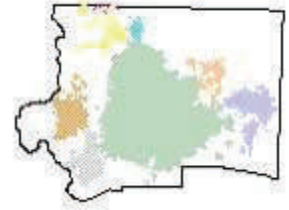




January/ February 2008



We hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season, and we look forward to pushing into the new year with flying colors! We have lots of exciting upcoming events, and look forward to having lots of participation! **Everyone**, including new members are invited to attend Achievement Night on Feb. 5th!

Making the best better,

April Bowman

Amanda Cochran

Donald Mebane



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- The 2008 State 4-H Theme is: **4-H: Come. See. Express.**
- If anyone would like a free 2 year old **guinea pig** and cage, please let us know.
- If you would be interested in **hosting** a **year-long** student from Japan, Korea, and the Newly Independent States, or a **month-long** exchange student from Japan or Finland and you are between the ages of 10 and 18, please let us know. More info. is at www.nc4h.org/labo/.
- If you or your club would like to host a booth at this year's Piedmont **Earth Day** on **April 19th** at the Unitarian Fellowship Church on Robinhood Rd., we will pay the registration fee. Registration is due February 15th.
- Volunteers are needed to judge project record books for district competition at the State 4-H Office in Raleigh.
 - Project Record Judging is **March 28th-30th, 2008;**
 - Cumulative Record Judging is **March 25-27, 2008.**
- Club leaders are encouraged to attend a **Volunteer Training** on Monday, **March 10th** from 10-12 in the Davidson County Commissioners Room (in our Governmental Center) in Lexington, on the new state 4-H requirements for club checking accounts. RSVP by February 29th.



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Trailblazers Teen Club

In this report, I will recap the year.

The Trailblazer-Teens met every month except December. These meetings have been very productive, and at the same time fun and surprising.

Every month this year, we have visited Kerner Ridge Assisted Living Home. There, we sang and played music, read Bible verses and poems, and had special activities for the holidays. We even had a special Valentine's Day party with decorations and food and lots of fun, and presented a Christmas program for the residents in December.

One of my favorite days with our 4-H club was, February 5, when we went to Capital Fest in Raleigh.

In September, we planned and constructed a giant microscope for a competition in the Dixie Classic Fair. We won fifth place and over \$100.

On December 6, we went to the Samaritan's Purse- Operation Christmas Child headquarters in Boone. Our group alone sorted 2,100 boxes full of gifts for kids all over the world!

All year we've been raising money to build a school for needy kids in a third world country through Samaritan's Purse. We served six lunches at WHE. We sold lunch tickets for three dollars a meal, and everybody seemed to walk away happy and full.

One of our real money makers was the walk-a-thon we had in May. We made over \$2,000 in that one day!

We hosted a music camp for children ages 6-10. The kids enjoyed three days of musical fun and instruction, and our club raised around \$200!

The Acoustic Band, who are also members of our club, sang and played at two churches where they collected around \$70 for the school fund.

This year brings our total in the "school fund" to around \$3,000!

I'm sure I speak for all the Trailblazer-Teens when I say THANK YOU to our leader Mrs. Lois Pinkerton. She has done an awesome job keeping us on track! We've learned a lot, and had fun together in the process.

I'm looking forward to seeing what 2008 has in store!



Kabe McCallister

Trailblazers Teen Reporter

2008 Summer Camp

Join us for a week of fun-filled adventure at 4-H Camp. The cost is \$295 and includes your transportation to and from camp, lodging (where you shower and sleep), all meals, horseback riding, swimming, snacks from the camp store and more. Spots must be reserved prior to February 1st and are available on a first come, first serve basis. Save your spot now with a \$75 deposit. Visit <http://www.nc4h.org/centers/index.php> to check out all the 4-H centers. The camp will be **June 29th - July 4th at the Millstone 4-H Center.**



Public Speaking Training

It is that time of year again, to start thinking about Public Speaking workshops! This year's public speaking training will be focused on presentations. There will be three presentation trainings, and one final competition between the age groups. Everyone will still receive prize money for participating and the winners will receive additional funds and ribbons. The winners will also be able to participate at the District level on Tuesday, June 24th in Davidson County. Go ahead and mark your calendars for each **Tuesday, April 1st, 15th, and 29th** at 6:30 PM so we can have plenty of participation this year! Please sign-up no later than March 12th so we know how many to expect. County competition will be **Tuesday, May 13th** with registration at 6 PM. Youth do not have to participate in the workshops to compete. ***Tell a friend!***

4-H District Teen Retreat

The District 4-H Teen Retreat will be **March 15-16th** at the Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center. The cost is \$45/person. We will load the van at 9:15am, and return Sunday after lunch. Registration and t-shirt sizes for teen retreat are ***due by February 1st***. Workshops this year will focus on the expressive arts theme. There will be cake, fireworks, bonfire, and the dance. **An adult male chaperone is needed and we will cover the cost of their registration.**

Tree Essay Contest

To encourage students to appreciate the environmental, economic, and aesthetic importance of trees and forests, the Forsyth County Treasure Trees Program is sponsoring an essay contest for **4th grade** students. In no more than 2 pages, the essay should deal with the subject, "What Is Your Favorite Tree and How Would You Plant It?" The contest is limited to Forsyth County 4th graders only. Entries must be postmarked no later than **Tuesday, February 26th**. Winners will be announced on Arbor Day, which is March 21st. For more information, please contact our Horticulture agent, Toby Bost at 336-703-2850, or email toby_bost@ncsu.edu.



4-H Digital Media Challenge

Youth ages 8-18 years old are invited to produce their own digital photography, digital audio, digital video or mixed media production that demonstrates your abilities with digital media of all kinds. Complete the written entry form found at www.4hdmc.org and mail the form and CD. (Be sure to keep a back-up!) The review dates are April 30th, October 30th, 2008.

Honey Bee Essay Contest

Do you like to write? Write a story about “The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in My Community”. Papers are due February 8th! Visit: <http://ipm.ncsu.edu/4-H/essay.html> for more details. (By the way, there is prize money up for grabs, in addition to 4-H scholarship dollars: not that it should influence anyone!)

Forsyth County 4-H Nutrition Fair

Forsyth County 4-H will be hosting a Nutrition Fair on **Tuesday, March 4th** at the Cooperative Extension Office. Set-up will be at 5:30, with the actual contest starting at 6pm.

“What is a Nutrition Fair?”, you may ask. A Nutrition Fair is a 4-H exhibit where youth ages 5-18 will prepare a nutritious dish at home, as well as a table setting that goes along with their dish and presents it to one or two adult judges. Youth must also include their recipe on a recipe card. Exhibits are judged on dish preparation, healthiness, taste of the dish, and your overall attire.

“What are the prizes?” As prizes, participants will receive ribbons, scholarship dollars, communication skills, plus they will get to spend time with their friends while learning some new recipes!

“What are the categories?” The categories that may be entered are Breads, Main Dishes, Beverages, Fruits and Vegetables, Desserts, and Snacks. In each of these categories, ages are split as follows: 5-8, 9-12, and 13-18.

“What is an example?” A good example of what will be being judged would be: your dish might be campfire cookies. To make them nutritious, you substitute applesauce for cooking oil. For your table setting, you use a red and white gingham tablecloth, a tin plate and a mug. You wear a western shirt and jeans, with a red bandana at the neck.

“When are entries due?” Entries must be **received by February 19th**, so that a recipe booklet can be made of all entries. For more information, please contact the 4-H office at 336-703-2850, or visit us online at www.forsyth.cc/CES.

Save the Date

Below are some upcoming dates. Contact us for more information on any of these events.

February 8	Beekeeping Essays Due
February 12	Chef & the Child Reunion
February 14	VALENTINE'S DAY!
February 19	Nutrition Fair Recipes Due
February 29	Registration Deadline 4-H Horse Retreat
March 3	Registration Deadline Shooting Sports Adult Volunteer Training, Millstone 4-H Center
March 4	4-H Nutrition Fair (ages 5-18; more information to come soon), 5:30 PM set-up
March 8	State 4-H Horse Bowl, A & T State University
March 10	4-H Plant Sale Orders Due
March 12	Register for Presentation Workshops
March 15-16	Teen Retreat, Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center, Reidsville (13-18 year olds)
March 21	Holiday
March 25-27	State 4-H Cumulative Project Record Judging
March 27-29	4-H Plant Sale Pick-up
March 28-30	State 4-H Project Record Judging
April 1	Chef & the Child Reunion
April 1, 15 and 29 th	Presentation Workshops
April 4-6	NW 4-H Horse Retreat, Millstone 4-H Center, Ellerbee
April 19	State 4-H Horse Judging & Hippology, Millbrook High School
April 29	Volunteer Recognition Banquet, 12:00pm, @ Forsyth County Cooperative Ext. Center
May 3	NW 4-H Horse Show, Hardin's Farm
May 13th	Presentation & Public Speaking Competition State 4-H Horse Show entries due
June 24	District Activity Day Lexington Senior High School

