

4-H enrollment, as easy as 1-2-3

BY SHANNA ABATTI
Special to this Newspaper

Enrollment for the 2017-2018 4-H year starts Aug. 26 with the official countywide kickoff at the Imperial Valley Mall beginning at 10 a.m. Come see, hear and “Find Your Spark” at the many displays that will be set up as we begin the new 4-H year.



Abatti

Whether your passion is animals, hands-on STEM, robotics, photography, camping, rocketry, cooking, leadership, citizenship, healthy living, or the 100 other projects offered, this is the after-school program for you.

Club leaders and 4-H youth members will be on hand to help you register and navigate the 15 clubs that span the county.

Youth in 4-H gain lifelong skills in areas

such as communication, teamwork, leadership, decision-making and organization. Youth are eligible to participate in 4-H clubs as primary members if they are five years old or in kindergarten as of Dec. 31. For most clubs in Imperial County, the new program year begins the end of August or in September. Youth remain eligible for membership until Dec. 31 of the year in which they turn 19-years-old. Imperial County 4-H clubs are part of the University of California Cooperative Extension and State 4-H Youth Development Program.

4-H is a dynamic, changing organization evolving to meet the needs of youth in a changing society and world.

4-H allows youth to explore their path for a strong future. It doesn't matter where they live or what they want to be when they grow up; in 4-H young people can make friends, have fun and try new things with the help

of caring adults. Whatever a young person's interests, there is a 4-H experience for them. Youth involved in 4-H can receive hands-on experience in public speaking, science, robotics and technology, cooking and healthier eating, photography, performing arts, fashion, caring for animals and nature.



Clubs develop projects, activities and events promoting leadership, citizenship and community service. Local, state and national conferences support

teen and adult volunteer development in these areas. Participating in a 4-H club provides youth with a sense of belonging.

People succeed when they care about themselves; they care about themselves when somebody cares about them.

4-H leaders provide a club environment with a sense of belonging. Here the youth feel cared for by club members and adult volunteers working with the club. This sense of be-

longing contributes to the character youths develop in 4-H. There are 15 active 4-H Clubs across Imperial County, each with their own unique offerings. View the information below to choose a club, and contact the one that best fits your needs to begin the process.

4-H Clubs have no affiliation with cities, school districts, nor with any religious or political organizations. The meeting place for each club is chosen based on convenience, and you are welcome to join any Club that appears to fit your family's needs.

To see what 4-H projects are available, go to <http://ceimperial.ucanr.edu/4h> or contact the local extension office at 442-265-7700.

The annual registration fee is \$46 which covers the insurance fee through the University of California. There is a fee waiver for those families who may need it.

The 4-H Program is dedicated to being available to all youth. If you would like to join the 4-H Program but cannot afford the program fee, you may be able to join at a reduced cost or at no cost at all.

Calexico 4-H Club

Calexico High School Cafeteria
Schedule - TBD
Millie Spaugh mspaugh@yahoo.com or
Xavier Galindo 760-562-5694

Calipatria 4-H Club

Calipatria High School Media Center,
Calipatria
Schedule - TBD
Angelita Ortiz 760-455-3998 or
aortiz@calipat.com

Dogwood 4-H Club

Schedule - TBD
Contact the 4-H Office 760-352-9474
jlgarcia@ucanr.edu

Holtville 4-H Club

Finley Elementary School cafeteria,
Holtville
Second Monday of every month,
7 p.m.
Shannon Magana 760-960-0881 or
tcakmagana@sbcglobal.net

McCabe 4-H Club

Corfman Auditorium, El Centro
Third Tuesday of every month,
7 p.m.
Vicky Lopez-Cantwell 760-336-3801 or
vickylc@roadrunner.com

M&M 4-H Club

Senior Citizen Building, Brawley
Second Monday of every month,

6:30 p.m.

Contact the 4-H Office 760-352-9474
or jlgarcia@ucanr.edu

Mount Signal 4-H

Farm Bureau
1000 Broadway, El Centro
Second Tuesday of every month
Kelly Jackson 760-455-2667 or
kelly-jackson@sbcglobal.net

Magnolia 4-H Club

Old First Baptist Church, Brawley
Second Monday of every month,
6 p.m.
Contact the 4-H Office 760-352-9474
or jlgarcia@ucanr.edu

Meadows 4-H Club

Farm Bureau
1000 Broadway, Imperial
Third Monday of every month,
6:30 p.m.
Contact the 4-H Office 760-352-9474
or jlgarcia@ucanr.edu

Mulberry 4-H Club

Mulberry School
Brawley
1st Monday of Every Month, 6 p.m.
Contact the 4-H Office 760-352-9474
or jlgarcia@ucanr.edu

Seeley 4-H Club

Seeley Elementary School. Seeley

Second or third Monday of every
month

Contact the 4-H Office 760-352-9474
or jlgarcia@ucanr.edu

Southwest Valley 4-H Club

Ben Hulse Elementary School,
Imperial
Second Tuesday of every month,
7 p.m.
Michelle Edgmon 760-550-3019 or
m.edgmon@gmail.com

Star Route 4-H Club

Farm Credit Ag Center
485 Business Way, Imperial
Second Tuesday of every month,
(rescheduled as necessary)
Grayce Lopez 760-457-7511 or
glopez@ccciv.org

Verde 4-H Club

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
458 Chestnut Ave, Holtville
First Monday of every month, 6:30 p.m.
Contact the 4-H Office 760-352-9474
or jlgarcia@ucanr.edu

Westmorland 4-H Club

Westmorland Fire Department
210 W Main St., Westmorland
Second Tuesday of every month,
6:30 p.m.
Tina Cruz 760-960-9956 or
cruztina82@yahoo.com