

Youth Center kicks off 4-H program

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6/1/2007 - **BEALE AIR FORCE BASE, Calif.** -- Right in time for summer vacation, the Beale Youth Center is now offering 4-H clubs as part of its service to Beale youth and families.

The name 4-H stands for head, heart, hands, and health. The program engages youth to reach their fullest potential while advancing the field of youth development.

Although 4-H is best known for its association with agriculture, the program covers many subjects of interest to youth including: engineering, family and consumer sciences, leisure education/health science, resource science and social science.

The program kicked off May 11 with a 4-H fair at the Youth Center. Various booths presented by local 4-H club leaders were available for youth to learn about such subjects of interest as cooking, photography, archery and animal care. The event also presented an opportunity for base youth to connect with like-minded youth and adults from the outside community.

"We were able to tap into the resources that 4-H has in the community for offering programs to our kids," said Sue Galmish, Beale Youth Center 4-H program director.

While having support from the outside communities is very helpful, the program relies heavily on adult volunteers from the Beale community to volunteer to lead new groups, Mrs. Galmish said.

Currently, two groups are available to Beale youth, bicycling and graphic arts. The bicycling club meets Thursdays at 2 p.m. beginning June 14 at the Youth Center and is open to youths ages 9 to 14.

The graphic arts club meets Thursdays at 1 p.m. beginning June 14 at the Youth Center and is open to youth ages 9 to 14.

The Youth Center staff is also looking for more adult volunteers with knowledge in fields that fit the 4-H mission. An orientation for interested adults is being held June 5 at the Youth Center from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

"We are in desperate need of more adult volunteers," Mrs. Galmish said. "We're looking for people with the expertise and knowledge and would be comfortable teaching kids." For more information, call Sue Galmish at 634-4953.