

4-H leader teaches crochet skills



RICHARD GREEN/THE SALINAS CALIFORNIAN

Mary Hughes, a King City Blue Ribbon 4-H leader who also teaches crocheting, is seen in the Del Rey School library with three 4-H members. From left to right is her daughter, Allyson Hughes, 10, Brooke Rianda, 10, Mary Hughes, and Megan Haley, 10. All are fifth graders and second year in crochet.

By JANICE AUSTIN
The Salinas Californian

Having grown up in south county and been involved in 4-H during her youth, Mary Hughes understands the important lessons 4-H can offer.

"I was in the Greenfield 4-H for five years as a child," said Hughes, who leads the King City Blue Ribbon 4-H group. "This is my oldest daughter's fourth year. When my daughter started, I started in again."

This year, Hughes serves as the co-community leader. She also leads projects in cross-stitch, leadership, and beginning and advanced crochet.

With 17 girls in her crochet group, Hughes stays busy with a variety of projects. They are now making baby booties and baby hats to donate for the newborns at Mee Memorial Hospital in King City.

"On average, somebody is at my house three afternoons a

week working on their projects," she said. "With so many, I can't meet with all of them at one time."

One of the largest 4-H groups in south county, the King City Blue Ribbons have 94 members ranging in age from 9 to 18.

"Quite a few stick with it," Hughes said. "A lot of the kids are so involved in sports, some of them have to make a choice."

Hughes said that for a lot of youth, the interest in 4-H is in taking a pig to the fair. She estimated that there are about 50 members in the swine group.

"Our young core group is eager and willing to do a lot of stuff," she said. "They learn life-long skills here."

"4-H teaches leadership and public-speaking skills. We also do a lot for community pride by making donations and helping out. 4-H teaches kids how to manage time and to get involved in the community. Hopefully as adults they'll continue to help out their

MARY HUGHES

■ **AGE:** 42

■ **YOUTH INVOLVEMENT:** King City Blue Ribbon 4-H

■ **WORK:** Has taught first grade for 18 years. Now job shares, working one day per week at Del Rey School.

■ **EDUCATION:** Graduated King City High School 1982, attended Hartnell College, graduated in 1988 from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, with a degree in Liberal Studies and a teaching credential.

■ **PERSONAL:** Husband Greg is a physical education teacher for fourth and fifth grades at Santa Lucia School. They live in King City with their daughters, Hillary, 12, Allyson, 10, Amy, 7.

■ **INFORMATION:** For further information about 4-H, call Mary Hughes at 385-4220 or the Monterey County 4-H office at 759-7360.

communities."

As she teaches others, Hughes continues to credit 4-H for expanding her own knowledge. "4-H is still teaching me things," she said. "I didn't know how to read a crochet pattern before now. I'm learning to do that while I'm teaching my girls."

Hughes said she enjoys see-

ing the impact the group has on young people as they grow up.

"I've heard many kids say when they've graduated that what they've learned in 4-H has really helped them out," she said. "When they interview for jobs, they're not afraid to speak. It makes them well-rounded."

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Watsonville- Rent to Own, 2 bd, 1 ba on huge lot. Call for details. Paul- 212-5326

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GONZALES 3 Bdrm 2 bath near schools, No pets or smoke \$1300 + deposit **675-3746**

4 bdrm, 2 ba, gar., frplc, pet OK, near schools. Sec 8 OK. \$1595/\$1585. Triad **424-7789**

BRAND NEW Soledad Homes in gated community:

3 bdrm with loft, 2.5 ba, \$1700; and 3 bdrm, 2.5 ba, \$1600. Private park, close to schools and NEW shopping ctr. No smoke/Sec 8/pets. **831-647-2440**

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KING CITY 4 bd/2 ba like new on 5 acres. \$1595 + deposit. Dave **408-504-7885**

King City/Pine Meadow- 3 Bd, 2 ba. \$1400/mo. + \$1300 dep. No section **8. 831-455-5128**

SOLEDAD 755 Cordoba Ct. 3/2 new carpet, \$1350/ nego. Agt. 484-2400

Commercial Rentals 3150

339 Maple Street. 1309 s.f. with 12 x 12 office. Corner of Abbott & Maple. No automotive, OH. Call Dan **424-1640**

975 W. Alisal, Salinas 1,338 sq ft, 2nd floor office, great location, ample parking, serviced by elevator. Call Columbus Prop. Mgmt **646-1108**

Vertin Ave. Warehouse, roll-up door, office. NO AUTOMOTIVE. \$1500 + \$1500 dep. First City Prop Mgmt **229-1170**

Warehouse For Rent Great South Salinas! 6,000 sq ft, office, restroom, dock & roll up door. \$1400. **484-1889**

Business Opportunities 1500

FLOWER SHOP, Salinas area, \$20K, 23 years same location, gross \$160K. **831-512-7747**

1040 Bison Way, 4 bd., 2 ba. + loft. Very clean. Large back yard. \$1,900 + dep. Kenco. **424-6365.**

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Real Estate For Sale North County 2285

Watsonville- Rent to Own, 2 bd, 1 ba on huge lot. Call for details. Paul- **212-5326**

WAREHOUSE Dayton St., Salinas

5250 sq ft, fenced dock, office space. No automotive. **484-9924**

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