
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008



I must confess, Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday of all. I love family and friends getting together and enjoying each other's company, and I am always grateful to be around those I love on Thanksgiving.

And I want to say that it has been nearly a year, as I write this, that I have been a part of the Talbot County 4-H program and I am very thankful for the youth, families and volunteers I have had the honor and pleasure to know and work with this year. Thanks to all of you for your patience and help as I have learned about this community and this program. Your support and commitment to the Talbot County 4-H program is incredible and I really look forward to our united efforts to grow here in Talbot County in the coming months.

I wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season.

Jayne Fitzgerald
Program Assistant
4-H & Youth Development

Our Office Is Moving!!!

As of December 1, 2008 the Talbot County Extension office will be at a new location in Easton. We will be moving to the Agriculture Service Center off Glebe Road with the Talbot County Soil Conservation District, NRCS and FSA. Our new address will be 28577 Mary's Court, Suite 1. We will keep our P.O. Box 519 and our telephone number 410-822-1244. See you at the new site!

Saying Good-bye & Hello at Extension

Richard Stewart, Nutrient Management Advisor has left Talbot County Extension Office. We wish Richard all the best.

Sherman Cuncell, Nutrient Management Advisor in Caroline County will be covering our office 2 days a week for now. Call the Extension Office to schedule an appointment with Sherman. Thank you for your patience as we hire and train a new advisor.

And we are really excited to welcome Tom Hutson as Talbot County's new 4-H Educator. He will begin on December 1st. Tom is coming to us from St. Mary's Extension office and is very eager to meet and work with all of you!



Let's welcome Jo Anne Roe as the New Organizational Leader for the Claybusters Shooting Sports Club

Thanks, Jo Anne, for joining 4-H leaders as Claybusters continues to grow. The Roe family has been active in 4-H for years and Jo Anne has been so helpful in so many ways, that I know she will be a fantastic leader for this growing club. Thanks, Jo Anne, for your continued support of 4-H here in Talbot County.

NEW 4-H Club in St. Michaels



The New Bay 100 Blue Crabs 4-H Club has its first meeting on Oct 3

An exciting new edition to Talbot County 4-H is our new club in St. Michaels. I'm very excited to introduce Ernie Burns, the club's organizational leader. Ernie is a native to Talbot County and many of you may already know him through the school system – he is currently a teacher/counselor for Talbot County Public Schools. Ernie and his family are starting a small sheep farm and he is happy to help his daughter, Julianna, get started with her first 4-H projects! It has been a long time since 4-H has had a presence in the St. Michaels area and Ernie is excited to getting the kids in that area together. He said that after attending a Chapel District Club meeting he really wanted the kids in his area to get the same experience he felt in the Cordova area club.

Bake Sale Success



What a great job you all did coming together with incredible baked goods for the combined club bake sale in front of the Giant in Easton on Friday, October 3. Together your hard work brought in a total of \$520.00. WOW! \$260.00 was sent on to support the Talbot County Ag Center and \$260.00 went towards the Talbot County \$10,000 Endowment Campaign. (Read more about this campaign in this newsletter.)

Project Spotlight

CPU Computer Power Unlimited

CPU Computer Power Unlimited is an exciting new project series for 4-H in the Science, Engineering & Technology project line.



CPU is geared towards youth ages 12 and up. The first project book in the series is called **Inside the Box** and focuses on learning how to build and repair computers. This project book should take only a year to complete and can be worked on simultaneously with the second project book, **Peer to Peer**. **Peer to Peer** is a more traditional project book, in that it could take up to 3 years to complete. **Peer to Peer** focuses on managing networks - networking computers together and making decisions about the ethical and safety issues involved in networking. Then what's really exciting about this project series is that the next project book, **Teens Teaching Tech** actually works through establishing a community program of outreach in helping others learn about computers and utilizes that last book in this series, **Newbie Know-How**, as a teaching tool. Add to all of this a special website:

www.4-h.org/curriculum/computer

with tons of hands on information and activities just for this project series. Be sure to check it out and get started today! Everyone is using computers these days and even if you don't think that the computer field is for you, the information you will learn in the project series is priceless!



4-H Member Spotlight:

Ryan Snow

4-H is an organization that I can not even describe in words. I am sitting here at the University of Maryland, writing this article thinking

back through everything 4-H has done for me, and so many of you already know what it's done for me.

The greatest accomplishment of my life is that my involvement with 4-H is definitely the number one reason I got into the University of Maryland College Park. 4-H led me to my participation in my church, Easton FFA, and the busy life I lived, dedicating my time to the betterment of my community. The book definition of 4-H is: ***4-H is a program that allows youth to develop into responsible, caring citizens and provides life-skills that are needed to succeed in the workplace and in everyday life.*** Over the past ten years, 4-H has played a major role in my life. 4-H's primary goal is to engage youth, through experiential learning, to reach their fullest potential. Not only do I believe that definition, but I have lived it. I am so thankful for everything 4-H has blessed me with and the life it has given me.

Well, with my Talbot County 4-H career coming to a close, I had to leave my imprint with the Talbot County 4-H program. Considering my interest in livestock - and showing dairy and swine, since I could drag a calf around the ring - I knew I would make something better to do with that. The livestock building, where sheep, goats, and pigs are housed during fair time, needed improvements, so I took on the entire task of raising enough money to rip out all the old pens, and nasty old wood floor, and replace it with new, cemented floors, and portable wire pens. The marketing method was to "purchase a pen" for \$220, which paid for the cement and wire to make one pen or \$110 to pay for just the cement of one pen. No matter the donation, whether it was five hundred dollars or five, I am truly thankful. This was one huge goal. I completed all the necessary paperwork to begin the process, and along with the Talbot County Livestock Committee, Mrs. Stacey, and Ms. Jayne, we all went to work on the plans for this dramatic change. What you see today at the Ag Center is all thanks to generous donations of the

community and the 4-H program. My financial goal to complete the project is \$10,000 and I am a little less than \$1,000 away from that. I am so happy that my project will be permanent and left for future generations of 4-Hers to continue on, and leave their legacies behind by showing livestock and always supporting agriculture. This means so much to me I can't even explain. I have to make a big thank you to Tom Reilly, Bill and Susan Behrens, my parents, the 4-H extension office and all the families that show livestock at the fair year after year, for all their labor and moral support. These families make the livestock program a success every year.

4-H means so much to me that I actually miss it at college- yes, I actually just said that! So, although I may be leaving Talbot County 4-H, I have already been to a University of Maryland Collegiate 4-H meeting. Ben Brown invited me and Amanda works with us, as the MD 4-H Foundation representative. I am so thankful for everything, including my diamond clover project and 4-H, in general. Thanks to Mrs. Stacey for all the last minute proof reading and editing of my papers, getting me where I am today, and, of course, Ms. Jayne- she has put 100% in everything and jumped right in to support me in all I do. The community has been great. It's unbelievable what you can do with a goal in mind. Raising nearly \$10,000 is something to be proud of - this shows my involvement has paid off. The donations are a sign of the support for 4-H and Talbot County agriculture. Hopefully, I will finish my project by getting those last few donations in and reaching that \$10,000 goal. Next year, I will be recognized for finishing my project, and the day can't come fast enough when I get a proclamation from the State of Maryland honoring my hard work. You know I love the publicity for achieving good things!

In the end, the pens will be completed before next year's fair and hopefully those last few donations will come in for my project. If you'd like to help, you can make checks payable to the Talbot County E.A.C. in the **memo: Ryan Snow**. You can mail it to my house: 12857 Lewistown Road, Cordova, 21625 or send it to, or drop it off at, the extension office.

I wish you all a great year in school, and just know I am always supporting Talbot County 4-H.

Thanks to all!

Ryan

4-H Around the United States

I really liked this article I read in the St. Mary's County newsletter and thought that I would pass it on to you. The Jekyll Island 4-H Center sounds like a really great place to visit, or think about for a camp experience in the future.



JEKYLL ISLAND 4-H CENTER –

an Atlantic adventure

By: Jessica Sizemore of the St. Mary's County Rope'n Wranglers 4-H Club

This year during my Easter vacation my mother and I visited a small island off the coast of Georgia called Jekyll Island. In the late 1800's and early 1900's this island was a winter getaway for wealthy industrial families like the Goodyears, Rockefellers and Vanderbilts, and was only used for three months out of the year. Today the island is a quiet vacation spot, home to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. The island is also home to the Tidelands Nature Center and the Jekyll Island 4-H Center, both run by the University of Georgia 4-H program. Imagine going to summer camp and staying in a converted motel on the beach of the Atlantic Ocean. Or attending your school's environmental

education program not at a small shoreline like Elm's Beach but on the Atlantic Ocean where at the right time of year, you can see where sea turtles have laid their eggs. This is what about 11,000 school children from Georgia and surrounding states and 1,200 4-H summer campers get to do every year. The Jekyll Island 4-H center celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2007. It is located on what used to be an African

American motel on the island. After desegregation, the motel wasn't being used. The University of Georgia 4-H program bought the motel in 1982 and turned it into an educational center. The first summer campers attended camp there in 1983.

Environmental education students and campers learn about beach ecology, marsh ecology, maritime forest ecology and can also learn about astronomy, sharks, endangered species, sea turtles and other environmental issues. You can also adopt an animal at the 4-H Center which will help with the daily care of their marine animals.

The Jekyll Island 4-H center was also home to Shelby, a five year old loggerhead turtle that has lived at the center since he was hatched in 2002. He was a 'straggler', a turtle that hatched after the other turtles in his nest had hatched and moved onto the ocean. He was found in a weakened condition and given to the 4-H center. He has grown well and now has a new home in the Georgia Aquarium.

My mom and I want to thank Melanie Biersmith, the Jekyll Island 4-H Center director for giving us a tour of the facility.

For any more information, you can visit their website at www.jekyll4h.org.



Have you experienced 4-H in other Maryland counties or States? Let us know!



The Secret Life of Bees

National 4-H Council has partnered with Fox Searchlight Pictures to promote the current release

of "The Secret Life of Bees" based on the novel by Sue Monk Kidd.

Set in [South Carolina](#) in 1964, *The Secret Life of Bees* tells the story of Lily Owens, whose life is shaped by her blurred memory of the afternoon of her mother's accidental death. When Lily's black "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three racists in town, they escape to Tiburon, South Carolina, a town that holds the secret to Lily's mother's past. Taken in by an eccentric trio of black beekeeping sisters, Lily is introduced to their mesmerizing world of bees and honey, is forced to confront her own dark past and learns what it means to be a family.

THE TALBOT COUNTY 4-H \$10,000 ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

WE HAVE BEEN CHALLENGED TO RAISE \$10,000 BY 2011. ALL MONEY RAISED WILL THEN BE MATCHED DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR BY A VERY GENEROUS MEMBER OF THE MD 4-H FOUNDATION. INTEREST EARNED BY THIS ENDOWMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TALBOT COUNTY 4-H TO USE ANY WAY WE SEE FIT. WHAT A WONDERFUL LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE OF TALBOT COUNTY 4-H. LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL.

A 4-H MEMORY BY SUE MONK KIDD



When I was growing up in a small town in Georgia, 4-H was a big part of my life. I joined when I was ten years old and remained an active member for four years. Back then, we used to chronicle our 4-H projects in green notebooks that we called "4-H Record Books." Believe it or not, I still have one of mine. I leafed through it not long ago for the first time in at least thirty years and I was struck that the project I took to a district 4-H competition was none other than Entomology. Insects! I even found an old black and white photograph of myself in the record book, taken when I was twelve, in which I am mounting bug specimens. Weirdly enough, I was a bug-loving girl. Thanks to my 4-H Entomology project, I had a dozen boxes in my closet, containing carefully labeled insects with long scientific names. One of those names was *Apis Mellifera*, otherwise known as the honeybee. I'm guessing that was my earliest education about bees.

While thumbing through my old 4-H "record book," I also discovered the long list of books I read for my Reading project in 1959. *Black Beauty*, *Gold in Alaska*, *Nancy Drew*... I couldn't help but smile at my eleven year old self when I read my summation of what the project meant to me: "Before I took reading as my 4-H project, I never read all that much. I learned that a book is a fascinating thing... I love reading about what is happening in make-believe lands, far away places and the lives of other people."

Wouldn't you know-- my history with 4-H has to do with books and bugs. So perhaps it is not completely surprising that I grew up not only to read books, but write them, and that one of those books was about the secret life of the *Apis Mellifera*.

Sue Monk Kidd

CONGRATULATIONS,



BROOKE DUDROW!!

Brooke's hard work and dedication to making her best better in hippology has paid off. Brooke will be heading to Louisville, Kentucky as part of the Maryland State Hippology team on November 6. Let's all wish Brooke and her teammates the best of luck!

CALENDAR OF 4-H EVENTS

November 1

Maryland 4-H Technology Team Cover Sheet: Contact: TBD

November 8

American Camp Association Chesapeake Section Fall Meeting: Contact: [Denise Frebertshauser](#), 301-314-7819

Maryland 4-H Shotgun Match: PG Trap & Skeet Center, Contact: [Conrad Arnold](#), 410-228-8800

Presentation Workshop: Maryland 4-H Center 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact: Ben Brown, bbrown88@umd.edu

November 21-23

Maryland 4-H Adult and Teen Volunteer Forum: Ocean City, MD; Contact: [Dan Tabler](#), 301-314-9070;

November 22

Putt for 4-H: Old Pro Golf on 68th Street; Contact: [Amanda Clougherty](#), 301-314-7832;

November 23

National 4-H Conference Interviews: 10 a.m. at the Maryland Volunteer & Teen Forum, Ocean City; Contact: [Cassandra Corridon](#), 301-432-2767 Ext. 324

State 4-H 50/50 Advisory Council: Carousel Hotel, Ocean City, MD; Contact: [Kendra Wells](#), 301-314-7317

December 6

4-H Horse Volunteer Advisory Committee Meeting and Maryland Horsemanship Standards Advisory Committee Meeting: Maryland 4-H Center; Contact: [Kristen Wilson](#), 301-596-9478

Shotgun Safety Course: Talbot Extension Office - beginning on Dec 6; Contact: Jayne Fitzgerald, 410-822-1244

December 12

Animal Sciences In-Service: Howard County Fairgrounds; Contact: [Chris Anderson](#), 301-314-7187

Did you know???

The Maryland 4-H Center's website has a page for Grants and Scholarships (everything from Arts to Education) Give us a call or visit

www.maryland4h.org/grants1.cfm

