4-H Expressive Arts Contests- Enclosed you will find entry forms for talent, craft and fashion contests. All crafts, fashion show garments and all entry forms are due to the 4-H Office by Friday, April 30th. We must have at least 5 acts for the talent show to be held. No late entries or forms accepted. The 4-H Expressive Arts Show will be held on Thursday, May 6th at First Baptist Church – Fellowship Hall in Taylorsville beginning at 7:00 pm. Photo contest winners will also be on display and results of all the contests announced. Photos have been judged and are currently on display at the Extension Office.

4-H Presentations- A 4-H Presentation is a method of sharing a skill or something you have enjoyed learning about. Presentation competition is for youth ages 9-18 years old. We will also help you develop an outline and sketch ideas for your posters. Deadline to register is May 28th for a presentation. The district 4-H presentation contest will be held on Wednesday, June 23rd in Mecklenburg County. Here are the changes for 2010: New presentations: 4-H Healthy Chef. Presentation that have been removed from competition include 21st Century Communications, Vet. Science and Breads. Call the office for a list of categories that are available.

4-H Mini Garden Project- Alexander County 4-H will provide 4-H’ers with seeds, mystery seed and 4 tomato plants for a mini garden. Seeds to be provided include beans, corn, cucumbers, and squash. Participants are encouraged to complete a garden project book and are eligible to have their garden judged for prizes in the summer. In addition, participants will be eligible to enter the 4-H Scarecrow Contest which is sponsored by the Alexander 4-H Livestock Club. Deadline to sign up is April 16th. Seed/plants will be available after that date.

Magic Workshop- Iredell County 4-H is pleased to offer a magic workshop July 15th, taught by professional magician Sammy Cortino. Inspired by routines developed by the International Magicians Society (Guinness world record holder for The World’s Largest Magic Organization) comes Sammy Cortino’s Illusion Institute, a fascinating workshop that will teach anyone how to perform simple effects to entertain and enchant. In this action-packed workshop, Sammy will pass on the traditional foundations of magic: including secrecy, magic genres, and theory. Workshop participants will follow along as Sammy teaches them how to perform several magic tricks, ranging from card tricks to money magic and everything in between. For a Grand Finale, participants will apply what they have learned and perform for family and friends. The magic continues after this workshop as handouts of magic tricks are supplied along with a certificate of the completion of this course. The workshop will run from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, July 15th, with the magic show immediately following. Cost for the workshop will be $15.00 per child, ages 8 to 15. An early sign-up is required and space is limited. Further information and registration forms can be obtained at the Iredell County 4-H office, 444 Bristol Drive, Statesville, 704-873-0507.
Junior Leaders Needed for Summer- We are in need of lots for 4-H junior leaders (ages 13-19) to assist with summer camps and workshops. To request to become a junior leader, you must complete a junior leader application and attend the training session on Tuesday, May 25th from 3:30-4:30 pm. If you have a conflict with the training date, you can arrange an individual training session. If you are interested in being a junior leader, enclosed is an application that must be filled out and returned to the 4-H Office by April 15th.

4-H Summer Opportunities- There are still spaces still available for workshops, day camps and other events planned this summer. Call the 4-H Center to receive a summer camp brochure or go to http://alexander.ces.ncsu.edu/.

4-H Community Service Project- Handy Dandy 4-H Club would like for you to continue collecting your Campbell Soup Labels for the Barium Springs Home in Troutman. One Club of the Year point will be given for each label turned into the 4-H Office.

Alexander County Spring Goat Show- will be held on Saturday, May 1st at the Alexander County Fairgrounds. A youth showmanship show will begin at 11:00 am, followed by the junior market wether show. The ABGA sanctioned open show will begin at approximately 1:00 pm. A listing of divisions/classes and an entry form can be obtained on the extension website at http://alexander.ces.ncsu.edu/ or you may call the office for a form.

West Central District 4-H Horse Show- will be held on May 22nd at Latta Plantation in Huntersville. Entries must be postmarked by April 23rd. Please call the 4-H office for a registration packet.

Horse Artistic Expression Contests- Entry forms for the State 4-H Horse Artistic Expressions Contests must be postmarked by May 1st. Categories include Craft Horse Contest, Horse Drawing Contest, Horse Painting Contest, Horse Poster Contest, Horse Photography, Horse Essay, Creative Writing and Poetry Contests. For guidelines and entry forms, call the 4-H Center or go to: http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/an_sci/extension/horse/Webpages/NCSU_EHH_Rulebook_ChapterVII.html.

Entry forms and fees must be sent directly to Raleigh. Please note that contest items and essays are to be hand delivered to the State 4-H Horse Show in Raleigh on Friday, July 9th, from 10 am - 4 pm.

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4-H’ers & Volunteers in the News

NC 4-H Volunteer Association Officers’ Seminar- was held March 5-7 in Burlington. Mike Adams, Nicole Tadt, Micki Earp and Laura Wahlers attended the training from Alexander County.

West Central 4-H Teen Retreat- was held on March 12-14th at Penn 4-H Center. Trevor Davis and Dallas Perry attended the retreat from Alexander County. The next time you see Trevor, ask him about his H2O experience.

Commissioners’ Choice Awards Program- was held on March 16th at ACHS Cafeteria.

Youth Club Awards: 2nd place- Alexander 4-H Livestock Club.

Youth Spark Award Winner: Linsey Fagan, Alexander 4-H Livestock Club

4-H Mystery Trip- was held on Friday, March 26th. The group enjoyed a surprise visit to Anita-Alta and viewed all the great improvements made by the Blue Ridge Horse Association that now leases the property. The afternoon involved going to BO’s in Lenoir for an afternoon of bowling, lazer tag, mini golf and bumper cars.

Those participating were: Miranda Jansen, Faith & Jeb Brookshire, Paige Harrington, Grace & Kyler Shook, Angela & Melissa Mason, Gabrielle & Gavin Adams, Anna Beth Harris, Courtney Bowman, Dallas & Sarah Perry, Hunter White, Raven Gendron, and Tanner & Bailey Ingle. Thanks also to Vanessa Jansen and Nicolas Dyson for serving as junior leaders.

Happy Spring!
4-H Club News

Alexander 4-H Livestock Club- Alexander County 4-H Livestock Club - Kyle Mayberry gave a program on Goat judging for our March meeting, we also collected paper products for the Christian Crisis Center.

Busy Bees Needle & Thread 4-H Club– met on Thursday, March 25th at the Extension Office. We finished working on the dog pillows for the Alexander County Animal Shelter. Submitted By: Miranda Jansen.

Cornerstone Clovers 4-H Club- meeting was held on March 17th at the Chumley home. We made hula-hoops with supplies that Mrs. Coleen Williams had brought. We made the hoops and covered them in different colors of duct tape. After everyone had finished, we all went outside to try out our hula-hoops; then we came inside and ate some cookie-cake that Miss Nancy and Emily Thornburg had brought. The next meeting will be held on April 21st and we will be doing our community service project. Submitted By: Summer Chumley.

Curious Clovers 4-H Club- visited the Caldwell County Sheriff's Department. We had a tour of the office and met some interesting people who work in Law enforcement. While on tour, the 911 center received an emergency call for assistance. We listened to the operator as she followed through with helping the caller. Thank you to the Hollar Family for a great 4-H meeting.

Emeralds 4-H Club- finished working on the Ronald McDonald Tab House to take to McDonalds. The club will be featured on B-86 to promote the project for entire county.

Home Grown Hearts 4-H Club- Homegrown Hearts held their March meeting at the 4-H office on the 19th. The Goodwin family presented on the History & Origins of Dreamcatchers, then we all made a dreamcatcher to take home. Submitted By: Kaylor Berwick.

5th Grade Stars 4-H Club- We had an electric program given by Trevor Davis during our meeting. Seth Tadt also helped us learn about open & closed circuits. We made plans for our April meeting.

WHEP 4-H Team- traveled to Riverbend Park on Tuesday, March 9th to prepare for the State 4-H WHEP Contest.