Person County 4-H News

March-April 2014

Volume 2, Issue 2

Rain Showers & Spring Flowers

I don't know about you, but I'm not a huge fan of all the winter weather we've been having. I'm ready to put that cold, snowy weather in the past and watch the colorful flowers burst out of the ground while I sit on my porch swing with the warm breeze blowing around me.

Sometimes the weather this time of year can be a little soggy, too. Even though rainy days can be dreary, the good thing is that they bring forth those beautiful flowers. Sometimes we have to endure the not-so-fun parts of things in order to enjoy the end result.

I remember when I first started doing 4-H presentations at age 9, they were NOI fun. My mom made me do them (that's what happens when your mom is the 4-H Agent). However, after 8 more years of doing 4-H presentations, I can now confidently say that public speaking is somewhat a strength of mine. At the very least, I'm not afraid to speak in public. I have gained skills in planning, research, organization, and presentation.

The Green Scene

That's the great thing about 4-H. If you stick with it, you will be able to enjoy the flowers, and you might even learn to like the rain showers! After all, who doesn't love jumping in mud puddles! (in rain boots, of course!)



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County Activity Day

Monday, March 3rd is County Activity Day. Since we don't have very many entries we are going to

change the presentation



45 minutes due to inclement weather can be tal_____

everyone with certificates, ribbons, and Clover Cash. Please join us and support these hard working 4-Hers!



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Central Piedmont Jr. Livestock Show

Annual Central Piedmont Junior Livestock Show and Sale is scheduled

The 69th

for **April 9-10** in Orange County at the Central Carolina Holstein Barn in Orange Grove south of Hillsborough. Person County 4-Hers are looking forward to participating and are busy trying to raise support money. These young people will be showing goats, lambs, steers, heifers, and hogs. We have a total of 14 participants who are looking forward to bringing home top awards! Everyone is invited to come out and support these youth who have worked so hard. Animals will be exhibited by the youth beginning at 1:00 pm on Wednesday and lasting well into The show will the evening.

continue at 8:30 am on Thursday. The culmination of this event is the Market Animal Sale on Thursday evening. Each participant is also required to complete a 4-H Project Record Book to showcase all that they've learned about raising livestock. Winners will be recognized on Thursday night. We would also like to thank all of our wonderful sponsors who help make this show a success!

4-H Teen Retreat

The North Central District 4-H Teen Retreat will be held **Saturday, March 22-Sunday, March 23** at Betsy Jeff Penn 4-H Center (BJP). We will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of BJP! In addition, there will be fun workshops, district officer campaign skits, elections service projects, spirit stick competition, and a dance! This event is for 4-Hers ages 13-19 and the cost is \$75, which includes lodging, snacks, meals, and a tee shirt. 4-Hers who have earned Clover Cash can use their money toward this event. The <u>deadline</u> to register for Teen Retreat is **Wednesday, March 5th**.





District Activity Day

District Activity Day is the for next level our presentations program, after the county level. 4-Hers prepare a speech on a topic of their choice and present it with the use of visual aids to a group of judges. Judges presenter ask the questions about his or her presentation once he or she has finished. The district competition will be held **Saturday**, **April 12 in Surry County**. Anyone who wants to participate must first give their presentation at the county level.

Presentations are a great way of becoming comfortable speaking in front of a group of people. If you would like to see an example of a 4-H presentation, just click on this link: <u>http://</u> <u>www.youtube.com/</u> <u>watch?v=a g26c9CGNE</u>. This is a video of a Forsyth County 4-Her giving his presentation on the octopus.

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NC 4-H Congress

Every summer, 4-H youth from across North Carolina come together for four days of fun-filled leadership development. This year, NC 4-H Congress will be held **Saturday**, **June 21 through Tuesday**, **June 24th** and will be held on the campus of NC State University in Raleigh.

While at 4-H Congress, district presentation winners compete for a chance at winning State Gold in their category. Other teens hope to be inducted into the prestigious NC 4-H Honor Club, or elected as a State 4-H Officer. There will also be opportunities for participants to attend engaging workshops in either the leadership or citizenship track. Person County's own Michael Chaney will be one of the State 4-H Officers presiding at this event. And of course, there's a dance!

The cost will be \$260 and registration deadline is *Friday, May 9th*. Please let me know if you are interested in attending. You may use Clover Cash you've earned to help pay for your registration.





Summer Fun

I am currently in the process of planning the Summer Fun program and we've already got some exciting classes scheduled! If you have any suggestions for classes, please let me know and I'll do my best to get them planned. Also, if you

would like to volunteer to teach a class, please let me know and I'll send you a workshop proposal form.

Some of the classes that are already in the works include a Zoo Snooze, Robotics, and 4-H Investigates. Once this information is finalized, we will post it on our county website, our Person County 4-H Facebook page, and it will be mailed out to last year's participants. If you want to be added to this list, please give us a call at 336-599-1195.

4-H Paper Clover Campaign at Tractor Supply

It's that time again! Tractor Supply Company will be holding their Spring Paper Clover Campaign **April 23-May 4**. This is a nationwide fundraiser for 4-H and 100% of the proceeds go directly to 4-H. Of the proceeds, 60% go to the county program, and the remaining 40% is split between state and national 4-H programs. We will be planning an event of some sort for Saturday, April 26 or Saturday, May 3, so be on the lookout for those details.

In order to support 4-H at Tractor Supply, all you have to do is purchase a paper clover for just \$1 at check out (you can buy as many as you want) and write your name on it. They will put these up in the windows to show your support of 4-H. Last fall we raised over \$500 for Person County 4-H, so let's try and make it more this spring! We are lucky to have such great support from our local Tractor Supply, so be sure to stop in and say thanks!



The Green Scene

NCSU Vet School Open House

The NC State University's College of Veterinary Medicine 2014 Open House will be held from 9:00 am-3:00 pm on Saturday, March 29. Students and teachers interested in animals and sciences biology, animal science, veterinary medicine, ecology/environment, One Health, human/animal bond, infections diseases, regenerative medicine—should not miss this once-a-year opportunity.

This popular event will offer the traditional opportunities to get up close with various animals large and small, demonstrations, special displays and exhibits, and chances to talk with faculty and students. New this year: The Smithsonian Institution's special traveling exhibit, "Animal Connections: Our Journey Together" will be one of the new attractions this vear. Housed in a miniinside museum an expandable 18-wheeler,

the 1,000 square foot exhibit introduces visitors to the humananimal bond.

Numerous fun and informative tour stops explain advances in veterinary medicine, veterinary medical technology, best care practices for the family pet, and



what it takes to become a veterinarian.

For more information on this event, check out their website:

http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/news/ openhouse/ or call 919-513-6662.



Blueberry Plant Sale Update

Thank you so much for your support of the 4-H Blueberry Plant Sale! Our first year was a success! We sold 350 plants! The profit of \$850 will be used for 4-H programming such as Summer Fun, as well as for our Clover Cash incentives program. Next year, we may add more plants to the sale, such as strawberry plants, so if you have any suggestions, please let us know. Thanks again!

4-H Achievement Night Update

On Friday, February 7th, Person County 4-Hers, along with family and friends, gathered together to celebrate their 2013 accomplishments. The crowd was small, but the achievements were great! We had a pizza supper and heard from Michael Chaney, NC 4-H Vice President and Person County 4-Her. The night ended with door prizes and pictures! Hopefully next year we will fill the room!



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The members of the Helping Hands 4-H Clubs worked hard on their Valentines!



Helping Hands 4-H Club

"Helping Hands," a 4H club focused on community service, held their first meeting of the year on February 19, 2014. Approximately 15 Cloverbuds were in attendance. The group is young, but energetic and excited about ways that they can help the community. The first part of the meeting was spent decorating, writing, and creating homemade cards for the residents of Cambridge Hills. The group has visited with the residents in the past and have paired up to "Adopt a Grandparent" to support throughout the year.

The children are working on all of their pledges and have created an awesome secret handshake. Additionally, many ideas were generated for us to work on throughout the year. Some include planting a community garden, painting birdhouses, and hosting a spring yard sale to raise funds for our projects. As you can see, this energetic group also likes to spend a lot of time outdoors!

Several members will be participating in the County 4-H Day on March 3, so look for them in the program! Our next meeting in March will host Beth Davis, who will share with us how to use record books and provide examples for ways we can start our own record books. We are excited about the possibilities and our growing group of "Helping Hands!"

-By Michelle Harris & Tisha Duncan, 4-H Club Leaders

North Central District Winterfest

Hi, my name is Matthew Chaney. I recently had the chance to attend this year's 4-H Winterfest. It is a one day event where kids from North Centrals District get together to have fun while participating in a service project. This year we made blankets and Valentine door hangers to distribute to the local nursing homes.

Throughout the day, we attended a business meeting, which always includes a fun activity and an ice breaker. We also watched a very informative presentation on Service Dogs and how they are trained. It was incredible to see the display of intelligence shown by these dogs.

After lunch and some social time, we capped off the day with the choice of either going to AirBound, a trampoline park, or to go bowling. It was hard to decide because both seemed like a lot of fun.

I had a great time at Winterfest. I made new friends, gave back to the community, learned some interesting things, and had a lot of fun in the process.



Person County 4-Hers in attendance at Winterfest were Matthew Chaney, Michael Chaney, and Zachary Chaney.

-By Matthew Chaney, Person County 4-Her

Extension Happenings

10 in 10 Challenge

Healthy Personians is excited to be able to offer the 10 in 10 weight loss challenge in 2014. The challenge is a way to help encourage folks to achieve a healthier lifestyle and lose 10 pounds in a 10 week period. Weekly newsletters



supporting research based strategies to lose the weight are emailed to team captains to share with their team members. The challenge is open to teams of three people, with the goal of each team member losing 10 pounds within a 10 week time frame. Those teams who meet the challenge successfully will be eligible for cash prizes! Thanks to the Person County Farm Bureau and Healthy Personians for sponsoring this event. Last year, a grand total of 818 pounds was lost by participants! This year's challenge will fun from the weeks of **March 3-May 9**. For more information or to receive a registration packet, come by the Extension Office.

Cattlemen's Steak Supper Fundraiser

The Person County Cattlemen's Association will hold their steak supper fundraiser on **Friday**, **April 4**, **2014** between 5:00 and 7:00 pm at the Person County Office Building. The cost is \$12 per plate which will include steak, baked potato, salad and dessert, and will be available for eat-in or take-out. A drawing will be held for door prizes. The proceeds from the fundraiser will go to support the Person County Cattlemen's Association Endowment for the Rocky Carver Memorial Scholarship and local youth participating in 4-H livestock activities. Tickets are available from Cattlemen's Association members or at the Extension Office. Come out for a great meal and support the Cattlemen's Association!

Person County Farmers Market

The Person County Farmers Market will open for business on **Saturday**, **April 19** at 8:00 am. Market hours will be Saturday mornings, 8:00 am until noon and Wednesday afternoons from 3:00-6:00 pm. Market applications for new vendors are due soon. If you would like more information, please visit the market website at: www.personcountyfarmersmarket.com for more details.







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