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Shasta & Inter Mountain 4-H Questions
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Message from the County Director

The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) is the public service and applied research division of the University of California. UCCE is a cooperatively supported effort between county and federal government, and the University of California. The University of California provides program staff while Shasta County provides support services (vehicles, office, support staff, utilities, etc). At UCCE, we conduct applied research on issues pertinent to Shasta County Agriculture, Natural and Human Resources. This partnership enables the intellectual resources of the University of California to address critical issues such as rangeland and forest production, water quality, food safety, childhood obesity, wildfire, oak woodland management and youth development.

Our statewide networks of agriculture, natural resources, forestry, 4-H, and nutrition and consumer science staff are dedicated to conducting research and extending results to farmers, ranchers, forest landowners, students, teachers and interested citizens. For more on the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resource Division, visit http://ucanr.edu/.

For 2021 we have operated under US Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. The Shasta County Cooperative Extension staff worked to offer as much in-person programming as possible. We have been fortunate that even under COVID-19 guidelines we were able to participate in the 7th annual “Farm Camp” program. This partnership with City of Redding Parks and Recreation and with Shasta Union High School provided respite from the pandemic for both parents and youth. This summer Nate Caeton offered an “Outdoor Adventure” camp that exposed youth to a program aimed at giving youth a better understanding about possible career choices and college. I gained new appreciation for Erin Paradis as she provided counsel for youth and parents from three counties (and four fairs) through the challenges of if and how market animal projects would be exhibited and sold in 2021. Shasta County 4-H parents and leaders continued to offer programming through-out the year. While enrollment was less in 2021 than it was in 2020, The reduction was not as drastic when compared to other counties. Rick Satomi worked hard to hold Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) this year at Camp McCumber. This was the only FIT session held in California this year. This year, under the leadership of Shawnice Sellers, the CalFresh staff has provided lessons to over 1,500 youth and 120 adults.

2021-22 Shasta County UCCE Staff

Larry Forero - County Director/Livestock/Natural Resources Advisor
Rick Satomi - Forestry/Natural Resources Advisor
Nate Caeton - 4-H Youth Development Advisor
Erin Paradis - Community Education Specialist II, 4-H Youth Development
Sara Jaimes - Executive Assistant-Confidential, Shasta County
Mari Szynal - Typist Clerk III, Shasta County
Shawnice Sellers - Community Education Supervisor II, UC CalFresh Program
Chanelle Vincelli - Community Education Supervisor I, UC CalFresh Program
Margaret Purdy - Administrative Assistant II, UC CalFresh Program
Lori Coker - Community Education Specialist II, UC CalFresh Program
Tami Sandeen - Community Education Specialist II UC CalFresh Program
Susanna Ewert - Community Education Specialist II UC CalFresh Program

UCCE Shasta Master Gardener Program

The Shasta County Master Gardener is a joint program of Shasta College and UCCE. Shasta College provides training and organizes projects, while UCCE provides consistent programming and administrative support across the state. The Master Gardener program is an internationally recognized program for individuals who wish to increase their science-based knowledge of gardening and the environment and then return that knowledge to their community as a volunteer. Shasta County currently has 42 active Master Gardeners and 15 new graduates from our fall training class.

This past year, our Master Gardeners gave out more than 200 gardening kits and books to youngsters who visited our information booth at the Farmers Market. Master Gardener also propagated, grew and gave away over 1,200 plants in two separate events to help home owners to landscape after the local area wildfires. Even with the many challenges of this past year, volunteers logged more than 1,100 hours of community service to answer gardeners’ questions, increase environmental awareness, propagate educational opportunities for beginning gardeners. Master Gardeners also provide current university research on garden and landscape related topics to the local community with a weekly advice column for the Redding Record Searchlight, a gardener help line, an information booth at the Redding Farmers Market alongside online seminars and videos.

In the coming year volunteers will be working on many projects to keep our community healthy and growing. Some examples include:

- Providing educational kits to school children for science based learning related to botany and gardening.
- Propagating plants and giving them away to land owners who lost landscaping in the wildfires.
- Providing training and a garden starts Co-Op for new gardeners.

If you have garden or landscape related questions call the Master Gardener Helpline at (530) 242-2219 or e-mail mastergardener@shastacollege.edu

4-H Youth Development Program Statistics & Events

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<th>Shasta County 4-H Statistics</th>
<th>4-H Events</th>
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<td>634 Youth Members ages 5-19</td>
<td>Livestock Judging Day</td>
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<td>106 Adult Volunteer Leaders</td>
<td>Fashion Revue</td>
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<td>21 Community Clubs</td>
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<td>55 Projects Offered</td>
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**4-H Youth Development Program**

Nate Caeton is the 4-H Youth Development Advisor for Shasta, Tehama and Trinity counties. Nate conducts extension education programs focused on strengthening and expanding 4-H. His background is in instructional science, learning technologies, and informal learning. Current efforts focus on STEM Education and Scientific Literacy, outdoor and environmental education, Civic and Community Engagement, College and Career Readiness, and Youth Emergency Preparedness. Nate also serves on the statewide 4-H Camping Advisory and Shooting Sports Advisory Committees. This year we were able to implement Center for Disease Control safety measures for in-person activities.

**Highlights for this past year:**

- Completed the Pathways to Your Future college and career exploration program. Participants engaged with current college students via zoom a took a virtual “campus tour”. A paper outlining this effort was published in the Journal of Extension.
- 2021 marked the 7th Farm Camp held in partnership with Redding Parks and Recreation. This camp engages local youth in agriculture with hands on learning experiences. A highlight of the camp is learning to pilot the 4-H program’s DJI Phantom 3 drone by participants.
- Project Learning Tree was launched locally. We were successful in receiving Cal Fire funding that allows us to hire a full-time staff person to implement this program locally.
- Organized an “Outdoor Adventures” day camp that exposed participants to possible natural resource careers as well as hiking, swimming, and crafts.

Erin Paradis is the 4-H Community Education Specialist for Shasta, Trinity, and Tehama counties. She is responsible for day-to-day operation of the 4-H program, providing training and support to the volunteers and club leaders, and promoting the 4-H program throughout the local community.

**Highlights for this past year:**

- Worked closely with the Shasta County 4-H Ambassadors. At the beginning of the year Erin helped the ambassadors set learning goals and activities for the year. Currently, the ambassador team is planning their annual Junior and Teen Leadership training. Throughout the year they participated in various county-wide events and activities.
- Annually, the ambassador team plans and implements at least one service-learning project. COVID-19 restrictions required that they adjust their service-learning project. They saw a need to keep the members engaged during this difficult time and developed a video series of project lesson/activities for the members.
- Participated in Farm Camp with our 4-H members and their goat friends. Campers learned about the goat project and even got to wash, trim hoofs, and tattoo the goats.
- Organized a countywide “cloverbud” project as an introduction to the 4-H program and the projects offered.

As we approach the new year, Shasta County 4-H continues to create a “hands on learning” atmosphere where our members can explore, share ideas, grow skills, and identify their spark. If you are interested in helping our youth “learn by doing” by sharing your expertise and experiences, or have a youth who is interested in joining, please contact the Shasta County 4-H office at (530) 224-4900.

**Shasta CalFresh Healthy Living, University of California Cooperative Extension**

The CalFresh Healthy Living, University of California Cooperative Extension program aims to inspire and empower underserved Shasta County residents to improve their health and the health of our communities by promoting awareness, education and community change through diverse partnerships that result in healthy eating and active living. Shawnice Fisher supervises this dynamic USDA grant funded program, while Chanelle Vincelli supervises staff and programming.

This program delivers research and evidence-based comprehensive programming to youth and adults, with a focus on direct education to improve the diet and nutrition related skills of CalFresh recipients and their families. While the COVID-19 pandemic affected program efforts and capabilities due to site shut-downs as well as safety concerns and precautions, the CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE Program was still able to provide virtual or hybrid food, nutrition, garden and physical activity education in Shasta county this year to:

- Over 1,500 children in 10 Schools or Preschools
- 120 adults and families in 7 non-profit organizations and agencies

In order to address nutrition and health challenges locally, this program collaborates with key partners including the Healthy Shasta Movement, the Shasta County Growers Association and the cities of Redding and Anderson along with many schools and agencies.

Program efforts provide essential knowledge and skills to increase consumption of healthy foods and beverages, increase food resource management, improve food security, and support access to physical activity which will lead to healthier lifestyles.

Although the ongoing pandemic has changed the way the program looks and operates, the staff has been resilient and adapted to meet the needs of students, families, and the community. The team continues to adapt curricula and create lesson videos to meet the demand for distance learning or hybrid instruction, while still offering traditional in-person lessons. Staff have also been able to continue delivering traditional “Lesson Kits” to teachers that include lesson materials, handouts and other resources that enable teachers to deliver lessons safely to their students, while an educator can consult and support via telecommuting.

This program plans to continue supporting the needs of Shasta County Residents as we navigate through these times.
Livestock & Natural Resources

Larry Forero is the Livestock/Natural Resources Advisor for Shasta County. He is trained as an animal and range scientist. His applied research and extension activities address issues associated with ranch economics, beef cattle, rangeland and irrigated pasture.

The University of California Livestock/Natural Resource Program in Shasta County has been developed to identify and fix major issues impacting local producers. Projects generally fall into one of the two major areas: Natural Resources and Livestock Production.

**Natural Resources**
- Long term range monitoring project that evaluates change across time
- Continuation of irrigated pasture water efficiency project
- Continued the groundwater measurement project in the Fall River Valley
- Summer dormant perennial fleche fescue grazing project that is evaluating the possibility of establishing a summer dormant perennial in the valley region of California
- Developed an online publication and calculator for land owners to self-calculate depth capacity curves for their ponds with Shasta UCCE Forester, Rick Satomi

**Livestock Production**
- Participated in the Anaplasmosis project that looks at cattle blood titers and species of Anaplasmosis
- Researched efficacy of using eye patches to treat cattle with pink eye
- Initiated research to fine tune mineral mix that meets animal needs and optimizes consumption of ionophore
- Developing a study to assess the importance of worming cow-calf pairs on irrigated pasture
- Participated in the Ranch-to-Rail program with University of California, Davis
- Wrote a general publication outlining the basic tenants of cow-calf economics and grazing for a public audience
- Initiated a cattle deworming project that evaluates efficacy of worming programs

These projects address important issues that livestock industry will contend with locally and across the state. The results of this work are extended through the free newsletter, Northern California Ranch Update, as well as periodic workshops, seminars and field days. You can subscribe to this newsletter electronically on our website http://ceshasta.ucanr.edu.

This past year we offered the AB-589 Water Measurement trainings in California in a virtual environment. While this wasn’t as much fun as holding the meeting face-to-face, it did help water rights owners comply with statutory regulations.

Forestry Program

Ricky Satomi is the Forestry and Natural Resources advisor for Shasta, Trinity and Siskiyou County. In this role, Ricky seeks to address major issues of concern for local forest landowners and land managers. Over the past year, the program has tackled projects to improve our Forest Management capacity and Natural Resource Education opportunities. Like forest ecosystems, the Shasta Office has been busy adapting to the challenges of this year.

**Forest Management**
In 2021, a Forest Landowner Stewardship training was hosted in Siskiyou County to service the greater North State region. The training provided technical training to help participants develop fire risk and forest health management strategies for their property. Workshop participants worked with forestry professionals to prepare individualized management plans and incorporate personal goals with the ecological, silvicultural, and economic constraints of their forest landscape. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, this program utilized a blended format with weekly webinars and a field day at Black Butte Working Forest.

The Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Experiment continues to make progress with over 120,000 seedlings planted across California. 15,000 genetically superior trees were planted at the LaTour State Demonstration Forest site in Shasta County. As one of three primary locations experimenting with new management techniques, this experiment will identify seed sources and forest structures which ensure persistence of forests in the face of increasingly severe weather patterns throughout the north state.

**Natural Resources Education**
With support from Shasta County, the Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) K-12 educator training program returned in 2021. This week-long program brings forest specialists together with teachers from rural and urban schools to learn about managing our natural resources. The 2021 FIT session was held at Camp Mcumber with 18 participants and included a visit to the SPI sawmill in Burney and the Shasta College Heavy Equipment Logging Operation Certificate field site.

The Shasta County Cooperative Extension office has also been working to revitalize the Project Learning Tree program. In 2021, PLT partnered with Turtle Bay to provide local educators with forest-based curriculum in the classroom. The PLT program is a national level curriculum which provides Next Generation Science Standards to pre-service and formal K-8 educators. In 2022, PLT plans to continue partnering with local outdoor education schools and pre-service programs to provide trainings.

Ricky continues to be involved with youth education efforts at the Sierra Cascade Logging Conference and Forestry Challenge, cultivating the next generation of forest management professionals.