West Central 4-H Teen Retreat- is scheduled for March 12-14 at Penn 4-H Center for 4-H’ers 13-19 years old. The cost for the retreat is $100 per person. Transportation will be provided. Registration for teen retreat is due by February 12th. Workshops will focus on the state theme “We Are 4-H”, careers and going green environmentally. There will also be games, a bonfire, dance, and district officer elections. Please let us know what your t-shirt size is when you call in to register.

4-H Poultry Judging Team- Alexander County will have their own poultry judging teams this year. The teams will be trained by Kathy Bunton, Area Specialized Poultry Agent. The training sessions will be held on February 16th, March 16th, April 27th and May 11th. Summer training sessions and field trips will be determined after the May training session in preparation for the State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest on Monday, July 19th in Raleigh. We will have junior teams (9-13 year olds) and senior teams (14-18 year olds). Poultry Judging involves: Egg Production – Past Production Hens; Market Poultry - Ready to Cook and Parts Identification and Eggs: Interior, Exterior and Broken out Eggs. For more information, go to: http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/poulsci/4h/poultryjudging/poultryjudging.html Please call the 4-H Office to register by February 12th to sign-up.

4-H Cumulative Records Due- If you are 13 years or older and have been active in a specific project book area for 3 years, then you may want to consider completing a cumulative record. The form is similar to a 4-H project book but covers your work in that area for the past 3 years. If you are interested in beginning your 4-H cumulative record, call the 4-H office for more information. Deadline for 4-H Cumulative Records to the 4-H Office is February 22nd. Cash prizes are provided at the state level up to $150. Many of our local 4-H’ers have received this prize money.

Commissioner’s Choice Applications Due- 4-H volunteers should have received applications in the mail. If you would like to receive this application in a Word format, please let us know and we will email you a copy. This is a great opportunity for your club to receive recognition for all the outstanding projects you did last year. Copies of your clubs’ 2009 Club of the Year form are available at the 4-H Office. Applications are due on March 1st.

4-H Photo Contest- Get together or start taking your best photos taken since March 1, 2009. You may enter one photo per category... People, Animals, Landscapes, Buildings, 4-H in Action, Nature’s Beauty, and Family Traditions. County photo winners in the 9-18 year old divisions for the last 3 categories will be eligible for the state 4-H photo contest. Overall county points winner will receive $40 to purchase a camera or pay for film processing. Digital photos will be accepted this year. Deadline for photo entries is February 26th.

February 2010
West Central 4-H Teen Retreat
4-H Poultry Judging Team
4-H Cumulative Records Due
Commissioner’s Choice Applications Due
4-H Photo Contest
Possible Community Service Project
February 4-H County Council Date
4-H’ers and Volunteers in the News

Contact Us
Alexander County Center
376 1st Avenue SW
Taylorsville, NC 28681
Phone: 828-632-3125
Fax: 828-632-7533
http://alexander.ces.ncsu.edu

Special accommodations will be made for the physically disabled, vision or hearing impaired, anyone needing language interpretation or other provisions. If any of these are required, please call 828-632-3125 two weeks prior to the event.
Possible Community Service Project- Any club or individual that is looking for a community service that is related to talent or drama is invited to volunteer at the Alexander County Senior Center for their parties. The Senior Center entertainment committee is working on a yearly calendar. Some months are already spoken for, but if you want to present a skit, a ceremony, or individual talent, call Micki Earp at 632-6769. Every third Wednesday is their monthly birthday celebration at 12:00 noon. On the fourth Thursday they have a monthly party at 6:00 pm.

February 4-H County Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Extension Learning Center.

4-H’ers and Volunteers in the News

4-H Awards Program was held on Tuesday, January 26th
Emcee: Vanessa Jansen
Pledges: Dallas Perry and Miranda Jansen

4-H Achievement Plan Awards:
Cloverbud 7-8 year olds- Jeb Brookshire
Bronze Clover- Miranda Jansen & Vanessa Jansen

Project Book Results:
Tanner Ingle - 4-H High Achievement Trophy ( 7 champion/blue ribbon projects)

Achievement Medallions- (4 or more blue/champion projects)
Courtney Bowman (6) Alison Keener (4)
Melissa Mason (4) Dallas Perry (4)

For 4-H’ers 8-under the following 4-H’ers received achievement medallions for completing 4 or more projects:
Garrett Brown (4) Bailey Ingle (8)
Sarah Perry (5).

Other 4-H’ers receiving recognition for outstanding project work were Coty Fox, Jacob Fox, Kaylor Berwick, Levi Fox, Jeb Brookshire, Nathan Bowles, Peri Munday, Holden Fink, Seth Tadt, Cecilia Tadt, Michala Brown, Brook Kohnle, Karalee Fox, Miranda Jansen, Vanessa Jansen, Luke Grogan, Nicolas Dyson, Tyler Griggs, Caleb Gilreath, Erin Griggs, Sarah Fox, Malachi Fox, Zakary Hollar, Trevor Davis, Nicolas Hollar, and Angela Mason.

Curriculum Project Area Winners-

9-10 yr old division
Alison Keener (4 areas)
Cecilia Tadt (2 areas)

11-12 year old division
Michala Brown (1 area)
Tanner Ingle (2 areas)
Brook Kohnle (1 area)

13-15 year old division
Dallas Perry (1 area)
Courtney Bowman (2 areas)

16-18 year old division
Trevor Davis (1 area)

Over 76 Four-H project books were completed and judged by Rutherford County 4-H volunteer leaders.

Centennial Passports Awards- Overall Winner: Faith Wahlers

8-under year old division
1st place- Bailey Ingle
2nd place- Sarah Perry
3rd Place- Gavin Adams

9-13 year old division
1st place- Faith Wahlers
2nd place- Alison Keener
3rd place (tie)- Miranda Jansen and Cecilia Tadt.

14-18 year olds division
1st place- Courtney Bowman
2nd place (tie)- Vanessa Jansen and Dallas Perry
3rd place- Trevor Davis

4-H Club Awards for collecting the most stickers-
1st place- Busy Bees 4-H Club
2nd place- Sugar and Spice 4-H Club
3rd place- Home Grown Hearts 4-H Club

Community Service Award-
1st place- Alexander 4-H Livestock Club
2nd place- Emeralds 4-H Club
3rd place- Home Grown Hearts and Drumstand 4-H Clubs

Amy Shook 4-H Leadership Award- Trevor Davis

Junior 4-H’er of the Year- Miranda Jansen

Senior 4-H’er of the Year- Vanessa Jansen
4-H Electric Congress Scholarships- Trevor Davis, Seth Tadt, Courtney Bowman and Nicolas Dyson

WHEP Team Awards- 
William Cheung, Faith Wahlers, Trevor Davis, Ben Rogers, Tanner Ingle, Melissa Mason, Erin Griggs, Seth Tadt and Hannah Rogers.

Poultry Judging Team Awards- Seth Tadt, Blake Millsaps and Ethan Millsaps.

Club Scrapbook- 
1st place- Emeralds 4-H Club  
2nd place- Busy Bees 4-H Club  
3rd place- Handy Dandy 4-H Club  
4th place- Alexander 4-H Livestock Club

4-H Club Project Completion Awards- Home Grown Hearts, Handy Dandy and Busy Bees 4-H Clubs

Club of Distinction- Alexander 4-H Livestock Club 
2nd place- Busy Bees 4-H Club  
3rd place- Emeralds 4-H Club

Other 4-H Clubs receiving $50 for achieving Club of the Year points- Handy Dandy 4-H Club, Home Grown Hearts 4-H Club, Curious Clovers 4-H Club, and Drumstand 4-H Club.

Congratulations To All!

Project Book Judges- Thanks to Laura Wahlers, Dallas Perry, Trudy Perry, Micki Earp, Nicole Tadt, Angie Jansen, Miranda Jansen, Vanessa Jansen, Brenda Bowman and Courtney Bowman for serving as project book judges for Catawba County project books.

State ACE Volunteer Award Team- Micki Earp traveled to NC State University in December to review the state 4-H ACE & Volunteer Awards.

West Central 4-H Teen Lock In- Dallas Perry joined 54 other teens from the district in Rutherford County January 8-9 for a lock-in.

Alexander Livestock 4-H Club- had their annual Christmas party on December 30th at Hickory Dickory Dock. We ate pizza, played games, and had fun and fellowship.

Boot and Breeches 4-H Club- There is going to be a Horse Rally planned for March 27 & 28. This is a fun opportunity to show your horse knowledge and horsemanship skills. We had a 3 year old Reg. Quarterhorse donated, along with a Western saddle to the club. We are also planning to volunteer at the IDA Nationals at St. Andrews on April 24 & 25. Kristen did a program on horse hoof care and horseshoeing.

Busy Bees 4-H Club- met at the Extension Learning center. We worked on our sarongs for our Spring Fashion Show skit. We planned a field trip to the Quilting and Needle Art Extravaganza. Our club is also in need of old bed pillows. We are going to recover them and donate them to the animal shelter. If you have any old bed pillows, please bring them by the 4-H office. Submitted By: Miranda Jansen

Cornerstone Clovers 4-H Club- meeting was held on Thursday January 21st at the Chumley house. Suzanne Rhinehart did a presentation about dairy farms in Alexander County. First we watched a program on how milk was made. Then we played a game and answered questions about the program. Everyone got a prize. During the game we shook some heavy whipping cream until it was buttery; then we shook it until the buttermilk separated from the butter. Miss Suzanne brought some crackers so that we could taste the butter. Each family got to take some butter home. Courtney Gant took a video of the meeting. The next meeting will be held on February 18th at the Chumley house. Submitted By: Summer Chumley.

Curious Clovers 4-H Club- took a tour of the Hickory Water Treatment Plant. We learn about the source of the water, how it is cleaned, and how many gallons are supplied to Catawba and surrounding counties. We all learned a lot from this tour. Our tour guide director, was super. Our 4-H group asked many great questions. Thank you to the Fox Family (Malachi, Jacob, and Sarah) for the field trip and snacks.

Drumstand 4-H Club- Suzanne Rhinehart gave the program called Barging Along at our December meeting.

Emeralds 4-H Club- at their January meeting, Denise Rhodes helped us make gel candles. We planned activities to help the Clover Kids Relay for Life Team.

Handy Dandy 4-H Club- met January 5th at the Bowman's. We decorated pringles cans for Caring Hearts Pregnancy Center to be used to take up donations. Submitted By: Courtney Bowman.

Newsletter prepared by: 

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