AND THEN THERE WAS ONE.....

As Bob Peterson rides off into the sunset, destined for a retirement in Oregon, it leaves Pima County with just one 4-H Agent. For perspective, when I started 28 years ago, there were four 4-H Agents. As recently as 2007 there were three 4-H Agents. Needless to say, this much change in this short of time creates some challenges.

At the Fair some of you asked about the possibility of replacing Bob. Initially I was told by upper administration that the position would be lost, the salary savings lost in budget cuts. More recently the discussion has been that we have to wait until after the May 18 Proposition 100 vote for further discussion. So as I write this, I have to prepare myself for the fact that the cavalry won’t be coming over the hill with a new 4-H agent for Pima County any time soon, though one won’t know for sure until after May 18. Some also have asked about the impact of Proposition 100 on the 4-H program. Later in this newsletter there is an explanation written by Dr. Kirk Astroth, Assistant Director for Arizona 4-H, of how the Proposition 100 will impact the UA and thereby Arizona 4-H. Please take a few minutes to read his explanation.

With just the two of us, Bob and I split the program and did very little together or across into each other’s areas. We simply couldn’t afford to use time and energy on duplicating efforts and knowing what the other one was doing. So, as I prepare to take over the whole program, I have some catching up to do. I have to get up to speed on things like Quality Assurance, Junior Livestock Sales Inc., the Fair rules, the Ethics committee, the Executive Council and lots of other things. In many respects I’ll be like a new agent, asking lots of questions so I can get a better understanding of what is happening. Please bear with me as I ask those questions.

Even as I try to get up to speed, I also realize that the 4-H program can’t stay as it has been. I know that when I take my shirt off at night, there isn’t a big “S” on my chest. I simply can’t do the work of three people. This does present an opportunity, an opportunity to look at what we do, what we can do without or what we should be doing instead. With that in mind, I have set up an electronic “Suggestion Box”. If you have an idea that will help with the transition, help improve the program send it to: pima.4h.ideas@gmail.com I can’t guarantee I’ll implement everything that is suggested, but I can assure you that I will read every message with interest. So please, pass along your ideas.

Many thanks to all that expressed the desire to help out, to be more involved. That will be needed. I’ll give you a better assessment next month after the vote....

Curt Peters
The May 18th Election to Temporarily Raise the Sales Tax 1 Cent Per Dollar

On May 18th, Arizona voters will be asked to go to the polls and express their view on an important decision for our state. As most of you know, Arizona, like other states, has been adversely impacted by the recent economic recession. As a result, critical services and programs have been curtailed because of budget cuts. Your vote is important, and you need to make your voice heard.

The state legislature has approved separate appropriations bill for FY11 which contains two separate budgets, one predicated on the passage of Proposition 100, and a second “contingency” budget, which will automatically be enacted if Proposition 100 fails. If Proposition 100 fails, the contingency budget cuts $107 million from the university system. The UA’s share of that cut will be $42 million, which is in addition to the $100 million in permanent budget cuts already enacted. President Shelton has estimated that 500 jobs will need to be cut if the temporary sales tax is not approved by voters. In addition, the University would need to impose significant furloughs on all employees, make substantial cuts to financial aid for students, and impose sweeping program cuts (including Extension), all of which would serve to diminish the quality of the student educational experience, impact Extension’s ability to provide program out in the state, and lessen the value of a UA degree. You can learn more about these two budgets at:
http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/newpage.htm

What does this mean to you? Extension is part of the University and a cut to the University of Arizona is a cut to Extension and a cut to 4-H. Our ability to deliver programs across the state will be severely impacted if more cuts are required. 4-H programs, in particular, could be eliminated or greatly reduced in counties. Master Gardener programs have already lost faculty leadership and may have to be eliminated in some cases. Retiring county agents will not be replaced. Travel by specialists from the University and from research centers will be reduced meaning you will have less access to some of the best agriculture and life science minds in the state. The programs UACE offers affect the livelihoods of one of every ten Arizonans. Extension offers programs that affect the quality of life for millions more. The ramifications can be extensive for all program areas.

We urge you to get involved in the election process, educate yourself about the two budget scenarios, and make your voice heard on May 18th. Encourage your neighbors to get involved as well. Spread the word about this important vote. There is too much at stake to sit by on the sidelines and let others determine your future and the future of the University of Arizona, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cooperative Extension and Arizona 4-H.

Dr. Kirk A. Astroth, Director
Arizona 4-H Youth Development
Rabbit Donation:
JOLT UPDATE
Chaperons Needed
In 2010 Pima County will have one of its biggest delegations to JOLT ever. This is great! JOLT is a great experience and this group will be able to testify to that when they return. In order to send this large group, we need to have at least two chaperons accompany the group. Being a chaperon at JOLT means getting involved, not just sitting back and waiting for something to happen. Chaperons need to be available from the morning of June 14 until the evening of June 18. Registration costs will be taken care of. For more info on the positions, take a look at: http://extension.arizona.edu/4h/programs/journey-opportunities-leaders-tomorrow-jolt-0
If you think you can handle JOLT, contact Curt at 626-5161.

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SCHOLARSHIP CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Sarah Appleby, Iliana Camacho, Dana Dobbins, Hannah Ethridge, Chelsea Hendryk, Myles Gallagher, Diane Roggenthen, and Trinitie Webb as they all scored college scholarships amounting to $6,000 from the Pima County 4-H Executive Council. Good luck to all as they move on to the next stage in their education. College scholarships are just one of the opportunities that the Executive Council funds. Keep that in mind the next time you have a chance to help with an Executive Council fund raising event.

Congratulations to Hannah Ethridge and Jolyn Jameson who were awarded scholarships by the Family and Community Education Clubs, a group associated with the Family and Consumer Sciences programs at the Extension Office.

More scholarship announcements will be forthcoming in the June newsletter.

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FAIR LOST AND FOUND
We have a number of jackets left at the fair, especially after fun day. Please check to see if you’re missing a jacket. Anything left on June 1st, goes to the clothing bank.

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HORSE CAMP IS COMING!
Campers are you ready for another year of fun! Horse Camp is scheduled for June 20th through the 26th. Gymkhana, Sorting, Fundamental Roping, Western Pleasure/Trail and English Pleasure/Jumping will be the 5 disciplines offered. Horses will not be supplied; you must bring your own. Check out the Website at: http://ag.arizona.edu/pima/4-h/horsecamp/hcamp.htm for more information, camper applications, counselor applications and pictures from last year’s camp! Be sure to get your application in early, camp fills up fast! Applications will not be accepted after May 19th. If you need more information contact Curt Peters at 520-626-5161 email cpeters@Ag.arizona.edu or Penny Kollar at 520-203-1959 email kollar1@mindspring.com. Horse Camp staff is looking forward to seeing you!!

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WANT ADS
**A family inherited a rabbit that they would like to donate as a pet to a loving family. If you are interested please contact 579-2845 or 247-2187.

WANTED:
**Beef, Swine, Chicken & Eggs
Please contact Brenda Underwood, 360-9341

**Reid Park Zoo is looking for a Modern Game Hen to use in their education program. Please contact Leslie Waters – 791-3204 x26.

**One or two goats to have as a pet. They prefer pygmy goats but will accept any kind and they are not particular about looks or papers. Please contact Sally at 625-0379.

**A gentle, possibly a dwarf bunny for a pet.
Please contact Linda Wingert / 324-0125 / lindaw13@cox.net
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<td>Horse Project Mtg @ CEO, 7:00</td>
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<td>4-H Critique Potluck &amp; Awards Celebration @ CAC, 12:00 – 4:00</td>
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<td>Shooting Sports Ldrs Mtg @ CEO, 7:00; Dog Leader Meeting @ CEO, 7:00</td>
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<td>Pigeon Project Mtg @ 4760 S Agave Ranch Rd, 11:00</td>
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Clover Connection

May

Postage paid by:
The Pima County 4-H Executive Council
4210 North Campbell Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85719

CLOVER CONNECTION
INFORMATION DEADLINES
15th of the month

For Clover Connection Information contact:
Curt Peters, Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development
626-5161 or Fax 626-5849

Looking ahead to June....

1  PCJLSI @ CEO, 7:00 pm
3  Executive Council @ CEO, 6:30 pm
7  Horse Project Meeting @ CEO, 7:00 pm
9  Shooting Sports Leaders Meeting @CEO, 7:00 pm
15 Sheep / Market Goat @ CEO, 7:00 pm
17 Swine Project Meeting @ CEO, 7:00 pm

To contact the Agents / Staff:
Curt Peters - cpeters@ag.arizona.edu
Jennifer Stapp - jenstapp@ag.arizona.edu

http://cals.arizona.edu/pima/4-h

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, James A. Christenson, Director, Cooperative Extension, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the University of Arizona.

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Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting DRC (Disability Resource Center) at 621-3268 (V/TTY). Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.