What could be better than a warm summer day at a beautiful setting like Howell Living History Farm? Well, meeting friendly people, choosing some great food to eat and having fun things to do and see all around you! That would describe the 92nd Annual Mercer County 4-H Fair! I heard so many positive comments about the fair and about how knowledgeable our 4-H’ers are! It seemed the public not only enjoyed their surroundings but also enjoyed meeting and talking to all of you! Congratulations on an awesome job.

Fair planning has already begun for next year. If you have anything you would like to suggest, please contact the office.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE FAIR SUCH A GREAT EVENT!

Chad Ripberger  
County 4-H Agent

Altaira Bejgrowicz  
4-H Program Assistant

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NEW CLUBS THIS FALL

This fall we are welcoming two new clubs into our 4-H program.

The first of the two new clubs is called Science 4-Communities. The club, which currently has seven members, plans to explore projects in alternative energy. Their leader is Vani Kodandaram; she will host club meetings at her Princeton Junction home the third Sunday of every month at 6 pm. The club will be attending Achievement Night - please be sure to say hello.

We also have a Cloverbud Club that will meet in the science room at The Princeton Friends School on Friday afternoons. Starting their meetings in October, the club intends to explore many topics this year. A presentation about endangered NJ bats is already scheduled. The club will also start a composting program at the school. Club leaders are Nicole Johnson and Kellan Peck.
**Rutgers Against Hunger (R.A.H.)**
460 pounds of food and $63.76 in cash were collected at the fair this year!
Food and Cash were donated to the Mercer Street Friends Food Bank. Thank you to all who contributed.

**Caretaker's Award**
Nate Byrnes - Clever Clovers
CJ Mozeika - Boltin’ Colts

**Goat Show**
Champion Showman: Alex Potosky
Best Senior Doe: Kristie Von Thun
Best Junior Doe: Kristie Von Thun

**Small Animal Show**
Small Animal Champion Showman: Emily Dallas
Best in Show Rabbit: Emily Dallas
Best in Show Small Animal: Kate Elliot
Poultry Champion Showman: Maggie Emley
Best in Show Poultry: Maggie Emley

**Round Robin Contest**
George Stillwell - Clever Clovers

**Sheep Show**
Champion Showman: George Stillwell
Champion Sheep: Renee Stillwell
Reserve Champion Sheep: Alex Byrnes

**Fair Ambassadors**
Maggie Emley - Clever Clovers
Ray Scheick - Shooting Sports Club
Meredith Dauphers - Boltin’ Colts

Thank you to all who contributed.
4-H EVENTS

Fifty 4-H members from seven counties (Atlantic, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Salem, Somerset) exhibited 139 goats at the 2010 NJ 4-H Goat Show.

These are the results for Mercer County!

Dairy Goat Novice Showmanship and Fitting (7 entries)
Placing 1st - Lee Sortore

Dairy Goat Junior Showmanship and Fitting (17 entries)
Placing 2nd - Kellie VonThun

Dairy Goat Senior Showmanship and Fitting (13 entries)
Placing 1st - Alex Potosky
Placing 3rd - Kristie VonThun

Best in Show, Senior Doe - Kellie VonThun (Oberhasli)
Kohr's Trophy - Tim VonThun (Oberhasli)

Breed Junior and Senior Champions
LaMancha Senior Reserve Champion - Kristie VonThun
Oberhasli Junior Champion - Lee Sortore
       Junior Reserve Champion - Lee Sortore
       Senior Champion - Kellie VonThun
       Senior Reserve Champion - Tim VonThun

Congratulations to all our County Participants!

Please remember to mark your calendar for the annual 4-H Achievement Night, November 5, 2010. The celebration will begin at 6 pm at the Hollowbrook Community Center in Ewing, NJ. The evening will be filled with friendship and great food as well as recognition and appreciation for the past year. November 5th promises to be a night of fun and reward! All clubs are encouraged to attend.
CLUB UPDATES

Members of The **Boltin’ Colts Horse Club** had a fun learning experience when “Betty” was kind enough to allow the members to label her body so they could learn the parts of a horse. The club took a break from regular meetings after the fair but has since resumed with horse judging meetings.

The **Clever Clovers Livestock Club** has a new meeting place for 2010. The club will now hold meetings at the Hope Fire Company in Allentown. Meetings will take place the first Sunday of each month in the afternoon. Sunday, October 3 is the first meeting open to new members.

The **Snip & Stitch Sewing Club** had their first meeting on Tuesday, September 21st. Three new members joined in on the fun and challenge of learning a new skill. The club began working on their Record Books. They added key information about the “tools of the trade” used in sewing and included their ruffle gathering samples done during the meeting.

HELPING HANDS

Soon after the fun of the 2010 4-H Fair ended, Clever Clovers Co-Leaders, Amy Dallas and Denise Kamer came to the 4-H Office to sort ribbons. Denise’s daughter and Clever Clovers member, Maggie, also came in to help. It was a big job but we now have all ribbons inventoried and organized for next year. Thanks ladies for a great job!
Official Club Membership Lists and Club Plans due ~ October 15, 2010
Leader’s Meeting/Fair Wrap-up/suggestions ~ October 6, 2010
Applications for National 4-H Conference due to office ~ October 20, 2010
Achievement Night ~ November 5, 2010
NJ 4-H Goat Extravaganza ~ January 8, 2011

For the current 4-H information, please check out: http://mercer.njaes.rutgers.edu & http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/