4-H Summer Opportunities Brochure- Enclosed you will find the 4-H Summer Opportunities brochure. This publication will go out to the public on March 19th. Alexander 4-H'ers and previous campers have priority until this date. You will need to pay 50% of the fee to hold your space, unless you have spoken with Suzanne or Jamie. No space will be reserved until a deposit has been made. This amount is non-refundable unless there is someone on a waiting list to take your space. Payment for Horsemanship Day Camps must be paid in full.

4-H Mystery Trip- Come spend a fun, educational day by participating in the 4-H Mystery Trip scheduled for Monday, March 26th from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. It is a MYSTERY on what activities are planned. The day is designed for youth ages 5 years old and older. We will have 12 youth spaces and 2 junior leader spaces available. Cost is $20 and each participant should bring a lunch and a drink. Afternoon snack will be available. Deadline to sign up is March 23rd. Registration Fee is required at the time of registration.

Backpack Community Service Project- Alexander County 4-H Clubs will be in charge of packing backpacks on Thursday, March 15th from 3:30-4:15 pm. Any 4-H’er that is interested in participating in this service project can meet us at the 4-H Office at 3:20 pm to walk to First Baptist Church.

4-H Citizenship NC Focus- will be held June 11-13th in Raleigh for 4-H’ers 13-18 years old. During the three day event 4-H’ers will learn about local and state government, how to work with public officials, discuss them, talk and visit with legislators. The Alexander 4-H County Council has voted to pay the fee for 1 delegate from Alexander County. Participants are required to wear business casual wear during the event. To apply for the Citizenship Focus program, call the 4-H Office for an application. Deadline for applications is April 1st.

Junior Leaders Needed- In order to make sure everyone has an opportunity to serve as a 4-H junior leader (ages 13-up) for summer 4-H day camps, a 4-H junior leader application form will need to be completed. On the form, you will prioritize the camps that you are interested in helping with and list the individual skills you have to contribute. 4-H Junior Leaders will be required to attend the 4-H junior leader training session on Tuesday, June 5th from 3:30-5 pm. Deadline for 4-H Junior Leader Applications is April 1st. Only 4-H junior leaders completing applications will be able to serve as junior leaders. Call the 4-H Office to receive a junior leader application.

March 4-H County Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15th from 3:30-4:30 pm.
State 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference- February 3rd-5th, Raleigh: Micki Earp received the State 4-H Outstanding Support for Military Children Award. Micki has completed the Yellow Ribbon Training and has served as a group leader of Operation Military Kids Speak Out for Military Kids weekend trainings and other statewide 4-H OMK events. Micki also received renewal credit for the Emerald Level Award for the Master 4-H Volunteer Leader ACE Program. She presented three conference workshops called “From Hoof to Fabric- Wool Felting”; Mission Possible: Supporting Military Families in Our Own Backyard” and “The Duck Tape Solution”. Micki is a 4-H Volunteer Leader for the Emeralds and Busy Bees 4-H Clubs.

The Handy Dandy 4-H Club 4-H Volunteers- Trudy Perry, Brenda Bowman and Chasity Kohnle, received the State 4-H Volunteer Leadership Team Award for outstanding club teamwork with their 4-H Club members.

Margo Mosley, Alexander County Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, received the Extension Staff 4-H Volunteer Support Recognition Award. Margo was chosen for this award because of her dedication to providing various educational programs for 4-H’ers and youth in Alexander County.

Mike Adams was elected the State 4-H Secretary for the North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Association for 2012. Nicole Tadt, was installed as the 2012 West Central District 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Association President; Mike Adams West Central 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ District Treasurer and Laura Wahlers- District Past-President. Mike was also a co-presenter in the “From Hoof to Fabric- Wool Felting” workshop.

Mike Adams, Micki Earp, Merylin Davis, Brenda Bowman and Nicole Tadt attended the Friday pre-conference workshops on 4-H related curriculums and program areas. Also in attendance were Mark Perry and Suzanne N. Rhinehart, Extension 4-H Agent.

West Central 4-H Horse Bowl Contest- February 11 in Statesville Senior Team- Alex Felkins, Amanda Steskal, Christine Rhodes and Casey Boger, received a bye to advance to the State 4-H Horse Bowl Championship in Greensboro on March 3rd. Team is coached by Cindy Boger. Best of Luck!!!

State 4-H Council Planning Retreat- Dallas Perry represented Alexander County and the West Central 4-H Teen Council in Raleigh February 18-19th to finalize plans for 2012 NC 4-H Congress.

Cumulative Record Competition- Good luck to the following 4-H’ers whose cumulative records will advance to district and state competition- Faith Wahlers, Dallas Perry, and Courtney Bowman.

District 4-H Project Competition- Good Luck to the following 4-H’ers whose project books will advance to district competition. Twenty-three project books will be advancing and we should know the results the first week of May. 4-H members whose project books are advancing are: Sarah & Dallas Perry, Cierra Roseberry, Peri Munday, Faith Wahlers, Caleb Gilreath, Malachi & Jacob Fox, Jasmine Baumgarner, Tanner & Bailey Ingle, Hunter White, Brook Kohnle, Courtney Bowman, and Nicolas Dyson.

Alexander Livestock 4-H Club-- met Monday, February 6, 2012 topic was on community service projects. We made Valentines for Valley Nursing Center residents. Then met on the 13 to pass them out to each resident, and had enough left over to place another one on their dinner tray the next day February 14. The kids had a good time lifting their spirits and making them smile.

Boots and Breeches 4-H Club- met at Foothills Equestrian Center on February sixth at 7:00 pm. At our meeting we discussed the plans for a project. We have considered volunteering at our local soup kitchen, but due to age we are not able to. So we are currently searching for a new club project. Also at the meeting Dana Dewey gave us some very helpful ideas as for what to include in our project books. She has given us some worksheets we can include which help us learn the colors, and parts of the horse, the parts of a saddle, and bridle, and different types of bits. At our next meeting Hannah Nine, and Tia Sparks are planning to do a program for us. Overall we had a wonderful month, and we are eager to see what March will bring for our club. Submitted By: Emma Sigmon.

Busy Bees 4-H Club- met Thursday, February 23rd, at the 4-H Office. The Bowman's demonstrated how to make bias tape, and a t-shirt scarf. Submitted By: Courtney Bowman.

Cornerstone Clovers 4-H Club- met on February 16, 2012. Stephanie Holland showed us how to make a God's Eye. We made them out of sticks and yarn. In the tradition, a God's was made when baby was born. Every year a different color yarn was used until the child turned five. We had lots of snacks and Valentines candy. Submitted by: Jonna Williams.

Curious Clovers 4-H Club- Suzanne Rhinehart came to the home of Zak and Nik Hollar for our club meeting. She discussed wind power and all were able to make a windmill and see which won could make the most power. It was an exciting meeting and all enjoyed the friendly competition. Sarah Fox was our winning wind power designer. We discussed project books and received postcards to fill out for our troops and their children.
Emeralds 4-H Club- met on Thursday, February 9, 2012. The meeting was on electricity and how we can conserve it. The presentation was conducted by Tanner Ingle and Hunter White. Submitted By: Faith Brookshire.

Handy Dandy 4-H Club- We met on January 17th where Dallas & Sarah Perry led the meeting. They showed us how to make duct tape items. We met on February 21st at Forgiven Ministries, where we volunteered. We put together brochures for their next mailing. We then went to the 4-H office and worked on presentations. Also, our club will be sending Campbell Soup labels in March. Thanks to all who have turned them in so far. Barium Springs always sends a thank you card expressing how much they appreciate the labels. Submitted By: Sarah Perry.

Homegrown Hearts 4-H Club- met at the Extension Office on January 20th & Suzanne Rhinehart did the program "Does it Float & Elephant Toothpaste". We met February 17th & Merylin Davis did a Valentine painting craft, using celery & lettuce to 'stamp' a 'rose' design onto paper. Our next meetings are held the 3rd Friday of every month at the 4H Learning Center at 9:30. Any homeschoolers are invited! Submitted By: Kaylor Berwick.

Shockers 4-H Club- met on February 23rd, at the 4-H Office. Brenda Bowman explained components used for electric projects; LED's, resistors, and how to assemble a simple project. Submitted by: Courtney Bowman

Sugar 'n' Spice 4-H Club- met on February 2nd at the 4-H office. Anna Beth Harris and her mom demonstrated how to make chocolate suckers. We decorated bags, while we waited for the chocolate. We made our chocolate suckers and even sampled some. Our club made plans and discussed future meetings. Our next meeting will be on March 1st. Submitted By: Brook Kohnle.

Don't Forget Daylight Savings Time is March 11th - Set Your Clocks Forward One Hour!