

# **San Benito County**

## **4-H Newsletter**

### **April 16, 2020**



*We hope this 4-H newsletter finds your family in good health! We are all learning a new way to participate in school, work, and 4-H remotely. We would encourage you to explore new online options to participate in 4-H!*

#### **Salinas Valley Fair (King City Fair):**

Due to the COVID-19 virus and shelter in place ordinance. Fairs across the state have been cancelled starting in March to June. UCANR has a team working with fairs to host virtual livestock auctions for 4-H & FFA animals entered in the fairs prior to the cancelation of fairs. We cannot guarantee this will take place, but we are working to help our youth in the sale of animals. We encourage youth to sell their own fair animals at this point.

We have many 4-Her's in our community that raised steers, lambs, swine, and meat goats for Salinas Valley Fair. We have many 4-Her's trying to sell their market animals at a reasonable price for meat. If you are interested in purchasing market steer, lamb, pig, or meat goat, reach out to our local 4-Her's or 4-H office at 831-205-3180.

#### **Fall County Fairs Updates:**

As of today, we still have fairs in Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito. Just a reminder if you have steers. You will have to tag your fair steers in May for Santa

Cruz and San Benito county fairs. We advise 4-H families to be aware these fairs may happen or cancel. We will update you as information comes available .

### **Online Project Resources:**

We are long overdue for some of these changes. We have created the following online services:

- **Online project resources**
  - 4-H project leaders and 4-H members are encouraged to check out these project resources.
    - The Borland's a 4-H family have created YouTube videos on animal care& showmanship as a learning resources. They did a great job on these educational videos. We hope you will take advantage of all the resources.
  - 4-H Project leader may choose to use some of these online resources and videos as 4-H project meetings. We are approaching our end of the year for 4-H projects. 4-H members will need to complete a minimum of 6 hours in each project. They have registered for in 4-H.
  - Some 4-H project leaders are assigning project materials to review by 4-H members. The leader is holding zoom meetings or receiving text with completed certificate or project from 4-Her's.
  - Check out our new 4-H online project resources on 4-H county website: <http://cesanbenito.ucanr.edu/4-H Program/Online 4-H Project Resources/>

We are looking to expand our online resources. Please email Julie at [jkatawicz@ucanr.edu](mailto:jkatawicz@ucanr.edu) with ideas for 4-H projects you would like more information listed on our 4-H website under online project resources.

### **Cloverbuds project:**

Emma Kelly is offering the cloverbud project virtually. She has resources for projects at home. Emma will be holding a zoom meeting



to discuss and show off your Cloverbud projects. If you are interest in participating in this project email Emma at [caligirlkelly@hotmail.com](mailto:caligirlkelly@hotmail.com).

**Message of Kindness video**, <https://vimeo.com/406316032>

We would like to thank all the 4-Her's families that provided artwork and photos for our Message of Kindness video. This idea started with a 4-H family, Samantha & Dee Slykas. The purpose of this video is to lift the spirits of our community, emergency workers, hospital staff and elderly. Just a message of inspiration. We hit it out of the park with this Message of Kindness from Wendy Powers, Vice President of University of California (4-H falls under UCANR part of the UC) to out of state. We have shared the Message of Kindness video with our community and beyond to Texas, Oregon, and London. Please continue to share this message of kindness on social media: <https://vimeo.com/406316032>.

We are 4-H strong and proud of all our families!

### ***Petting Zoo & Introduction to 4-H video:***

We have received amazing complements on the Message of Kindness video. We have decided to take this to the next step. We are creating two more videos to share with our community as outreach for the 4-H program.

We are asking the 4-H families to send us photos of your animals with names of animals and youth. We are adding a "Fun Fact" about animals to the slides. We will have this available for families to view on social media while promoting 4-H.

Our second, project is ***Introduction to 4-H video***. We would like to show case 4-H project other than animals. We are asking parents and youth to send us photos of your 4-H projects or 4-Her's working on a projects. We also are interest in community service projects from 4-H events.

We will be posting these videos on social media and San Benito county libraries, so if you submit photos you have given us permission to post on social media.

We will also share these videos with 4-H families and club leader to use on virtual outreach for your 4-H club. San Benito county 4-H program is now listed on the county library site as a resource for youth programs.

### **Special Projects at home:**

If you are bored and looking for something to fill your time and get fresh air. We have the solution.

- **Kindness Rock project:** Emerald Star project
- Mikayla Wenzlik is hosting a Kindness Rock project. She is asking 4-Her's to paint a kindness message on a rock or just decorate a rock. We will place these rocks around town at different business. The goal is to brighten the day of public. We also would like to promote 4-H!
- Mikayla will collect the rock once we can all gather again. She will place the rock around town at that time. We cannot wait to see all the creative kindness rocks from our 4-H community.
- **Sew a Mask:** All the talented sewers in our program! We have a leader in Santa Cruz county that is collecting face mask for Watsonville hospital.
  - If you are interested in sewing and donating face mask, please contact Megan Roach for delivery information, (831) 316-2255.

### **Virtual Meeting Guidance for Volunteers:**

The Virtual Meeting Guidance for 4-H Adult Volunteers has been posted on the [Virtual 4-H Technology Tools and Tips](#) page of the state 4-H website. This tool along with many other technology resources are continually be updated as a resource for volunteers. Also, a copy of document is attached with this message.

### **Virtual Volunteer Conference - Free**

Virginia Cooperative Extension is hosting a Virtual Volunteer Conference that is open to everyone.

**Adult Volunteers and youth interested in leadership development.**



In the wake of the current crisis we were forced to cancel the normal face-to-face spring conference of the Virginia Association of Adult 4-H Volunteer Leaders. In its place, we are proud to offer a one-day virtual volunteer conference with some wonderful sessions to provide high quality skill and leadership development. While the conference is 4-H focused, many of these sessions will be applicable to Extension professionals and/or volunteers outside 4-H as well.

When: Saturday, April 25, 2020

Format: All sessions will be offered through Zoom, and will be accessible online or via telephone

Cost: This conference is FREE and open to everyone!

Registration / Session Access: Participants need to register online at <https://forms.gle/zr2zLM84xvtiUoU89>. Everyone who registers will receive an email on Friday, April 24 that contains access information to each of the sessions.

Keynote / Capnote

We are thrilled that our opening keynote will be delivered by Dr. Ed Jones, Director of Virginia Cooperative Extension. Our closing capnote will be a moving address by Debbie McDonald, Mission to Market Team from National 4-H Council.

Workshop Sessions: There are **11** fantastic sessions divided into four workshop blocs from which participants can choose, featuring presenters from Virginia and across the country. There is something for everyone!

Session Recordings: Each session will be recorded, and those registered will receive access to all recordings following the conclusion of the conference.

Complete Information: A complete schedule with session titles and registration information: <https://forms.gle/zr2zLM84xvtiUoU89>.

### ***ORB (Online Record Books) Updates:***

*We are sad to announce ORB is going to fade into the sunset on June 29, 2020.*

You will have to download all your past ORB information onto a flash drive or

store in the cloud. You will not be able to access the information after June 29, 2020.

If you are currently working on your 2019-2020 ORB record book you will have until December 30, 2020 to complete your record book, download, and print. We will not have access to the system as of January 1, 2021!

The 4-H state office has made the decision to only offer paper forms for record books going forward. You can download the forms into Microsoft word and type your record book. We encourage everyone to complete your downloads into storage now before the deadlines. If you need help, please contact the 4-H office, or visit the state website for more details.

### ***4-H Record Books:***

- The state 4-H office is working on a method to judge club and county record books virtually. We will pass this information on to club leaders as soon as the information is available.
- We have updated the county 4-H website with the current record book forms: [http://cesanbenito.ucanr.edu/4-H\\_Program/Record\\_Books\\_110/](http://cesanbenito.ucanr.edu/4-H_Program/Record_Books_110/)
- We encourage all 4-H members to work on their 4-H record book during this time. We encourage 4-H members to work towards earning their stars.
- We are also looking for more Emerald star projects. We can always use new fresh ideas in our 4-H program.

### ***Keep an Eye Out for the 4-H Spring Appeal***

As you probably know, 4-H in San Benito County and across California has begun to receive less funding from the state. In order to maintain our local 4-H program this year and into the future we are mobilizing to initiate several fundraising campaigns. The first opportunity for you to contribute will be at the end of this month. You will be receiving the California 4-H Foundation's Spring Direct Mail Appeal letter. This is an opportunity to support San Benito County 4-H. 100 percent of your tax-exempt donation to the California 4-H Foundation will transfer back to us and support our local 4-H youth program. All you must do is



write in "San Benito 4-H" on the remittance. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 this spring in support of San Benito 4-H's efforts to keep our youth engaged, thriving and continue programming online and beyond.

The Spring Direct Mail Appeal sent from the California 4-H Foundation will be hitting households at the end of this month. It is an opportunity to "meet" Casey Anderson – one of the California 4-H Foundation Board members.

### **4-H County Council – April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm by zoom**

We are going high tech! We will be holding a zoom meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. You may log into your computer for zoom access or call into the meeting. If you have any items for the agenda please email them to 4-H office at [jkatawicz@ucanr.edu](mailto:jkatawicz@ucanr.edu) by April 22<sup>nd</sup> for the agenda. Meeting details will be emailed by April 24<sup>th</sup> to all 4-H families. We encourage everyone to join us for the 4-H council meetings.

### **4-H Office update:**

We are working remotely until May 6<sup>th</sup>. We are here to help with your 4-H needs. Please email, Julie at [jkatawicz@ucanr.edu](mailto:jkatawicz@ucanr.edu) or cell (831) 205-3180.

Take Care,

*Julie Katawicz*

4-H Program Rep

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Dear 4-H Community,

Hello from the State 4-H Office, I hope this post finds you and your family safe and secure. I want to take this time to brief you on some new developments, as well as thank all of the 4-H professionals around the state working so hard to keep you and your family engaged in learning and social activities during the shelter in place mandate.

As you are all aware, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many fairs in California are being cancelled at the discretion of their Fair Boards or due to the State of California shelter-in-place directive. This situation has raised questions relative to how 4-H members can complete their 4-H goals for the year if fairs, still exhibit competitions, livestock shows, and junior livestock auctions are cancelled.

In the event your fair is cancelled, your Fair Board will determine if alternate opportunities, such as a (virtual) junior livestock show and auction, will be put into place. If your Fair Board determines it will not provide alternate opportunities, a team of 4-H staff are exploring alternative educational activities such as virtual showmanship classes, skill-a-thons, and exhibitions for youth to participate in to demonstrate their educational accomplishments and successfully complete their goals for the year.

Due to the rigorous food and consumer safety standards set forth by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for market animals which are sold at junior livestock auctions, and the time, expertise and preparation needed to meet these standards, the University of California 4-H Youth Development Program is not granting permissions for new 4-H sponsored livestock auctions to take place. This is in accordance with long-standing 4-H policy CA 4-H Policy Handbook, Chapter 7, Part V. <http://4h.ucanr.edu/Resources/Policies/Chapter7/#V>.

Recognizing opportunities such as virtual showmanship and skill-a-thons do not address the fiscal considerations or concerns associated with livestock projects, we know there is still value in youth participating in livestock projects. Participation in these projects creates opportunities for participants to enhance their skills in accepting responsibility, setting goals, develop[ing] self-discipline, self-motivation, and knowledge of the livestock industry<sup>1</sup>, as well as [developing] responsibility, relating to others, spirit of inquiry, decision making, public speaking, maintaining records, and building self-esteem<sup>2</sup>.



While finances are certainly a component in making the decision to participate in a livestock project, we encourage each 4-H family to weigh the options and make a decision that is right for them. Due to the uncertainty around fairs and livestock programs, this could mean some 4-H members and their families opt out of participating in livestock projects at this time. Should you choose to move forward with a livestock project (later fairs) or if you have already undertaken that endeavor (earlier fairs), we encourage you to look for responsible ways to minimize any personal financial losses.

Additionally, state 4-H teams are working to make decisions about other large-scale events that take place on an annual basis. The decision to hold the State 4-H Field Day virtually has already been made: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/sfd/> and decisions about summer camps, California 4-H Focus and State Leadership Conference will come forth in the weeks to come.

Finally, the cancellation, postponement or mandate to only meet virtually has been extended for UC ANR and the 4-H Youth Development Program through April 30. We continue to monitor the statewide and local restrictions on gatherings and consult with UC ANR leaders and will provide updates as conditions change. I realize this has challenged many of us to re-think how we continue to meet the educational needs and support the 4-H community, I want to applaud you all for meeting this challenge. The number of social media posts on 4-H have been a pleasure to read and share. The ways you are embracing technology to stay connected, educate and provide opportunities for members to lead and grow has been amazing.

In grateful appreciation,



Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty  
State 4-H Director

1. Boleman, C.T. & Cummings, S.R. & Briers, G.E.. (2004). Parents' perceptions of life skills gained by youth participating in the 4-H beef project. *Journal of Extension* [On-line], 42(5). Available at: <https://www.joe.org/joe/2004october/rb6.php>
2. Ward, C. K. (1996). Life skill development related to participation in 4-H animal science projects. *Journal of Extension* [On-line], 34(2). Available at: <http://www.joe.org/joe/1996april/rb2.html>



## Market Animal Sale Options

Morgan Doran, UCCE Livestock & Natural Resources Advisor  
April 2020

The cancellation of many county fairs and junior livestock auctions, due to the novel coronavirus situation, is creating a lot of heartache and uncertainty for junior livestock exhibitors who have invested money and time in their market animals. A question many are asking is: How can I sell my market animal if the fair is closed? Luckily there are options for alternative online auctions and private treaty sales.

### Alternative Online Auctions

Many fairs are developing online auctions as an alternative to the live junior livestock auctions. CDFA (California Department of Food and Agriculture) has created a list of Standard Operating Procedures for alternative auctions. Contact your local fair to determine if and how they are arranging an online alternative auction. If an alternative online auction is arranged, the fairgrounds will likely be used as a gathering point for weighing, and veterinary and market readiness checks, but only if the COVID-19 social distancing and gathering requirements can be met and the fairgrounds are not designated for emergency uses. One advantage to this process is the veterinary and market readiness checks help ensure that the animals will be accepted at a slaughter (harvest) facility. **Private**

### Treaty Sales

If you plan to sell your market animal on your own, outside of the normal junior livestock auction or alternative online auction, it is important to understand how you can do this legally. Although it might be a common practice to do a ranch-slaughter at the time and location where the market animal is sold, this is often not a legal way to slaughter the

animal. The regulations behind this practice are not well known, so below is a list of legal ways to sell and slaughter a market animal and illegal practices that must be avoided.

### LEGAL (cattle, sheep, goats, swine)

- The market animal is sold and the buyer transports the animal to his/her own property where the animal is ranch-slaughtered.
- Beef market animals are sold and ranchslaughtered on the seller's property where five or fewer cattle are slaughtered within the calendar month. \*\*See Cattle Exemption note on next page.
- The market animal is sold and purchased by a family member who owns the same property where the animal was raised and then ranch-slaughtered.
- The market animal is sold and transported by the seller or the buyer to a CDFAinspected facility where it is slaughtered, and possibly processed (cut and wrapped).
- The market animal is sold and transported to a USDA-inspected (United States Department of Agriculture) facility where it is slaughtered, and possibly processed (cut and wrapped) for the buyer or is sold.
- The market animal is transported to a USDA-inspected facility where it is slaughtered and the carcass is transported to a CDFA-inspected facility where it is processed and the meat is sold only from that facility.



## ILLEGAL (cattle, sheep, goats, swine)

- The market animal is sold and ranchslaughtered on the seller's property.  
\*\*See Cattle Exemption note below.
- The market animal is sold and transported to another property, other than the buyer's property, where it is ranch-slaughtered.
- The market animal is ranch-slaughtered and the carcass is transported to a CDFA or USDA-inspected processing facility where the carcass or the cut and wrapped meat is sold.
- The market animal is transported to a CDFAinspected facility where it is slaughtered, and possibly processed, and the carcass or cut and wrapped meat is sold.

In order for meat or meat products to be sold, the animal must be slaughtered at a USDA-inspected facility. Anytime an animal is slaughtered by any person or facility other than a USDA-inspected facility, the meat enters a "custom exempt" process and must be labeled "NOT FOR SALE." That label means that under no circumstances can the meat from that animal be sold.

### Cattle Exemption

**\*\*In 2018 a law was passed that provides an exemption allowing up to five head of cattle to be slaughtered on the seller's property in a calendar month.**

*If you are selling live animals to a business that will then re-sell the live animals, carcasses or meat products, it is advisable to check that the buyer is bonded and insured to protect sellers. Bonds are required for meat packers with annual livestock purchases at or above*

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**\$500,000.**

The UC ANR publication [Selling Meat and Meat Products](#) is a free download and is a useful reference and guide in understanding federal and state regulations for livestock slaughter and meat processing. A more comprehensive, and understandable, guide is this [USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service publication](#).

## Tax Deduction Myth When Purchasing 4-H Project Livestock

A big incentive for youth to raise and sell their 4-H project market animals is to raise money by receiving prices for their animals well above the market price for that species and class of livestock. Some buyers may consider purchasing an animal if there is a tax deductible charitable contribution. However, this can be done only if the money from such a sale is donated to an IRS-recognized nonprofit organization for that organization's use. In the case of 4-H project livestock sales, at an auction or private treaty, the sale proceeds go to the owner of the animal and not the 4-H program. These sales cannot be considered a charitable contribution. In California, 4-H is a program within the University of California (UC), which has non-profit status, and will only provide charitable contribution receipts and acknowledgements for donations made to UC programs and not for funds that pass through UC to another recipient. Please refer to this [4-H Fact Sheet](#) and consult with a tax advisor for guidance on your specific situation.





## Virtual Meeting Guidance for 4-H Adult Volunteers

Virtual 4-H meetings can help keep 4-H members connected and on track with their 4-H projects. Keep in mind that not all 4-H members have access to technology to participate in virtual or conference call 4-H meetings. Since this is the case, virtual or conference call 4-H meetings cannot be mandatory and may serve as one option for participation.

The protection of members is of utmost importance in the 4-H YDP. Preventing one-on-one interactions between members, as well as between members and adult participants (volunteer and other adults), is a cornerstone of the 4-H youth protection strategy. As such, please continue to ensure that all [4-H Youth Protection policies](#) are followed during all virtual 4-H activities.

4-H members who choose to attend virtual or conference call 4-H meetings should do so from their own home and not congregate with other members who do not live in the same home for the virtual meeting. Virtual or conference call 4-H meetings should have a purpose and must have an educational, recreational and/or social component. Please consider that social connection may be a priority for many families. Relationship building can be the educational component of the meeting.

The 6-hour project completion requirement is still applicable for virtual project meetings. Think about ideas and resources for how this can happen and be flexible in how those hours will be met. For example, encourage members to use self-guided activities at home with family and share through photos, art, video, creative writing, etc.

Zoom Pro Accounts are available on a temporary basis and can be requested by contacting your local UCCE 4-H Advisor or Community Education Specialist. The Zoom accounts available are shared accounts and the County 4-H Office manages how the accounts are "checked out". Please use Zoom if you need a virtual platform that is ADA compliant for transcription.

Keep in mind the following when holding a virtual 4-H club or project meeting:

- Ensure a minimum of two approved 4-H Adult Volunteers (\*If two cannot be present, one 4-H Adult Volunteer and another adult at least 21 years old or staff must participate) are in place for virtual or conference call 4-H meetings and are connected prior to members arriving.
- Members should identify themselves with their first name only.
- Use only "group chat" and turn off "private chat" in any virtual meeting.
- For club meetings, officers should fulfill their normal responsibilities for leading the meeting, taking minutes, etc.
- Do not record the meeting.
- Turn off "screen sharing" for participants. You can grant screen sharing for individual members as needed.
- Only approved 4-H Adult Volunteer leaders may host virtual or conference call 4-H meetings.



- Keep regular attendance records, as you would normally do, at all 4-H club and project meetings.
- Please work with your County 4-H Office for virtual or conference call 4-H meetings or if you have any questions.

We are regularly updating resources for both conducting virtual meetings and using online tools that can be found at <https://ucanr.edu/sites/ca4H/>

Please reach out to your local UCCE 4-H Advisor or Community Education Specialist for questions related to local 4-H program questions.