

September 2017

UC Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra News

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Agriculture and Natural Resources

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We are problem-solvers, catalysts, collaborators, educators and stewards of the land, living in the communities we serve.

#WeAreUCANR

September Greetings,

We hope you are staying cool. The county fairs have come and gone and 4-H summer camps were great successes, fun was had by everyone... even the chaperones. We are quieter for now but getting ready for fall and everything that brings with it. We are sure to have a schedule full of educational workshops in the coming year so be sure to check our monthly e-newsletter and follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information. Until next time.

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4-H Youth Development Program is Open for Enrollment

Open enrollment is going on now! Enrollment is available all year but October 15, 2017 is the deadline to register for returning members that want to show at their county fair. New members must be enrolled by December 1st, 2017 to be eligible for fair. 4-H Youth Development helps young people reach their full potential as competent, confident and caring leaders of character who are connected to others and contribute to their communities.

Recent findings from Tufts University's 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development indicate that young people in 4-H are three times more likely to contribute to their communities than youth not participating in 4-H. Notably, the Tufts research discovered that the structured learning, encouragement and adult mentoring that 4-H'ers receive play a vital role in helping them actively contribute to their communities.

Following enrollment, youth participate in projects which they are interested in. In 4-H, youth design and participate in their own programs and activities. This unique learn-by-doing model teaches essential skills that youth will use throughout their lives, such as identifying sparks, desiring knowledge, setting goals, self-reflection, adapting to new situations, communicating, and responding to the needs of others. 4-H youth are the leaders of tomorrow!

Whether youth are building rockets or robots, raising companion dogs, or growing vegetables, 4-H gives young people the skills they need to thrive and succeed throughout their lives.

How will you inspire the next generation? Do you have a skill to share with today's youth? 4-H is looking to expand project offerings in many areas. And is seeking adult volunteers to lead projects. It's easy too, leading a project requires just two hours a month!

4-H youth are a living, breathing, culture-changing revolution for doing the right thing; breaking through obstacles, and pushing our country forward by making a measurable difference right where they live. Learn how you can join at <http://ucanr.org/centralsierra4-H> or contact Nancy Starr at University of California Cooperative Extension, Central Sierra at (530) 621-5503 or njstarr@ucanr.edu.

4-H'ers are...

4X more likely to give back to their communities

2X more likely to make healthier choices

2X more likely to participate in STEM activities

Gardening with Natives Symposium: Creating Native Landscapes

The typical suburban backyard has an area of groomed lawn, flower beds which follow the fence line and a tree or three to provide shade. In contrast, native habitats have free-flowing lines and often random, organic distributions of plants located in the exact spot which best favors their growth. Native habitats are home to pollinators such as native bees and support a wide variety of wildlife. They can bloom profusely and can also provide dramatic contrasts in textures and form. They can be self-sustaining through periods of summer drought and are refreshed during our cool, wet California winters.

Are you interested in adding native plants to your garden? Do you wish to "weather-proof" your landscape? Want to attract native pollinators to an organic garden? Interested in attracting and supporting wildlife? Would you like to be able to garden in a way that's evocative of our sense of place in the Sierra Nevada foothills? Are you curious? If so, then "Gardening with Natives: Creating Native Landscapes" is for you. The Sierra Foothills Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) will present its annual Gardening with Natives Symposium on Saturday, September 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Sierra Building of the Mother Lode Fairgrounds on Stockton Street in Sonora, CA.

[Continue reading...](#)

The History of 4-H in El Dorado County

by: JoLynn Miller, Robin Cleveland, and Scott Oneto, University of California Cooperative Extension

Most have heard of 4-H and some have had the opportunity to participate in the program. But how did it start? And how did it become one of the largest youth development organizations in the country? We have a long and interesting history that is rooted in agriculture.

A movement in the mid 1800's began to bring publicly funded agricultural and technical colleges to the people. This idea became reality with the Morrill Act of 1862. In a nation torn by secession and Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln signed a visionary law that laid the cornerstone of public higher education in California and nationwide. The Morrill Land-Grant College Act of 1862 gave federal public lands to states, allotting 30,000 acres for each senator and representative. States were encouraged to sell these "land grants" to raise money for new public universities that would educate Americans in agriculture, science and mechanical arts.

California legislators took the federal government up on its offer in 1864, and the first buildings of the University of California were completed in 1868 on the banks of Strawberry Creek, in the Berkeley hills.

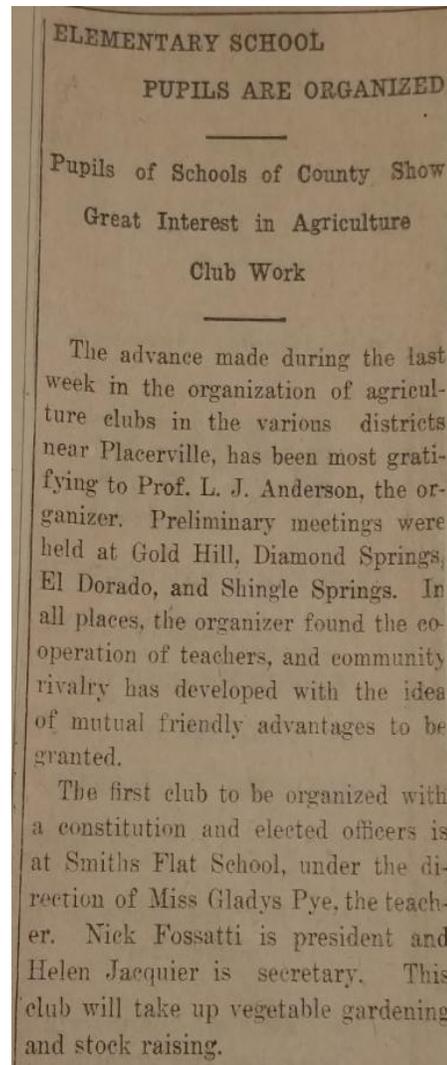
Further expansion of connecting lay people to universities occurred when funding was approved for Agricultural Experiment Stations through the passage of the Hatch Act in 1887. The universities and experiment stations focused on applied research techniques to find ways to increase crop yield and solve agricultural problems. In California, one of these stations was the University Farm, established in Davis in 1906 as a teaching farm for UC Berkeley students, would later become UC Davis. The Citrus Experiment Station, founded in Riverside in 1907 to support California's developing citrus industry, would become UC Riverside.

By 1914 the passage of the Smith-Leaver Act began the Cooperative Extension Service, which connected every county to the University and research stations. Those Extension Agents, took the latest research from the universities and experiment stations, and began extending that knowledge to the local community. What's surprising is that youth in these communities caught on faster than their parents. They were enamored by the new and innovative ideas. Local Extension Agents gave them small plots of land to test the new tilling, watering, or fertilizing techniques and soon those plots were out performing their parents! This was all happening the same time that local clubs called "The Tomato Club" or "The Corn Growing Club" were becoming popular. Extension agents began to see the power of youth, their excitement to learn, and their personal growth when they taught others. By 1912 the titles of 4-H Clubs were being used, along with the logo of the clover with H's on it.

In El Dorado County, Dr. J L Anderson, an Agriculture Teacher with El Dorado County High School developed the first agriculture clubs in 1918. Smith Flat was the first club to create a constitution and elect officers with Camino, Diamond Springs, Gold Hill, Rescue and Kelsey following shortly. By March 1918 there were 10 agriculture clubs throughout the county.

The Mountain Democrat newspaper had regular reports on the progress of the clubs starting in 1918. The clubs were created to interest and teach the young people, age 10 on up, the vital farm problems through University guest speakers and field trips to Davis University. Parents and citizens were urged to cooperate in making these clubs successful. The work was closely correlated with important war measures as it taught efficiency on the farm directly to the younger generation. And, success of the younger generation caused the older generation to take interest and learn. The High School Agriculture Department along with the Farm Advisor Office worked to further develop the farming interest in the county and soon there were agriculture clubs in each of the school districts.

So much has changed since then, yet so much has stayed the same. While we've expanded the reach of our organization by increasing the types of projects we offer, we still see personal growth in youth who teach others. The model of 4-H has been researched and it shows youth who participate have higher



positive outcomes than those who don't. Our roots connect us to agriculture and the Land Grant University system. We are proud of where we came from, and excited about where we can go.

Article image from the Mountain Democrat January 17th, 1918.

Bee-ing a Better Bee Gardener: Learning From Research

The California Center for Urban Horticulture in partnership with the UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology are pleased to announce a workshop for pollinators in the garden! Presentations will be on a variety of topics to help you learn more about how to be a better bee gardener based off the latest research. Workshop will include a visit to the Honey Bee Haven and pollinator plant sale with hard to find varieties!

- SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2017, 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM
- UC Davis Campus, Kleiber Hall, Room 3
- Registration \$50: includes continental breakfast and lunch

****Please note, because of the level of instruction you should only plan to attend if you are a Master Gardener, 'keen' gardener, or have an introductory background knowledge to one of the following: entomology, botany, horticulture, or plant/insect morphology or taxonomy.**

[Registration and Information...](#)

The Fall 2017 Paper Clover will take place October 4 – 15

Each spring and fall, Tractor Supply helps raise money for 4 H programs through the sale of Paper Clovers in their stores. Dates for the fall campaign are Oct. 4-15, 2017. 90% of all funds raised go back to the state to be used for scholarships for camps and other leadership events.

Spring 2017 tractor Supply results for our 4-H MCP

- Amador \$548.38
- El Dorado \$3999.60
- Tuolumne \$2000.70

UCCE 4-H Youth Development

Enrollment begins for 2017-18 - [Join Now](#)

Open to all Central Sierra 4-H

9-9 & 9-10: [Shooting Sports Workshop: Archery - for 4-H Adult Volunteers](#)

9-16: [Shooting Sports Workshop: Pistol - for 4-H Adult Volunteers](#)

9-22 - 9-24: [4-H Citizenship Weekend](#)

10-1: [2018 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships](#) - Application process begins.

Amador

9-23: [Ironstone Concours d'Elegance](#)

Calaveras

9-23: [Ironstone Concours d'Elegance](#)

9-26: [New 4-H Adult Leader Orientation](#)



10-1: [Color Me Green Run](#)

El Dorado

9-18: [New 4-H Adult Leader Orientation](#)

9-23: [Ironstone Concours d'Elegance](#)

9-30: [Science Event Incredible Wearables](#) - open to public.

10-1 - 10-7: [Calaveras Clover Sales](#)

Tuolumne

9-18: [New 4-H Adult Leader Orientation](#)

9-23: [Ironstone Concours d'Elegance](#)



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**Master
Food
Preserver**

Classes & Events Offered by UCCE Master Food Preservers

Amador/Calaveras

9-9: [Fall Harvest](#) - Jackson

9-20: [Dehydrating Basics](#) - San Andreas

El Dorado

10-7: [Pie Filling Workshop](#) - Registration fee

Classes & Workshops Offered by UCCE Master Gardeners

Monthly Gardening Tips

Amador

9-9: [Summer Fruit Tree Pruning](#)

9-23: [Understanding & Improving Your Garden Soil](#)

Calaveras

9-14: [Visit Master Gardeners at the CalaverasGROWN Certified Farmers Market](#)

9-23: [Open Garden Day: Lawn Alternatives](#)

El Dorado

9-9: [Seasonal Color with California Bulbs](#)

9-9: [Saturdays with Barry](#)

9-13: [California Native Oaks](#)

9-16: [Putting Your Garden to Bed](#) - 9am to 4pm

9-23: [What to Plant After Tree Loss](#)

Lake Tahoe

Check on their [Classes Workshops & Events webpage](#).

Tuolumne

9-9: [Tour of the Garden/Question & Answer Session](#)



UC IPM and more...



[Bee Precaution Pesticide Ratings - UC IPM Website](#)

[Seasonal IPM](#)

[Recent Updates at IPM](#)

[UCIPM Weather Models & Degree Days webpage](#)

Thank you for your continued interest in the UC Cooperative Extension Central Sierra's news, workshops, and events.

Sincerely,

Scott Oneto
University of California
Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra

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