



Family and Consumer Sciences
Agriculture and Resource Management
4-H Youth Development

129 Morris Turnpike
Newton, NJ 07860
973-948-3040
973-948-5582 (fax)
www.rce.rutgers.edu

April 18, 2007

Contact: Dave Foord
Sussex Cty. 4-H Program Associate

For Immediate Release:

4-H Building To Be Constructed At Sussex County Fairgrounds

On April 14 the Sussex County 4-H Educational Exhibit Hall Committee, Inc. (a group of dedicated 4-H volunteers) held a groundbreaking ceremony celebrating the construction of a 4-H Exhibit Hall on the grounds of the NJ State Fair/Sussex County Farm and Horse Show (Augusta, NJ). The building will display projects and exhibits by Sussex County 4-H clubs. Additionally it will host educational demonstrations and presentations at the Bill Bennett Learning Center by 4-H members, volunteers and others during the fair.

The exhibit hall will be named in honor of Phoebe and Ralph Shotwell, two life-time supporters of the Sussex County 4-H program. Phoebe Shotwell leads a 4-H cooking club, *Yeastie Beasties* and has been a 4-H volunteer leader for over fifty-five years. Through their dedication to the Sussex 4-H program it is estimated the Shotwells have impacted over 3,000 county youth over the years.

The 4-H program in Sussex County has grown to more than 700 members participating in 63 clubs. Size constraints have limited the ability of 4-H Clubs to exhibit at the fair. Exhibit Hall Committee Chair Neil Flaherty notes, "This building will give more 4-H clubs, and their members, the opportunity to share what they have learned with the public. Everybody benefits from this experience."

In addition to the 10 day Fair, the building will be available for use by 4-H clubs for clinics, shows, and other educational programming. The 4-H Exhibit Hall will also be available to local organizations for their functions, arranged through the NJ State Fair.

MORE

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
RUTGERS

Cooperating Agencies Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Family and Consumer Sciences
Agriculture and Resource Management
4-H Youth Development

129 Morris Turnpike
Newton, NJ 07860
973-948-3040
973-948-5582 (fax)
www.rce.rutgers.edu

Contact: Dave Foord
Sussex Cty. 4-H Program Associate

4-H Building To Be Constructed At Sussex County Fairgrounds-*continued*

Costs for the building are projected to be \$175,000. The 4-H Exhibit Hall Committee has already sponsored fundraising events and received private donations in support of the project. At the groundbreaking, the Committee announced that they had received over \$80,000 in pledges and donations. It will be hosting fundraising events and seeking additional donations in the months ahead.

TM Brennan Contractors, Inc. plans to complete the 4,800 sq. ft. building by Mid-July, in time for a grand opening prior to the 2007 NJ State Fair/Sussex County Farm and Horse Show in August.

To learn more about this project, or how you can help, please contact Neil Flaherty at (973) 948-1295 or Michelle Teitsma at 973-948-3040.

###



The Phoebe and Ralph Shotwell 4-H Exhibit Hall at the Sussex County Fairgrounds

Augusta, New Jersey

Planned Completion, July 2007

Client:
Sussex County 4-H Educational Exhibit Hall, Inc.
Newton, New Jersey

Contractor:
T.M. Brennan Contractors, Inc.
Hamburg, New Jersey



As guests of honor, Phoebe and Ralph Shotwell dug in with ceremonial shovels. Exhibit Hall Committee Chair Neil Flaherty stands to their right.



Ift to right.: Neil Flaherty, 4-H Exhibit Hall Chair; Steven Oroho, Freeholder (Franklin); Glen Vetrano, Freeholder, (Hampton); Phoebe and Ralph Shotwell, Ginny Powell, Chair, Department of 4-H Youth Development, Rutgers Cooperative Extension; Allison Littell McHose, Assemblywoman (District 24); Gary Chiusano, Freeholder (Frankford), Susan Zellman (Stanhope)