Operation Military Kids- We will be manning a 4-H Booth at the National Guard Family Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, September 10th from 12-3 pm at Matheson Park in Taylorsville. They have asked us to market our 4-H programs and camps to the families and provide sand art activities for the youth. We will need at least 4 people to help with this activity. Call the 4-H Office to sign up.

“Can the 4-H Agent”- To start off our NC 4-H: Hungry to Help project, we will have a contest during National 4-H Week (October 3-8th) to see how much food we can pile in Suzanne’s office! Hopefully we will collect enough food that Suzanne will have to move out into the hallway. We will give Club of the Year Points for every food item collected. You can collect the food anyway you can think of and bring it to the 4-H Office.

National 4-H Science Month Experiment- is Wired for Wind, an in-depth look at renewable energy technologies in the form of wind-power. Developed by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension program, this three-tiered experiment will help 4-H young people to enhance their science, engineering, technology and applied math skills by allowing them to:

- Designing, building and testing two different wind turbine models
- Experimenting with variables by examining three different blade pitch angles to determine the effect of pitch on rotor speed
- Relating their scientific experiences back to their own lives by determining how their communities can harness the power of wind and create a more sustainable and clean energy system

Youth will determine the best location for a wind farm in their state or local area by calculating wind power and studying wind data and maps. We will provide each club supplies to conduct this experiment at their club meeting if desired. 4-H Leader Training will be held on October 4th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

Alexander County Fair- This year's fair will be held September 12-17th. Exhibits: A fair catalog can be picked up at the Extension Office around the middle of August. Items made September 2010-September 2011 can be entered. You can enter items on Sunday, September 11th from 1-5 pm and Monday, September 12th from 9:00 am—5:00 pm. 4-H Booths: All booths must be in place by 5:00 pm on Monday, September 12th. Livestock Show entries are due to Allison Brown by Friday, September 2nd.

County 4-H Volunteer Leader’s Meeting- will be held on Tuesday, October 4th, from 6:30-8:00 pm. Supper will be provided. We will train all 4-H Club leaders on how to do the National 4-H Science Month experiment. All equipment and supplies will be furnished for clubs to participate in the nationwide 4-H experiment. Please call or email by October 3rd to let us know you are coming.
Mini Garden Contest- Over 19 Alexander County 4-H'ers learned the ups and downs of gardening by planting a mini size garden this summer. A special thanks to Country Road Greenhouse for providing the tomato plants for the project.

Ten youth entered their gardens to be judged on Thursday, June 23rd. The results of the 4-H Mini Garden Judging Contest were:

6 years and Under:
1st place- Luke & Tucker Whitmire - $20
7-8 year olds:
1st place- Nolan Heath - $20
2nd place- Sarah Fox - $15
9-10 year olds:
1st place- Jacob Fox - $20
2nd place- Sara Heath - $15
3rd place- Anna Beth Harris - $10
11-12 year olds:
1st place- Malachi Fox - $20
13-18 year olds:
1st place- Hannah Rogers - $20
2nd place- Michala Brown - $15

The results of the 4-H Scarecrow Contest were:
Overall Winner - Luke & Tucker Whitmire

Thanks to the Alexander 4-H Livestock Club for providing the prize to the winners.

Thanks to the Alexander County Master Gardeners, Don Alexander, John & Susan Vorndran who served as judges.

Apple Peeling Contest Booth- Alexander 4-H Clubs are in charge of the apple peeling contest at the Taylorsville Apple Festival on Saturday, October 15th from 12-2 pm. The contest is held on the courthouse lawn. All materials are provided to handle this booth. Any club or family that would like to be in charge of this contest, call the 4-H Center for more information. Only 2-3 people are needed to carry out this contest.

September 4-H County Council will be held on Tuesday, September 6th from 3:30-4:30 pm in the Extension Learning Center. We will be studying current 4-H County events and contests and make plans for 2012.

West Central District 4-H Activity Day- was held on June 22nd in Davie County.

District Winners:
Peri Munday- Career Exploration (11-13 year old division)
Melissa Mason- Peanut Foods (14-18 year old division)
Bailey Ingle- Fruit and Vegetable Use (9-10 year old division)
Dallas Perry- Expressive Arts (14-18 year old division)
Brook Kohnle- Heritage Crafts (11-13 year old division)

District Runner-Up:
Faith Wahlers- Citizenship and Civic Responsibility (14-18 years old)
Tanner Ingle- Beef Char-grill (11-13 years old)
Cecilia Tadt- Small Animals (11-13 years old)

District 4-H Fashion Review:
Bailey Ingle- (9-10 year old division)
Brook Kohnle- (11-13 year old division) District 2nd place
Melissa Mason- (14-18 year old division) District Winner- Scholarship to NC 4-H Congress

4-H Entertains Contest:
Sarah Perry - Blue ribbon rating
Dallas Perry - Blue Ribbon rating

Cloverbud Presentations: Angela Mason

State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest Results- Nine members of the Alexander County 4-H Livestock Club recently competed in the State 4-H Livestock Judging Competition on June 28th in Raleigh. Cody Fox, Kyle Mayberry, Blake Millsaps, and Gabrielle Adams competed in the Senior Division and placed 6th in the state. Seth Tadt, Brooke Proffitt and Michala Brown also competed in the Senior Division and placed 11th in the state! Gavin Adams and Noah Proffitt competed as individuals in the Junior Division. Special recognition was given to the Senior Team of Cody Fox, Kyle Mayberry, Blake Millsaps, and Gabrielle Adams for placing fifth in the meat goat division. A special thanks to the Alexander County Cattlemen’s Association, Traci Fox of Little Stitches and Alexander County 4-H for their sponsorship of the 2011 Alexander County 4-H Livestock Judging Team and to all the team members for their hard work and dedication to the livestock industry. Allison Brown served as coach for the teams.

4-H Summer Day Camps- Thanks to the following 4-H Adult and Teen Volunteers which taught or assisted with the fifteen 4-H Summer Day Camps offered this summer:

Adult Volunteers:
Tim Panza - Rock Climbing Camp
Micki Earp- Fun With Fabrics & Beginning Sewing Camps
Margie Dickey- Beginning Knitting Camp
Nicole Tadt & Debbie Tadt- Scrapbooking Camp

4-H Junior Leader Volunteers: Dallas Perry, Faith Wahlers, Michala Brown, Gabrielle Adams, Vanessa & Miranda Jansen, Cheyenne & Summer Chumley, Hunter White, Natalie Unger, Jenna Brzykcy, Brook Kohnle, Nicolas Dyson, Cecilia Tadt, and Courtney Bowman. We can’t do the 4-H summer programs without you. Thanks a million!
NC State 4-H Horse Show- From the Silver Saddles 4-H Horse Club: Christine Rhodes, Hannah Brown, and Makayla Porter, participated in the State 4-H Horse Show July 7-10th. Christine won 2nd Medal Eq, 2nd Eq. Over Fences, 6th Working Hunter Over Fences, 7th Hunter Hack, 10th Hunt Seat Eq., & 9th in Costume; Makayla won 4th Overall Short Stirrup Division, 2nd Hatter Mares, 3rd Short Stirrup Under Saddle, Two- 5th place in Costume Class, 6th Short Stirrup Over Fences, 8th in Flag Race, 9th in Short Stirrup Showmanship, and 10th in Junior Barrels. Hannah won Champion in Dressage, qualified for Southern 4-H Regional’s, 1st in Gaited, and 2nd in Senior Working Hunter.

From the Riding Wide Open 4-H Horse Club: Natalie Unger and Kaylynn Foster, also participated in the NC State 4-H Horse Show. Natalie place 10th in Pole Bending.

NC 4-H Electric Congress- July 11-13- Western Carolina University- Trevor Davis, Courtney Bowman, Hunter White, Nicolas Dyson, Merylin Davis and Brenda Bowman attended Electric Congress. They enjoyed electric workshops, presentations and a rafting trip on the Nantahala River.

NC 4-H Congress- was held July 18-21st in Raleigh, those who attended were: Peri Munday, Melissa Mason, Dallas Perry, Faith Wahlers, Bailey & Tanner Ingle.

State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest- was held on July 19, in Raleigh, the results were:
Alexander/Wilkes Sr. Team- 1st place in State—will advance to the Nationals in November and will travel to Louisville, Kentucky. Consisted of Vanessa Jansen, Luke Williams, and Brooke Yates.

Vanessa Jansen- 1st High Scoring Sr. Individual
Alexander Sr. Team- 2nd place Senior Team in State Blake Millsaps, Miranda Jansen, Lacie Millsaps and Kyle Mayberry

Over all High Individuals (Jr. & Sr.) - 1st Kyle Rhodes, 2nd Vanessa Jansen, and 3rd Miranda Jansen.

The teams were coached by Kathy Bunton, Area Specialized Poultry Agent.

Interview for National Trips were held- Faith Wahlers- 2nd Alternate to National 4-H Congress in Atlanta

Dallas Perry- Installed as 2011-12 West Central 4-H District President

State Presentation Results- Melissa Mason- State Winner- Peanut Foods 14-18 year old (advances to Nationals in San Diego, California
Peri Munday- State Winner- Careers 11-13 year old Bailey Ingle- State Winner- Fruits and Vegetable 9-10 year olds
Dallas Perry- Participant in Expressive Arts 14-18 year old Tanner Ingle- Participant in Beef Char grill 11-13
Faith Wahlers- Participant in Citizenship and Civic Responsibility (14-18)

Faith Wahlers, Dallas Perry and Melissa Mason stayed the entire week as a Congress Delegates.

Micki Earp served as a person in charge for the state presentation finals in Open Class and served as a judge for the interviews for winning trips to National 4-H Events held during NC 4-H Congress.

Southern Region 4-H Horse Championship- was held in Mississippi on July 27-31st. Christine Rhodes from the Silver Saddles 4-H Club came in 9th out of 134 Hunt Seat Eq., and participated in Hunter Under Saddles, Eq. Over Fences, and Working Hunter Over Fences.

United Way Bark in the Park- Thanks to Bailey & Andrea Ingle, Micki Earp, Mike, Gabrielle, & Gavin Adams, and Summer, Cheyenne & Chayton Chumley for assisting with the 4-H exhibit on Saturday, August 6th.

NC 4-H State Council Planning Retreat- Dallas Perry attended this retreat August 5-7th to plan state wide 4-H events for the 2011-12 year.

NC County Commissioner’s Association Youth Summit- Dallas Perry represented Alexander County at this youth summit in Greenville, NC on August 19-20th. One youth from each county participated.

Food, Culture & Reading- Thanks to Micki Earp who helped with the BASC Director Training on August 22nd.
Cornerstone Clovers 4-H Club- met on June 15th, 2011, at the Chumley home. We learned about solar energy. Miss Nancy and Emily Thornburg brought snacks. The next meeting was held, July 20th, 2011, at the Chumley home. John and Robin Gant lead the meeting on concrete stepping stones. The Chumley family provided snacks. The next meeting will be held on August 13th, 2011, at the Chumley home. Submitted By: Courtney Gant.

Handy Dandy 4-H Club- met in June at the home of Courtney & Brenda Bowman. Brenda taught us survival skills that we could use when camping or hiking. We also enjoyed a game of Balderdash to end our meeting. On June 14th, we volunteered at Forgiven Ministries. Submitted By: Courtney Bowman.

Riding Wide Open 4-H Horse Club- participated in P.A.W. (Pet Appreciation Week) event at Southern States on Saturday August 6th from 12-5. Club members had one of our rescue horses at the event and may even give a few rides.

Sugar & Spice 4-H Club- “A new year gets underway soon for the Sugar and Spice 4-H Club. This club is open to youth ages 6 and older interested in learning more about cooking! The first meeting of the year is Thursday, September 1, 3:45 pm at the Extension Center. Last we learned how to make pumpkin pie, Panini’s, tiramisu, omelets and much more! For a service project we prepared lunch for Habitat workers. Come join us in the kitchen!”

Suzanne N. Rhihart