As 4-H’ers enter a new year, it is promising for them to know that 4-H offers a continuum of learning opportunities that extend from year to year. Many 4-H’ers have progressed in 4-H from elementary school through to high school. These 4-H’ers take full advantage of what 4-H has to offer on the county, state and national levels. They bring into their future personal and professional lives a wealth of life skills gained through 4-H involvement including, for example, leadership, goal setting, communication, citizenship, and much more. To access these long term benefits, youth can enter 4-H through any program delivery mode, be it club, camp, after school program, independent study project, or special interest program. While it is an option for youth to participate in these delivery modes on a short term basis, and many do so due to other school or extracurricular activities, the benefits of 4-H involvement are maximized by longer term involvement. Many of our current 4-H volunteers are those who “want to give back” because of their positive childhood experiences in 4-H. As 4-H volunteers, they want to pass on to youth the knowledge and values they gained through 4-H. We thank them for their invaluable service.

In 2008, why not make it your new year’s resolution to take full advantage of 4-H’s learning opportunities. Then, as you ring out the year into 2009, continue to “Make the Best Better” into 2010 and beyond. May the 4-H pledge of “Head, Heart, Hands and Health” continue to be for you a source of inspiration and growth. Thank you so very much for all that you do to help youth achieve their dreams.
WELCOME NEW LEADERS, MEMBERS & CLUBS

ABOVE AND BEYOND
Amy B. Levine
Natalie S. Cribbin
Kathryn G. Gray

AMAZING ANIMALS
Sarah C. Thuel

ANIMAL SCIENCE
Telulla B. Palumbo

BACKSTAGE TO BROADWAY
Jenna C. Grady
Kimberly A. Ieroline

BITS & BRIDLES
Robin L. Bergquist
Brianne L. Addison
Nikki A Boendermaker

Courtney Buannic
Emonee Davis
Teresa R. Locascio
Trisha Smith

14 CARROT RABBIT
Emonee M. Davis
Brenda C. Reyes
Karen C. Reyes
Trisha Smith
Ryan M. Yaeger

CURRY COMBS
Morgan Chudkowski
Gina Fagliarone
Margaret E. Ragan
Brittany A. Rapplevea
Beverly Yow

FREE SPIRIT
Carly D. Eidman
Brittany A. Rapplevea

4-H HEALTH & SERVICE
Simone A. Khouzam

KIDS FOR KIDS
Serena S. Barber
Rebecca S. Bavaro
Dominique Calabrese
Courtney A. Doll
Kelsey L. Donlon
Nicole R. Gwiazdowski
Cara A. Jaskiewicz
Elizabeth N. Jaskiewicz
Ellen R. Jaskiewicz
Lindsay M. Klocko
Meghan M. McCaffrey
Kyle McNair
Daniel L. Newell

4-H Mission Statement
The Rutgers Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development program uses a learn by doing approach to enable youth to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need to become competent, caring and contributing citizens of the world. The mission is accomplished by using the knowledge and resources of the land grant University system, along with the involvement of caring adults.

Ellen Williams
Ellen Williams
4-H Agent

Virginia Krzyzanowski
4-H Program Associate

Kelly Valenti
4-H Program Assistant

Debbie Hemmann
NJ-FSNEP 4-H Program Associate

Chevonne Porter
NJ-FSNEP 4-H Community Assistant

Shakkie Clark
NJ-FSNEP 4-H Community Assistant

Leslie Nicholson
NJ-FSNEP 4-H Secretary

Rita Silvestri and Gladys Tarantino
4-H Secretaries
Welcome New Leaders, Members & Clubs (cont.)

Lucia M. Russo
AnnMarie Sarcone
Amanda R. Scaglione
Mary Sullivan

Knight Riders
Kayla E. Bahr
Brianne E. Berry
Ember A. Bogdziewicz
Shea C. Stehle

Live and Learn
Divyne L. Bunch
Seth Genatt
Amanda Jennings
Matthew Jennings
Roy Jennings

Nature’s Navigators
Holly Kasternakis
Brian C. Reyes

Paws 4 a Cause
Melissa N. Martin

Puppet Club
Julia A. Smith

Raging Reptiles
Marisa A. Morris

Rising Stars Rhythmic Illusions
Allyah J. Banks
Ivane Lee
Jennica Lee
Kathleen McLoughlin
Patricia McLoughlin
Annie Pincay
Jeanine E. Reeman
Madison M. Shevlin
Summer R. Smagacz
Quiara M. Smith

Sci-Borgs
Emily M. DeLia
Dakota J. Olsen
Louis Rodriguez

S.W.A.P.
Annie Pincay
Hannah K. Rosato

Teen Small Animal Club
Clair C. McKittrick
THUNDERHOOFs

By: Melissa Whoeler

At our last meeting we decorated a box with pictures of toys and placed it in the hall by the 4-H office. We hope to get lots of donations of toys and small gifts to bring to the Centra State Medical Center Pediatrics Department and place them in my Treasure Chest so the young patients can take home a gift when they leave the hospital.

We also filled Thanksgiving goody bags with treats to send to “the Center” in Asbury Park. The treats included: Bugles representing a horn of plenty; Pretzels representing hugs and Round Crackers representing the shape of the world.

Ashley and Justin brought in their beautiful new 8 week old dachshund puppies—brothers named Jimi and Jack. We all had fun playing with them.
ALLIED HEALTH

By: Joan Lynch, Leader

The second week in October was 4-H Recognition Week and 3 volunteers from 4-H represented the club from Allied Health. It was held Saturday October 13th from 1—4pm at the Freehold Agricultural Building (Ag) on Kozloski Road. Various county clubs were in attendance. Hardik Vyas, Kimberly Han, and Sinhdoori Nalla put together a presentation table that consisted of a slide show, trifold poster, a knifty knitter demonstration and an origami activity for all the visitors. The students had an opportunity to meet Mrs. Barbara McMorrow, County Freeholder, who was particularly taken by the hat that Hardik had already completed as well as the service our students engage in. It was a great leadership opportunity for these students especially since they had to plan, create, set up and present on a weekend at another facility before I was able to meet up with them. They were given exceptional praise for their work and presentation by the staff of the County 4-H Office. Kudos!

On Sunday, October 21, 4-H had a team walking for the Crop Walk. “We walk five miles because they walk five miles” was the slogan. It represented the average distance third world countries had to walk just to get water. Our trip was on a beautiful day weather wise and wiggled its way through Red Bank. Our group raised $755 with the two freshman team members raising the majority. Our commitment to the FoodBank as a major project for service does not end there. 4-H kicks off their school wide food drive for the holidays at the Halloween dance. The class sponsoring the dance has kindly allowed the ticket price be $1 less if students brought in food donations at the door. This year the FoodBank ran a specific program for school called the Holiday Hunger Challenge. They asked for each grade to bring in specific items and to encourage the grades to compete against each other. Then on November 15th the donations were brought to the FoodBank by Alison Poandl, senior 4-H’er. The donations were weighed and compared against other schools in the county as a ration of total student population per pound. Though this year was the smallest response in donations, 279 lbs. of food was collected with the Junior having 104 lbs., followed by the freshman at 100 lbs., the sophomores at 64 lbs. and the seniors with a couple of items weighing in at 11 lbs.

In preparation for the Halloween dance and Food Drive Kick off, 4-H also sponsored a Fall/Halloween Homeroom door decorating contest. The prize was hot breakfast on October 31st. The judges were 8 staff members who worked either in the office or had no homeroom. The only rule was the door had to be able to open, close and lock.

Much enthusiasm and energy were put into all the doors who participated and each had unique themes and personalities. It was apparently hard for the judges to decide. Senior homeroom 108 and Sophomore homeroom 111 tied for 1st, and were treated to pork roll, egg and cheese, fruit, waffles or pancakes in costumes!

Finally our last 4-H FoodBank project will be to volunteer at Monmouth Mall for gift wrapping. Students will man the booths and wrap and collect the donations. All proceeds for the gift wrapping goes to the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. So stop by if you are in the Monmouth Mall heading towards the food court for a good cause.
Heard Around The 4-H Clover (cont.)

MONMOUTH LIVESTOCK

By: Margaret Carmeli, Leader

The Monmouth Livestock club has been busy this year with meetings and community service. At our regular meetings we have participated in presentations on poultry and goats. Members did a great job presenting information on their animals and those in attendance had the opportunity to learn. The club participated in the Fall Festival in Allentown, with both animals and games. The pumpkin painting and mummy races were a big hit! In December, we spent an afternoon at the Keris Tree Farm in Allentown where we enjoyed the spirit of the holidays and collected and signed holiday cards to be sent to those in the service away from home this holiday season. We expect to have a very busy 2008 starting with our presentations and a meeting on sheep.

NATURE’S NAVIGATORS

By: Lorraine Yoncak, Leader

We are happy to announce that our 4-H club is growing and we are looking forward to an active year. Our January meeting was about flight, natural and man made types. Can you guess how many different types of paper airplanes a club can make in one 4-H meeting? Wow, they produced some interesting flight patterns in the 4-H meeting rooms!

February we plan to study snow crystals, how they form, what we call them and ways to view them. A snow ball toss might be part of that meeting, but outside the 4-H building for that demonstration.

Our club is gathering information and registering for a NASA project we learned about in the 4-H Gazette. We hope to receive seeds that have been in outer space, and design and build a growth chamber that could be used on the moon to grow plants. Hopefully we can enter it in the NASA contest and at the Monmouth County 4-H Science Fair in March.

ABOVE AND BEYOND

By: Nicole McKinley, Leader

Above and Beyond is off to its third year! We are all hard at work collecting tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. We have also decided to make Horse Rescue a project this year. We have begun to contact some rescue organizations, and are planning to be volunteers at one soon. We are also going to collect money and items needed for the horse rescue farms. In addition many of our members continue to volunteer their time to the Handicapped Riding Program at Chariot Riders.

On another front, we are planning a really fun trip to the Pennsylvania Horse Expo! We are all so excited to see Theatre Equus!

Above and Beyond is doing our best, “To Make the Best Better!” And as a leader, I couldn’t be more proud!
TEEN RABBIT CLUB

By: Clair McKittrick

The teen rabbit meeting for November got a lot accomplished. Club member Clair is working on a new name for the club, but she is looking for suggestions. If you have an idea for a name please e-mail it to her at: coltsneckrabbitry@yahoo.com.

The club is collecting winter coats for Project Joshua in Farmingdale for their community service project. They hope to collect coats, sweatshirts and vests to help keep the clients nice and warm.

The best part of the meeting was that co-leader Robin Joline was able to come with her new baby. We welcomed our littlest 4-H clover to the club.

Lastly the dates are being set for the future Rabbit Ambassador Preparation classes. Look for an article in the next newsletter.

RABBIT AMBASSADOR VISITS THE ANIMAL SCIENCE CLUB

By: Clair McKittrick

Clair McKittrick brought her rabbit, “RA” in to visit the Animal Science club’s November meeting. Clair gave a demonstration on rabbit showmanship and answered questions about rabbits from the club members. Clair encouraged members to try showmanship. “It might be a little scary the first time, but the judges usually help you if you get stuck”, she explained.

She went on to tell how showmanship has helped her understand better what the judges are looking for at a rabbit show, and taught her to learn more about the Jersey Wooly rabbit breed.

RABBIT AMBASSADOR

Are you interested in representing Monmouth County as our Rabbit Ambassador? We are looking for members working in the small animal project who are in 7th—12th grade. If you are interested, applications are due to the 4-H office by March 10th, 2008. Contact Kelly if you have any questions (732)431-7263.
S.W.A.P.

By: Susan McLoughlin, Leader

SWAP has been busy with our annual fall activities that we look forward to each year. We tried to go apple picking this fall, but kept getting rained out. So, we bought the apples instead and gathered in November to bake our apple pies. The best part—decorating the crusts. They were delicious.

On November 6th we volunteered at Lunch Break Soup Kitchen in Red Bank. We helped fill bags of food for their clients and then served them lunch. This was an eye opening experience and everyone wants to go back in the spring and help them again.

In December we met on the 13th for our gingerbread house making and Christmas Party. We made gingerbread houses out of graham crackers and homemade icing cement. Then we topped them off with all different types of candy. Some houses were one story, two stories, even three stories. There were mansions, shacks, and diving boards. Of course, eating them is always so much fun! Emmie (a 4-H alumnus and former SWAP member) was back from South Carolina and joined in the fun.

We are looking forward to many more fun and educational days in the new year ahead.
PAWS 4-A CAUSE

By: Lee Ann Tursi, Leader

Our club has had a busy first year and we currently have 18 active members ranging in ages from 6 to 15! Our activities during the last year have ranged from training our dogs and holiday parties both with and without our dogs, to watching a 4-H dog show in another county, going to a pet expo, assisting Bayshore Hospital, promoting 4-H at “All for the Doggies” Pet Ownership Day in Marlboro and at other locations, leading a Dog Parade with the other dog 4-H clubs, leading groups at the Dystonia Dog Walk and our highlight had to be our Mask Ceremony in November.

Our community service project raising money to purchase Pet Oxygen Masks, to donate to local First Aids and Fire Departments was more successful then we ever anticipated. We were able to raise over $3,000 on our own and found Best Friends Pet Care Corporation (locally known as “All for the Doggies in Shrewsbury and Marlboro) who matched dollar for dollar all of the donations we were able to raise. The end result was that we were able to provide 110 sets of Pet Oxygen Masks to Monmouth County Volunteer First Aid and Fire Departments. We could not have done this without the help and support of many very special people including; Ellen Williams, Isa Fowler, Mike Oppegard, Esther Murphy, Joanne Risa and of course the parents and kids in our club. Our project culminated in a ceremony at the 4-H office that the kids in our club participated in, where we presented the masks to all recipients who were able to be present to accept them in person. The Asbury Park Fire Department was our most supportive and appreciative recipient who had allowed us to come and take photos of our members and dogs at their firehouse on Columbus Day.

All of our donors were also invited to come to our ceremony to be acknowledged for their tremendous support of our project. Our largest donor next to Best Friends was Sea Girt Animal Hospital, which mailed us $500 in response to our letter asking for donations. We also want to thank 4-H for all of the support that we received. The money from the fair pet photo contest was donated to our club and that money along with the donation canister at the 4-H office gave us money to purchase almost 4 sets of the masks we had to donate; those 4 became 8 when the donation was matched by Best Friends/All for the Doggies. A very special thanks goes out to 14 Carrot Rabbit Club who used their own club funds to purchase a set of masks in support of our project and rescuing animals. We hope that all of our hard work and all of your support will save the lives of many animals in the future!

We are electing new officers at our January meeting and are looking forward to where this upcoming year brings us. We are always looking for new members; if you are interested in trying out our club please give Lee Ann a call at (732)935-0922.
Heard Around The 4-H Clover (cont.)

14 CARROT RABBIT CLUB

By: Katherine Sotovelez

Another article from the 4-H 14 carrot rabbit club! Okay, so all of you know that the Holiday season has crept up on all of us, so first off I just want to say Happy Holidays to everyone! That leads us into our last meeting. Of course we began, as usual going through our old business and new business, joking around and having lots of fun while the parents hung around in the back, but after that was said and done, the real fun started.

Our activity was to create one giant 3 dimensional snowflake, and that idea was offered to us by one of our newest members, Kenny, but we'll go into that in a bit. We created our snowflakes and officers managed to assist the younger children in making theirs as well. Then came the gift exchange. Everyone gathered into a tightly knit circle and waited as we began.

A story was told about the Right family, read by a few of our officers, CJ Halpin, Amelia Valente, as well as Jen Clayton. For every time the word "right" was said, we each passed our gift to the person right of us, but when the word "left" came up, everything rotated left again. It turned out to be so much fun for all of us! Everyone was satisfied with their gifts and so we all stayed a while and talked and had fun, talking about our plans for the holidays and snacking on food.

Now, as for our new members. Once we came to the meeting there were a lot of new faces! It's good to see that our club is still growing! Everyone was welcomed and introduced themselves just as the other members had. I just wanted to say to any parents or new members who might be reading this, I hope you have a great time in 4-H! I know I have!

I'm sure there are a lot more things that I could say about our club but there are also so many more clubs to read about in the newsletter! I hope you have a happy holiday everyone, no matter what you celebrate!

PAWS FOR A CAUSE (cont.)

Thank you to co-leaders Lee Ann Tursi and Joann Risa for their outstanding leadership of this impressive community service project. A special thanks to parent Esther Murphy for her tireless efforts.

Thanks and congratulations to the club members who worked so enthusiastically to raise funds for the pet oxygen masks and special thanks to all of the donors and collaborators who helped make this a major success!
AMIGITOS CULTURAL CLUB

By: Gladys Rios, Leader

At our first meeting Maria Gregorio, 8 years old, made a presentation of Russia. She told about interesting facts like the colors of the flag, the animals, culture and education. Maria also brought Russian food she purchased at a local Russian market in Freehold. Some of the items were pear soda, honey cookies, rye bread and cream cheese. She brought in word games, sheets for coloring and fact sheets. We thank Maria for sharing all this knowledge with us and bringing in wonderful foods.

During our first meeting of the year we set out a box for collecting used eyeglasses. The service project is called “Sight Night”. We will be collecting eyeglasses that can be reused for those without any.

As a club we also discussed beginning our fair banner early and organizing a club scrapbook.

At our second meeting on September 28th we prepared presentation boards for the Hispanic Festival on October 6th. It was at St. Rose of Lima Church Yard in Freehold from 11AM until 4PM. The goal was to educate and encourage more people from the Hispanic community to join 4-H.

We would like to congratulate:
Taylor Brown, Ariana Gregorio, Gabriella Gregorio, Maria Gregorio, Jonah Resnick, Noah Resnick, Carla Rios, Ian A. Rios, Cameron Scandrett, Joshua Scandrett and Mackenzie Scandrett. They received several awards and were recognized for their involvement in 4-H during the 2007 year.

Several members have entered desserts for the Healthy Delicious Desserts Event. Hope you enjoyed some.

We will also be participating in the 4-H Open House on October 13th. We look forward to visitors at our table from 1-4PM. If you have young family members who want to join us please bring them and we can tell them all about our club then. If you missed us you can contact Diane Gregorio or Gladys Rios through the 4-H office at 732-431-7263.

On October 26th we will be having our next meeting. We invite everyone to join us as we have graduated from a Prep-group into both a Prep and Standard group.

On October 26th, we will also be attending the Horse Halloween Party starting at 6:30 pm, immediately after our meeting. We would like to take this opportunity as a group to say “Thank You, all Horse Project Members.” We are grateful that you put this event together and have invited all groups to join. We are looking forward to this event.
MEMORIES OF 2007

By: Gladys Rios, Leader, Amigitos and Sci Borg Clubs

The above pictures are of Ian Rios at Dearborn Farms with his display.

Pictured on the left and right are new members at the Sci-Borg Builders Club 1st meeting.

Pictured above are Nature’s Navigators members and Leader Lorraine Yoncak at camp fire.

The two pictures to the left are of the Chest Fest.

The picture to the right is during peer record book review.

Pictured below are launches from Monmouth Blasters.

Pictured to the left and above are pictures of members recognition.
5-A-Day Through Theatre and Roleplay

By: Ellen Williams, 4-H Agent
Debbie Hemmann, Monmouth County 4-H FSNEP Program Associate,
Chevonne Porter, Monmouth County 4-H FSNEP Community Assistant
Shakkie Clark, Monmouth County 4-H FSNEP Community Assistant
Leslie Nicholson, Monmouth County 4-H FSNEP Principal Clerk

Our Monmouth County 4-H FSNEP Troupe members have been extremely busy this month in Red Bank and the Asbury Park schools. We are already looking forward to a busy winter.

5-A-Day Through Theater and Roleplay is moving forward into another exciting year. Come and join us as we share some exciting skits and teachings with the food stamp communities of Monmouth County. If you are 14 years of age or above and have an interest in nutrition and drama and would like to join our troupe, please give Debbie Hemmann a call at: (732) 577-6689.

Ellen Williams, 4-H Agent will provide orientation and training to applicants. Currently, students from Asbury Park High School’s School Based Youth Services Program are being trained as troupe members. Ellen’s contact information is (732)431-7266; williams@rcre.rutgers.edu.

We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and have a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Health Corner:
Tree-Shaped Crescent Veggie Appetizers

Ingredients:
- 2 cans (8oz each) Pillsbury refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
- 1 pkg (8oz) cream cheese, softened
- ½ cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon dried dill weed
- 1/8 teaspoon garlic powder
- 3 cups finely chopped vegetables (bell peppers, broccoli, carrot, cucumber, &/or green onions)

Directions: Heat oven to 375º. Remove dough from cans in rolled sections (2 sections from each can); do not unroll. Cut each section into 8 slices (16 slices from each can). Place slices, cut side down, on ungreased cookie sheets to form trees. To form each tree, start by placing 1 slice for top; arrange 2 slices just below, with sides touching. Continue arranging row of 3 slices, then row of 4 slices, ending with row of 5 slices. Use remaining slice for trunk. Refrigerate one tree. Bake one tree at 375º for 11 to 13 minutes or until golden brown. Cool 1 minute; carefully loosen with pancake turner and slide onto wire rack to cool. Bake and cool second tree. Place each tree on a serving platter. In small bowl, combine cream cheese, sour cream, dill and garlic powder; blend until smooth. Spread mixture over both trees. Decorate trees with assorted vegetable pieces. Garnish as desired. Refrigerate until serving time. To serve, pull apart slices of tree.

Source: www.pillsbury.com
JUNIOR EDITOR

By: Katherine Sotovelez

Hi everybody, my name is Katherine Sotovelez! A few people might know me from clubs and outings and others may have read the 14 Carrot Rabbit club newsletter, but either way, I wanted to let everybody know a little bit about myself. I’m a member of the 14 Carrot Rabbit club, and its reporter. I have a passion for creative writing and even drawing at times, that’s why I’m writing this now. I had been asked to be the junior editor for all art, poetry, writing submissions, anything you can think of! We have so many creative people out there and we want to see what you can do, I know there’s potential. If anybody was interested in submitting they could contact the 4-H office for information there, or get my e-mail address; I’ll be creating a new one strictly for 4-H. Feel free to e-mail me any ideas or suggestions at crystalclearponds@hotmail.com, always room for improvement! Thanks for reading, guys! Have a great 4-H year!

THANK YOU

December 27, 2007

Memo To: 4-H Leaders Association,

Charles and I appreciate your wonderful volunteering for 4-H clubs. If this gift could help in a leader attending a conference, that would be great.

Lydia & Charles Wikoff

Thank you to Charlie and Lydia Wikoff for their generous donation to 4-H. We appreciate their support.

FORT MONMOUTH CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER RECEIVES CAMERA THROUGH 4-H MILITARY GRANT

August 20, 2007

Dear Ellen,

On behalf of the Kindergarten Class at Fort Monmouth, I would like to thank you for providing our room with a brand new digital camera and printer.

We look forward to a new school year and all the interesting programs 4-H provides.

Thanks for all you do,

Margaret R. Dougherty

See next page for the Thank You from the Kindergarten Class at Fort Monmouth Child Development Center.
THANK YOU (cont.)

Our Classroom Camera

[Image of a group of people standing upside down with text overlay]

- Thank you for your support
- Maxwell
- Alvarado
- Helene Horn
- Rock Hill
- Jan Isebeles
- Brian
- Patrick
- Allison
- Grant
- Olivia

Grateful

(Handwritten notes and signatures)
CONGRATULATIONS

Imani Kinnard Monmouth County Representative To Agricultural Fair Association of New Jersey

Congratulations to Imani Kinnard for representing Monmouth County 4-H at the Agricultural Fair Association of New Jersey Fair Association Ambassador State Contest on November 4th. In order to participate in this contest, youth must complete an essay, an interview and give a public presentation. As the Monmouth County 4-H Agricultural Fair Association of New Jersey representative, Imani has agreed to promote 4-H at future events. We commend Imani for assuming this responsibility. She joins other Monmouth County 4-H Ambassadors in proudly representing the ideals of 4-H. Imani is a member of our K-9 Bonediggers club and has raised a Seeing Eye Dog through the Wagging Wonders 4-H club. Thank you, Imani, and congratulations!

Note: Information on next year’s Agricultural Fair Association of New Jersey Ambassador Contest will be provided in November/December of next year. Applications will be available in the 4-H office.

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

We are proud to say that The Bayshore Sharks, Ian Rios’ team won two awards on Saturday, November 17, 2007. The Champion’s Award is the most prestigious award that any team can win. It celebrates the ultimate success of the First mission and FLL values. It measures how the team members inspire and motivate others about the excitement of science and technology, solve problems, and demonstrate respect and gracious professionalism to everyone involved in the competition. To be considered for the Champion’s Award, teams must perform well in the equally weighted technical and team presentation categories. The Robot Performance Award goes to the team whose robot achieves the best score on the competition field or in the elimination round. There are several options judges use to determine the winner. If no elimination round is held, the team with the highest score from a single round receives the trophy. If elimination rounds are held: (a.) the team(s) whose robot achieved the highest score in the elimination round receives the trophy or (b.) the highest scoring team using high score between two teams as the factor for advancement to the next round receives the award. They have been invited to the State Championship. New Jersey FIRST LEGO League Championship was held on December 8, 2007 at the Mount Olive High School in Flanders NJ. Once again, congratulations to Ian Rios.
MONMOUTH 4-H CARES

By: Mariela Osorio, Monmouth 4-H Cares Program Liaison

In the months since 4-H joined forces with Monmouth Cares, we’ve been busier than elves promoting our clubs and recruiting volunteers to mentor our youth. We are currently working with 33 Monmouth Cares children, some of whom have expressed interest in specific 4-H clubs such as Thunderhoofs, the Small Animal Club, the Animal Science Club and the New Jersey Children’s Chamber Choir, just to name a few. Our collaborative efforts with the Monmouth County Community Arts Council, the Volunteer Center of Monmouth County and local area Senior Centers have produced enthusiastic endorsements (a special thanks to the Neptune Senior Center for pitching our cause in their monthly newsletter which has a readership of 2500).

Having introduced our program to organizations such as the American Association of University Women, the Latino Outreach Group, Keansburg Father Time, and the Union Beach Adult School, a flurry of volunteers have recently responded to our recruiting campaign. The Hispanic Affairs & Resource Center is rallying behind our outreach program to the Latino community. Due to the increasing Hispanic population we’ve begun to assess the needs of this community by translating our marketing materials to Spanish. Our Volunteer Registration forms were made available in Spanish to the public during our 4-H Open House this past October. We hope to have this project completed by the end of January of 2008. Speaking of which . . .

Edwin Ocampo, leader of the Latin Dance Club, held a demonstration in November which was hosted by Gladys Rios, club leader of the Builders Club. Mr. Ocampo has over 15 years experience in salsa dance routines and has competed at the professional level. This new club brings a unique opportunity to experience the Latin American culture through dancing, friends and events. We’ve received quite a few inquiries regarding this club and we already have a growing list of children looking forward to joining, including Carlita, Mrs. Rios’ daughter. We are also happy to report that our search for a permanent location to house the Latin Club is nearly complete. We are dancing as fast as we can to get this club up and running by January.

In the words of Clement Clark Moore made famous in *The Night Before Christmas*, “Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night.”

For more information on how you can help mentor a child or if you are interested in joining the Latin Dance club, please call Mariela Osorio at 732-222-8008 ext. 132 or email at mosorio@monmouthcmo.org.
By: Mariela Osorio, Monmouth 4-H Cares Program Liaison

Spanish Version:

En los meses en cual 4-H se unió con Monmouth Cares, hemos estado muy ocupados promoviendo nuestros clubs y reclutando voluntarios para guiar a nuestros jóvenes. Estamos trabajando con 33 niños de Monmouth Cares, lo cual unos han expresado interés en ciertos clubs tal como Thunderhoofs, Small Animal Club, Animal Science Club y New Jersey Children’s Chamber Choir. Nuestros esfuerzos colaborativos con Monmouth County Community Arts Council, Volunteer Center of Monmouth County y los centros de la tercera edad han producido gran interés (estamos agradecidos al Neptune Senior Center por el anuncio en su hoja informativa con una audiencia de 2,500).

Presentaciones sobre nuestro programa al American Association of University Women, Latino Outreach Group, Keansburg Father Time, y Union Beach Adult School, han resultado en solicitudes para prestar servicio como voluntario. La organización, Hispanic Affairs & Resource Center, está apoyando nuestros esfuerzos por medio de una campaña educativa dirigida a la comunidad hispana. En respuesta a la creciente comunidad latino, hemos lanzado un proyecto en cual la meta es traducir nuestros materiales de publicidad al español. Nuestros formularios de solicitud para voluntarios fue traducido al español y se lanzó durante nuestra promoción del 4-H Open House en octubre. Tenemos la esperanza de terminar el proyecto al fin de enero del año que viene.

Edwin Ocampo, líder del Latin Dance Club, presento una demostración de baile en noviembre lo cual fue anfitrionada por Gladys Rios, líder de los Builders Club. El Sr. Ocampo tiene más de quince años de experiencia bailando salsa y ha competido al nivel profesional. Este nuevo club brinda una oportunidad única para degustar el sabor del los bailes, la gente, y el modo de vida de la inmensamente ricas culturas de América Latina. Hemos recibido varias llamadas sobre el club y ya tenemos un grupo de niños listos para ensayarsen. Incluida en esta lista es Carlita, hija de la Sra. Rios. También es nuestro placer informarles que hemos encontrado un lugar para conducir las clases del Latin Club. Estamos haciendo todo lo posible para lanzar el club a fines de enero.

Quiero tomar la oportunidad para desearles una época navideña pleno de amos, paz y felicidad. Para más información comuníquese con Mariela Osorio al 732-222-8008 ext. 132 o por correo electrónico a mosorio@monmouthcmo.org
IN THE NEWS

MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H PAYS TRIBUTE TO JOHN PIERCE

On November 14th, a memorial was held in honor of John Pierce, Monmouth County 4-H volunteer who was a lifelong 4-H’er and dedicated to the 4-H mission. As a tribute to John’s service as a 4-H volunteer, a tree was planted in his honor in the 4-H Bird and Butterfly Garden. Testimonials were given by 4-H’ers, volunteers and staff. We thank John for all he did for Monmouth County 4-H; he was a major contributor to the development of the Monmouth County 4-H herpetology division into what it is today.

The following testimonial given by Jessica Herring, Raging Reptiles 4-H club leader reflects the 4-H’s community’s deep respect for and appreciation of John’s 4-H leadership.

When I was 9 years old, I joined the Critter Collectors with my Albino Corn Snake. At that time Critter Collectors was mostly small animals, and very few reptiles. Two years after I joined, the Pierce Family joined 4-H, and with their pets, the reptile section of the club really expanded. After a growing friendship and interest in reptiles, the Pierce family and my family decided to branch off and have our own reptile club. With Mr. Pierce’s enthusiasm, dedication and support, our reptile club grew each year, and so did our knowledge. Due to his knowledge of reptiles and his support of the 4-H organization, our club has been very successful and has impacted many people. I can remember many times when I was little, I came to a 4-H meeting and asked Mr. Pierce to pick up my new baby snake for me because I was afraid to do it myself. He showed us that reptiles were not to be feared, but were to be respected and enjoyed. The kindness he showed me, was shown to all of our members, and he always had the time to talk to them and help them with their 4-H project.

We have Mr. Pierce to thank for our beautiful fair set-up each year, for he designed it and worked hard to make sure that we could use it for years to come. Not only did he help our club at the fair, he also helped set up and judge the home and garden section in the main 4-H tent. He always showed a love for all living things, plants and animals.

This tree that we have planted as a memorial for Mr. Pierce is a wonderful way to remember him for as this tree grows, it will serve as a reminder of how he helped the Raging Reptiles 4-H club to grow.

Our club is also grateful that Mrs. Pierce is continuing his tradition by being such a dedicated, and caring 4-H leader. I am honored that I am a co-leader with Mrs. Pierce, and even more honored that our two families have developed a close friendship over the years. I know I speak for all the present and past members of the Raging Reptiles in honoring and thanking Mr. Pierce for all that he did.
IN THE NEWS (cont.)

4-H HALLOWEEN PARTY

By: Janelle Whitfield, Youth Horse Council

In October we had a great way to kick off the new 4-H year! The Youth Horse Council hosted a Halloween party. There was a lot of fun for everyone. Of course what is a Halloween party without dressing up? At the party, doctors, clowns, pirates, and Indiana Jones did not want to miss out on the fun. There was also a costume contest. Everybody that night looked so great. We had scary, cute, and amazing costumes worn by fellow 4-H members. At the end of the day, everybody’s costume won!

It was an entire night of games and enjoyment. We played bobbing for apples, musical chairs, scavenger hunts and more! There was even a chance to win a jar of candy corn. In order to win the jar, people had to guess how many pieces of candy corn was in the jar. The person closest to the number won. Yummy, candy corn! It was a big help with people bringing in food. We had chips, pizza, bagels, and m&m’s. The m&m’s were put in a very festive bowl; the bowl had a moving hand. Be careful it doesn’t catch you! We had plenty of more food, thank you to all who supplied it.

This 4-H party was very fun. The smiles on everyone's faces, was a reward to those who participated in putting the Halloween party together. The 4-H Halloween party was a success! We all look forward to having another party in the future. Everyone’s hard work and effort really paid off.
CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Are you a collegiate 4-H’er who has a passion for government, history, political science, working with youth, public speaking, or leadership? Why not apply for the position of Program Assistant at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center! You will have the opportunity to spend your summer in Washington, DC touching the lives of hundreds of high school-aged students from all over the US. Deadline for applying is January 27, 2008. You will begin in early May to early Aug. Call the 4-H office for info.

Donations Accepted for Barbara Fuller,
Wagging Wonders Seeing Eye Club Leader

This past year, Barbara Fuller, Wagging Wonders Seeing Eye Dog Club Leader had a fall which seriously impacted her health and lifestyle. Barbara has given a great deal of her energy and passion to the youth and families in the Seeing Eye Dog club program. To make a donation to the Barbara Fuller Fund, mail to PO Box 541, Oceanport, NJ 07757 or call (732) 890-4140 or (732) 245-9211. For more information, contact Ellen at (732) 431-7266 or Williams@rcre.rutgers.edu.
APPLY TODAY TO HOST A JR. OLYMPIC SKILLS COMPETITION IN 2008

The Jr. Olympic Skills Competition is a FREE national grassroots skills competition that provides both, boys and girls ages 8 to 13, the opportunity to showcase their athletic abilities in four (4) sports—basketball, soccer, tennis and track & field. Jr. Olympic Skills Competition encourages youth participation in sport and emphasizes fair and friendly competition. Youngsters can participate in any or all of the individual sports and advance through three (3) levels of competition, including Local, Regional and the National Finals at the U.S. Olympic Training Center. Each sport is scored individually and the boys and girls compete separately.

This is your opportunity to join the Olympic movement and participate in the official youth skills competition of the U.S. Olympic Team. Any youth organization, school/PE class, parent and/or coach in your community can host a Local Qualifying Event. Hosts can conduct any or all four (4) of the sporting events. It is FREE, easy to administer, includes athletic equipment and the only facilities you need are a basketball hoop, an open field and/or a wall.

Sign up today and provide this great opportunity to the youngsters in your community. Don’t miss out! The next Olympian could be in your community, waiting to be discovered by the Jr. Olympic Skills Competition. Join the Olympic movement today!

For more information or to sign up go to:
Http://www.jrolympicskills.com

4-H DIGITAL MAYHEM CHALLENGE

The 4-H programs in Illinois and northeast Missouri are inviting all youth, ages 8-18 years old to produce their own digital photography, digital audio, digital video or mixed media production that demonstrates your abilities with digital media of all kinds. Top entries may be used in various promotional products. $100 prizes will be awarded. Select your own theme and message. Show the world your imagination and creativity! Create some mayhem! Complete rules and more information at:

www.4hdmc.org

This online competition is available to 4-H youth across the system who are interested in displaying their digital media skills. This IL-MO partnership involves electronic submissions of any media type. The upcoming deadlines are: January 30, 2008, April 30, 2008 and October 30, 2008.

ALL ANIMALS

Reminder!
All (non-horse) animals need to be registered with the 4-H office no later than May 1st, 2008. Included with this newsletter (pg. 31) is the Livestock registration form. All members who have a 4-H project, that includes, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Market Lamb, Wool/Breeding Sheep, Swine, Rabbits, Cavy, Herpetology, and Small Animal need to complete this form. Horse project members do NOT need to complete this form. Please note that to participate in the fair, some county and state events, 4-H’ers must have owned the animal by May 1st and have this paperwork on file in the 4-H office. If you need a lease agreement, please contact the 4-H office or visit the county website at www.visitmonmouth.com/07050coopext/. All of these forms are available on the site.

If you have any questions contact Kelly at (732)431-7265 or e-mail her at dumas@aesop.rutgers.edu.
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK REGISTRATION

**Animal’s Species**
- Please use a separate form for each species

1. **Beef**
2. **Dairy**
3. **Goat**
4. **Market Lamb**
5. **Wool/Breeding Sheep**
6. **Swine**
7. **Other**

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Member’s Name: _________________________________

Member's Grade: _________________________________

Member's Name: _________________________________

Address: _______________________________________

Phone Number: _________________________________

---

1. Only animals properly enrolled in the 4-H Office by May 1 will be eligible to show at any County, Regional, or State event.
2. All registered animals must be in the name of the 4-H member. If this is a lease/borrow project, attach a copy of the lease/borrow form.
3. All registered animals must be the member’s project prior to May 1st of the current year or born to a registered project animal.
4. All animals of one species should be listed on one pre-registration form. Each form must be accompanied by a photo or drawing of the animal showing color and markings. If a registered dairy animal, a copy of the official breed registration has the markings diagramed and may be used.

---

**Member’s Signature ___________________________________ Parent or Guardian’s Signature: _______________________________________**

---

Return to your county 4-H Office by May 1.
MONMOUTH COUNTY FAIR

FAIR THEME
“4-H ONE WORLD, OUR DREAM”

FAIR DATES
July 23-27, 2008

Important deadlines for the fair are fast approaching. Please mark these important dates on your calendar!

April 1st
- Horse Stall Application
- Dunking Booth Sign-Up
- Popcorn Booth Sign-Up
- Food Booth Shift Request
- Club Games Request
- Club Craft Request
- Club Booth & Banner Request

May 1st
- Member & Leader Cards Request

June 2nd
- Pass Requests due
- Food Booth Position List Due

June 4th
- Mandatory Livestock Meeting (All Livestock Members) 7:00pm

June 6th
- Mandatory Horse Meeting (All Horse Members) 7:00pm

June 25th
- Mandatory Small Animal Meeting (All Small Animal Members) 7:00pm

June 27th
- All Project Entry Forms Due
- Overnight Permission Youth & Adult
- Pet Photo Entry/Photo and Fee Due
- Fun Day Entry Form & Fee Due
- Open Gymkhana Pre-Entry Fee & Form Due
- FINAL FAIR MEETING @ 7:00pm

July 14 & 15
- Fair Projects Due Between 8:30 am – 7:30 pm
- Record Books Due

July 15th
- Bread, Food, Nutrition & Free For All Food Entries Due

July 19th
- Removal of Items From the Barn

July 20th
- SET-UP OF ALL 4-H DISPLAYS 9:30 am

July 22nd
- Fair Booth Set-Up at 5:00 pm
HORSE QUALIFYING SHOW DATES:

English  April 27, 2008 @ E. Freehold Park
Western  May 10, 2008 @ E. Freehold Park

HORSE REGISTRATIONS DUE!

REMINDER: Horse Registrations are due annually and it’s that time of year again! All registration forms are due to the 4-H office no later than April 1, 2008 (you can bring them with you to the YHC meeting or Horse Leaders Meeting.

Remember, horses must be registered to be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show, fair, trail and some other county, state and national events.

Here are some additional tips to ensure your paperwork will be accepted for 2008:

?? Each registration form must be submitted in triplicate.

?? All information must be complete, legible and accurate.

?? If applicable, complete the lease/borrow form in triplicate.

?? The photo of the animal(s) must be in color on each copy and fit in the square on the form.

?? The helmet policy must be signed and on file in the 4-H office.

?? The health records and current coggins are not due until April 18, 2008.

UPCOMING SHOWS AROUND THE STATE:

February 16, 2008 Somerset County
February 23, 2008 Gloucester County
(Call the 4-H office if you need a flier)

DON’T GET LEFT OUT IN THE COLD!

Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp has their early bird registration rates in effect from now until February 1st, 2008.

4-H Members: $325/session
Non-4-H Members: $345/session

Brian J. Dougan
Program Director, Lindley G. Cook 4-H Center
Phone: (973)948-3550 ext. 21
Web-site: www.jn4hcamp.rutgers.edu
You are Invited to the Monmouth County 4-H Science Fair

Saturday March 29, 2008   1 PM
Ag Building, 4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold NJ

For Prep and Standard Members - Get SET to have a great time!

Come and share what you are learning about in science in your school, homeschool, or club.

Try an experiment using the scientific method; bring a tri fold display board to show what you know. State your purpose, hypothesis, your materials used, results of your experiment and conclusion.

Or bring a model or some project that demonstrates a scientific idea or principle

Families may work on a science fair project together or individually

Learn By Doing

Areas in the 4H Science curriculum include: Agricultural Science, Animal Science, Engineering and Technology, Environmental Science, Plant Science, Science Discovery

Handouts for how to conduct an experiment, make a display board and use of the scientific method along with science fair suggested resources will be available on the Live and Learn Club Website  http://groups.msn.com/liveandlearn4hclub

Please contact Mary Bane, Club Leader - Live and Learn Club at 732-872-0239, or email at maryannthipie@aol.com for additional information. Registration deadline is March 1st. Mail form to Mary Bane, 109 Mabel Avenue, Leonardo, NJ 07738

Name ______________________________________  Grade ______________
Club ____________________________________________________________
Project Title ______________________________________________________
Do you require electricity? ___Yes ___ No
UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)

MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H SMALL ANIMAL CLUBS PRESENT:

MONMOUTH COUNTY 4-H RABBIT, CAVY, SMALL ANIMAL AND HERPETOLOGY SHOW

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008
TAYLOR PAVILION, BELMAR, NJ

FREE DRESS-UP CONTEST
POSTER CONTEST

DOORS OPEN AT 8:00AM, JUDGING PROMPTLY AT 9:00AM

THIS IS A 4-H SHOW ONLY

ENTRY FEE: $3.00 PER ANIMAL

CALL THE 4-H OFFICE FOR A SHOW CATALOG
(732) 431-7263

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, educational programs are offered without regard to race, sex, disability or handicap, color, national origin, or age. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)

4-H COUNTY PUBLIC PRESENTATION REGISTRATION FORM

Please check the date you will present:

- March 28, 2008 at 6:30pm  OR  April 2, 2008 at 6:30pm
- I have a conflict with these dates & need to be contacted for a make-up date.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 10, 2008

Note: Please remember that all members are eligible to participate in County Public Presentations as long as they completed a Club Presentation. The presentation you present at the Club level needs to be the same as the County level presentation. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the 4-H Office.

Name______________________________________________________ Grade________

Club(s)__________________________________________________________________

Title of Presentation_______________________________________________________

Brief Explanation of Presentation ____________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

If giving a team* demonstration, please indicate the name of your partner: __________________________

Category: Please indicate what type of presentation you will be conducting.  

- Demonstration - teaches through showing and explaining. The member describes activity and completes a product using actual ingredients, tools etc.

- Illustrated Talk - tells how something is done and must include visuals. An illustrated talk is fundamentally the same as a demonstration, except the visual aids (flip charts, power point, transparencies, display board etc.) are used instead of having an actual product.

- Formal Speech - given from memory with brief notes or an outline on index cards used as an aid. Purpose is to stimulate thought or present a point of view. Equine states this category as Public Speaking.

- Performing Arts - integrates performing arts with public speaking. The performing arts presentation includes introduction, information on performance content, performance, summary and question/answer period. Performing arts includes, for example, puppetry, movement/dance, instrumental, vocal, oral interpretation, gymnastics and double dutch jumping.

Please note that the time frame for presentations is as follows:

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<td>Grade 8-13</td>
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*Horse Project members presenting on a horse topic need to follow these time guidelines: Team Demons, 10-15 minutes, Individual Demons, 9-12 minutes and Public Speaking 7-10 minutes. Those scoring an excellent will be eligible for State Equine Presentations in addition to the regular State Presentations. For full set of rules contact the 4-H office.

All equipment such as easels, slide projectors, extension cords, etc. must be provided by the presenter.

I will volunteer to be a room host. _____ Yes _____ No

A room host introduces the judge and assists the judge as necessary.

______________________  ______________________
Member’s Signature  Parent/Guardian Signature

Leader’s Signature
The Alumni Association held their annual holiday covered dish supper Saturday night December 1st. The dinner meeting was held in the front foyer of the Agricultural Building which was lovely with all the trees and plants. Paul Ekdahl was nice enough to donate the poinsettias for the table centerpieces. Everyone brought a dish to share and we were entertained by the Power of Music 4-H Club. Jane Hight donated all the door prizes (over 20!) Thank you Jane!!

The Alumni of the Year was awarded to Robin Bruins. Robin joined a Delaware 4-H club when she was 12 and has been active ever since. She was not only a leader of Monmouth Livestock, she also organizes the Stars and Stripes event that is held every year at the Horse Park of New Jersey.

Due to the success of the quilt raffle at the fair we were happy to award three scholarships this year. Chris Hoenig, Katie Smith and Stephanie Cole were the recipients. Congratulations to all three for many years of dedicated involvement in 4-H! If you are interested in applying for a 4-H Alumni scholarship for continuing education, please call the 4-H office for information and a copy of the scholarship application. The deadline for the application is October 15, 2008.

The alumni will plant a memorial tree in memory of Janet Ekdahl, past 4-H member, Alumni member and Alumni past president. The tree will be planted in Durand Memorial Park, Freehold. Janet lived in the Freehold area and was also a Master Gardener. The Alumni thought that a tree planted in her memory was a nice way to honor a dear friend.

The next Alumni meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25th at 7:00pm in the 4-H office. If you have any questions regarding the Alumni, please call Marilyn Kothe at (732) 995-9374.
Here is your monthly look at the next couple months at camp.

January:
* 4th-6th: Cumberland winter camp weekend
* 11th-13th: Atlantic and Ocean winter camp weekend
* 18th-20th: Cape May and Middlesex winter camp weekend
* 25th-27th: Bergen, Passaic, Somerset and Warren winter camp weekend

February:
* 1st-3rd: Salem, Gloucester, Burlington, Mercer and Morris winter camp weekend
* 8th-10th: Sussex, Essex, Union, Monmouth and Hunterdon winter camp weekend
* Two longstanding family groups and one new group

Down the line:
* April 5th and 19th will be our spring community service work days
* April 19th (Saturday) and May 18th (Sunday) we will conduct summer camp tours (the new modified version of our open house) by appointment between 10am and 2pm.

The NJ Winter Camp season will soon be upon us! Inevitably you will get questions from parents, chaperones and 4-H members on what the weather is like up at the LG Cook Camp. Now, you can always call Jim and Brian and ask them to look out the window, but in the interest of being more science literate, I wanted to share a resource with you, http://climate.Rutgers.edu/njwxnet/

This will link you to the NJ Weather and Climate Network (sponsored by NJAES). The site includes a bevy of weather data including 24 hour tables, charts and satellite imagery. It’s a wonderful resource for learning not only what the weather is doing at LG Cook, but for examining weather data across New Jersey and the tri-state area.

Share this with your 4-H’ers and start some discussion for your drive up on things like how weather data is collected, how it’s used and by whom. If you or others are interested in additional materials on weather/atmospheric studies, contact David Foord, 4-H Program Associate of Sussex County at (973)948-3040 or foord@rce.rutgers.edu or www.sussex4h.org.
## January 2008

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<td>8 4-H Horse Shows 101 7:30pm</td>
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<td>26 4-H Fair 101 Workshop 7:00pm</td>
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