

Lamorinda 4-H Update: A Youth Fair Snapshot

By Lee Borrowman

In the dusty warmth of the fairgrounds in Antioch, members of Lamorinda 4-H camped out for several days in early July to tend to their animals during the annual Youth Fair. Towards the end of the week, in the heat of the day, small groups of boys and girls lazed under shade trees or around picnic tables as their cows, swine, rabbits, chickens and goats moored, grunted, twitched, clucked and bleated quietly nearby. Looking cool, calm and collected in their smart green and white uniforms, a handful of young women proudly showed their horses.

The edge of the livestock area was dotted with tents. A dog barked from its wire enclosure, and girlish voices floated over the walls of the restroom and shower facility, "The water's not really warm. It's not ice cold, but it's not home! Hey, did you bring a hairbrush?" A patient teenage leader put a young boy wielding a small baton through the drills of properly showing his chicken: "Make sure it's always facing the



Maddy Cleaver, Cami Brisbo, Kathy Simmons (dog leader), Miranda Protzen and Aimee Pearce

judges, and keep your other hand behind your back!" Tired parent chaperones looked forward to the evening's award ceremony, followed on the final day by a livestock auction, the clean up, and going home.

This is an event that 4-H members look forward to each summer, the culmination of a year's work. Youths come from all over Contra Costa County to attend the Fair, reconnect with old friends and display their projects. The kids of Lamorinda 4-H did well at the Fair this year, taking top honors in many of the competitions.

With the Youth Fair, the 4-H year comes to a close for the summer.

If you are interested in participating in 4-H this fall, mark your calendars for the following meetings:

Aug. 23, 7pm, Parent's-only Organizational Meeting and Registration - 3370 Springhill Rd., Lafayette

Sept. 13, 6:30pm - 7pm Registration, 7-8pm Community Meeting - Stanley Middle School MP Room

GOLDEN GATE BOYS CHOIR AND BELLRINGERS



Parents Day Concert

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Saturday, August 11, 2007

2:00 p.m. in the afternoon

Diocesan Youth Retreat Center
1977 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette

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