisch Weed Walk with the Rockland Forager. We are excited to have our first meeting at Wallisch Homestead and expect some special guests.

**Rotary:** Rebecca and Murad gave a presentation to the West Milford Rotary Club regarding the seed bank and the chestnut trees. We promised to plant their new electric sign at the corner of Macopin Road and Union Valley Road for community events with flowers. We also planted flowers at the PAL Building.

We will also be having the new election of officers at our meeting so this will be my last newsletter as President. It has been a blast and I enjoyed filling you all in on the scoop of what our club has done throughout this year and I am very proud of how much our club has grown in many aspects this year. None of these significant events could have been done without the spectacular support of my leader Celeste, and volunteers Randy & Gail … and the kids of the club. I’d like to wish Matt Bresnak good luck in his military career; he shipped out August 11. We will miss you, Matt.

Thank you all! - Arianna Bos

“Put your heart, mind, and soul into even your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.”

~Swami Sivananda
Club Updates — I See For You Puppy Club

On June 20, our club went to the Warwick Drive-in. Arrow, Chekov, Xylar, and Cagney enjoyed the movie and visiting with their friends. Arrow went to the drive-in again on July 17. This is a good socialization experience for the puppies, with lots of noise, cars, people, and other dogs.

On July 14, we went on our annual Pompton Lakes walk where the puppies practiced going up and down open stairs at the high school, and club members enjoyed an ice cream treat. Cagney, Chekov, Arrow, Yoko, Xylar, Octavia, Clipper, Mimi, and Ursula took part in this activity. Ursula is a new puppy in the club and this was her first outing.

On August 8, we had our annual puppy club barbeque and pot-luck pool party at a club member’s home. Puppies and people enjoyed socializing with one another in a relaxed setting. Some of the puppies even went for a swim. They all slept well that night after all the running and playing.

The Passaic County Fair was held from August 13 to August 16 at Rifle Camp Park at Garrett Mountain. Our club members and their puppies were at the fair every day and enjoyed meeting and greeting fair-goers.

On August 22, The Seeing Eye hosted a “Family Day” for all puppy raisers and their families. We got to tour some of the kennels, watched trainer demonstrations, listened to graduates as they talked about their experiences with their guide dogs, and attended various programs about raising a puppy. It was a chance to meet and talk to people from other clubs, and a fun day for everyone.

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.

Junior Council

My name is Brooke Santers and this July I attended the National 4-H Leadership Washington Focus conference in Washington DC. I was one of 16 youth from New Jersey who attended. I was the only one from the Northern part of New Jersey and Passaic County. We spent the week in Washington with 4-Hers from Ohio and California.

The week was spent learning about the 4C’s - communication, confidence, collaboration and critical thinking. We toured the Capitol, Lincoln Memorial, the White House and the Smithsonian and much more. We had a great time sharing ideas and bonding. We exchanged clothes pins that were decorated with symbols from our states and we had a carnival. We met in big groups and then broke into small groups for activities.

I met a lot of fun people who I still keep in touch with and hope to see for Citizen Washington Focus when I get to high school. It was a great experience and I would recommend it to anyone! Join 4-H!

On August 12th, Marycarmen Kunicki, 4-H Senior Program Coordinator/Department Head and Nicole Harden, Junior Council President, were invited by the Wayne Rotary Club to make an informational presentation about 4-H programs and how they are so valuable to youth. The presentation was at the Paris Inn in Wayne, NJ. Following the presentation, the Wayne Rotary Club generously donated $150.00 to the Junior Council. This money will be used towards a scholarship to help send one of our Junior Council members to Leadership Washington Focus for Summer 2016. Thank you so much, Wayne Rotary Club!
This summer the Teen Crusaders took part in their 5th annual Teen Community Service Week. To start Teen Community Service week, the Teen Crusaders went to the CUMAC food bank to help with food distribution. Upon arrival they were given a tour of the center and explained the routine of the facility. The teens then began on their project. Organizing the food into categorized containers, they separated the food that was donated to CUMAC. Later, the teen crusaders bagged items that were to be given to clients of the food bank. To end the day, they helped receive a shipment of donations and moved the items to where they had to go. Food banks are very beneficial to our community, and it was great to be able to lend a helping hand.

At the Preakness Healthcare Center, the teen crusaders were put to the test of providing help to those in need of assistance. On Tuesday, the teens were greeted by the volunteer coordinator and attended "volunteer orientation," where they were taught how to respond to different situations and were trained on how to use a wheelchair correctly. Their day consisted of helping nurses transport different residents to the activities scheduled for the day. Later on, they assisted residents in a bingo game, making sure they claimed the points that they earned. For some it was their first time volunteering at the healthcare center, but everyone enjoyed the day helping others.

Being a farmer is hard work. That's why the Teen Crusaders decided their third day of teen community service week would be at Hazelman Farms in West Milford. Before starting, the owner, Rocky gave them the grand tour of his various aspects and areas of his farm; which included a small hike around his "backyard woods." The teens were treated to a lunch that consisted of produce that was picked and prepared right on the farm. Rocky packages and sells his items at the towns farmers market, so the teens were able to help out with that too! We picked cucumbers, strawberries, and cantaloupes to be sold that day. The teen crusaders interacted with the chickens on site and also got the chance to pick fresh eggs from the coops. This experience gave the Teen Crusaders an inside look on what it's like to run a farm and how our food is grown and taken care of.

Teen Crusaders gave back to the community by teaching kids at Oasis, a local Paterson youth center, an experiment called paper bridges. Students were able to engage in this STEM-related activity as our teens guided them in making bridges out of nothing but paper and plastic cups. By testing a variety of different designs students were able to balance over a hundred washers on their bridges, demonstrating how science and ingenuity can make many things possible. Our teens also benefitted from this experience by building their confidence in public speaking and improving their teaching skills.

Ending teen community service week, the Teen Crusaders attended the New Jersey State Fair. They were greeted by local 4-Her’s who showed them the way around the fair grounds. They stopped at several pens where they were given information about the care and showmanship of different farm animals. Teens were able to try their hand at walking the animals and interacting with them in their pen. Afterwards, they were given the chance to explore the fair and enjoy different rides. To end the day, the crusaders were given a tour of the AG museum that took them through the history of farming. The teens were able to learn a lot from the day and even had fun while doing it.

The teen crusaders would like to thank everyone that interacted with us and helped us along the way this week. They hope to have another successful community service week next year!

**Look for the Fall Issue of 4-H Happenings in November!**
Upcoming Events

September
☆ September 25 — NJ State 4-H Avian Bowl, Westampton, NJ

October
☆ October 4-10 — National 4-H week
☆ October 7 — National 4-H Youth Science Day
☆ October 10 — State 4-H Senior Archery Match, Hunterdon, NJ
☆ October 12 — Columbus Day, Office Closed
☆ October 18 — State 4-H Association Antique Show, Bridgewater, NJ
☆ October 24 — Halloween Happenings, Sussex County Fairgrounds, NJ

November
☆ November 3 — Election Day, Office Closed
☆ November 11 — Veterans Day, Office Closed
☆ November 11 — Model Horse Show, Monmouth County
☆ November 26 — Thanksgiving, Office Closed
☆ November 27 — Day after Thanksgiving, Office Closed

Save the Date

Halloween Happenings
October 24, 2015

☆ Halloween Happenings at the Sussex County Fairgrounds, 37 Plains Rd. Augusta, NJ 07822
☆ Join us for an evening of fun-filled activities including pumpkin painting, Trick-Or-Treating and hay rides. Along our torch-lit trail.
☆ For more information 973-948-3040 and check Sussex County 4-H at www.sussex4h.org

National 4-H Week
October 4th—10th, 2015

We’d like to thank all of our volunteers, supporters, members, parents and staff who have supported our 4-H program.
Save the Date

North Jersey 4-H Teen Conference
March 11—13, 2016
At the Regency House Hotel, Pompton Plains
For 4-H youth in grades 8-13
This year's NJTC theme is Hollywood!

2016 4-H NJTC Includes:
Interactive 4-H teen led workshops
Field trip and group activities
Saturday dinner dance and more!

Registration materials are available through your county 4-H Office in early December.

4-H Passaic County Newsletter

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Passaic County 4-H Senior Program Coordinator

Kenneth Faillace
Passaic County 4-H Community Assistant

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

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF PASSAIC COUNTY

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