



# New Hanover County

# 4-H

## CLOVER CONNECTION

**JOIN THE REVOLUTION  
OF RESPONSIBILITY**  
Cooperative Extension's Youth Development Program

### 4-H AGENT'S MESSAGE "4-H IN MY LIFE"

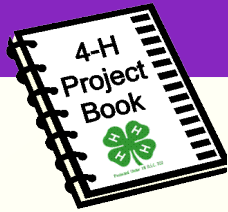


As of February 1st I have been a 4-H Agent for 4 years and a 4-H professional for almost 7 years. I did a little reflecting about how I got here and when I think back to what I loved most about being a 4-H member, it was the opportunities it gave me to spend time with my parents. Showing livestock (cattle, sheep, and pigs) allowed me to learn so much from my dad about being disciplined, caring for others, and being satisfied with giving your best no matter what the judge decided on show day. My mom (who was also my 4-H Agent) taught me that you didn't have to be loud to be a leader, just have a vision for things to be greater than they are in the present, work hard and love people. I wanted to share this photo of my dad teaching me to tie a knot to remind parents how important those moments with your children are. I'm sure I was probably really slow at

tying knots and there were plenty of things on my dad's to-do list, but he chose to invest time in me. Those moments with them will last a lifetime for me. So, parents, 4-H may be hard at times and you'll probably hear complaints about doing presentations or struggle to get a project book completed, but remember that it's worth it. Make time for it. Because your kids are just kids for a little while.

- Leslie Dill, 4-H Youth Development





## Project Record Book Planning

It's the beginning of 2015 and now is the time to plan your 4-H year. What do you want to do this year? What do you want to learn? Try working through a book from the [4hmall.org](http://4hmall.org). Tip – Leslie has most of these books filed in her office if you want to check one out! Once you've picked a project, start keeping a record of everything you're doing in 4-H. By the end of the year you'll have a nicely organized record of your accomplishments that you'll easily put into your project record book. Ask your club leader to help you get started.

First choose what category your project will be:

Animal Science  
Communication & Expressive Arts  
Environmental & Earth Education  
Personal Development & Leadership  
Science & Technology

Citizenship & Civic Education  
Consumer & Family Science  
Healthy Lifestyles  
Plant Science



**KEEPING TRACK** (adapted from [nmsu.edu](http://nmsu.edu))



### Calendar Method

Keep a calendar in a handy location (refrigerator) and every time you do something related to 4-H, school, church or other, write it down! At the end of each month place the calendar in a safe place until time to complete your record book.

### Index Box Method

Get a 3 x 5 inch card box, index cards and dividers. Label each divider as one of the sections on the report form. Each time you do something, write it on an index card and file in the appropriate section.

### Binder or Spiral Method

Grab an old school binder or notebook and organize each of your activities by type of activity or by date. This is an easy way to start until you get the hang of record keeping.

I'll be including tips for completing a project record book in each newsletter. If you'd like more information now, head over to [nc4h.org](http://nc4h.org) and click on "youth" then "awards & incentives."

## District Club Officer Training

One of the most rewarding leadership opportunities for club members is serving as an officer. In order to be successful and have a good experience, youth must learn how to carry out the duties of their office with confidence. Enter the Southeast District 4-H Club Officer Training. 4-H agents from Brunswick, Greene, Pender and New Hanover Counties conducted a two hour club officer training for 9-18 year old 4-H members from eight counties. Of the 56 students who participated, 2/3 had little or no experience as an officer yet close to 60% of them were currently officers.



Being a good club officer is more than learning what to say without getting red in the face. Youth need life skills in order to be employable, especially with high unemployment rates. Involvement in 4-H clubs is a time-tested, community-valued program that instills essential life skills in children ages 5-18.



Through conversations with participants, I found that many of them gained confidence to make a motion during a meeting which is a foundational skill in parliamentary procedure.

Participating from New Hanover County were: Ivy Crist, Elanna Dininny, Gracy Dywer, Elizabeth Fillman, Ryan Fore, Jadeyn Keegan, Miata Keegan, Ashley Reece, Michael Reece, Liz Sharpe, Sam Sharpe, Aidan Shepard, and Cate Shepard.





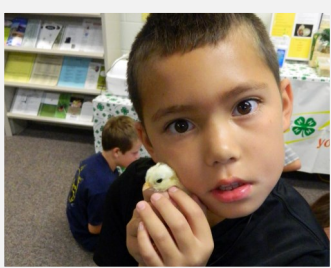
Join us for a wonderful weekend: build leadership skills, participate in teambuilding exercises, group community service project, compete for District Spirit Stick and elect new District officers!

The retreat will be held at Camp Albemarle on April 24-25 for all 4-H members age 13-18. Cost is \$75 and includes lodging, transportation, food, t-shirt and activities. To register for the teen retreat, complete the registration form at <http://goo.gl/forms/ZB1lvmwHRN>. In addition, you need to submit a \$40 nonrefundable deposit and the Camp Albemarle release form ([Camp Albemarle Release Form](#)) to the New Hanover County Center (6206 Oleander Drive) by February 27th. Balance of \$35 is due by April 10th. Cash is accepted or a check written to Craven County 4-H.

For more information: 910.798.7660 or [leslie\\_dill@ncsu.edu](mailto:leslie_dill@ncsu.edu)



## Embryology in the Classroom: More than Cute, Cuddly Chicks



Ask most public school students in New Hanover County if they remember hatching chicks in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and a majority of them will recall fond memories of the experience. But did you know that 4-H is the organization that provides those experiences? 4-H has offered Embryology in the Classroom for years, not just to generate lovely memories of hearing chicks peep or holding one for the first time, but, more importantly, to stimulate interest in science and technology professions. America faces a future of intense global competition with a startling shortage of scientists. Our program engages students as they witness the embryonic development of a

chicken. During the 2013-2014 school year, 24 elementary schools participated in the program that provided hands-on, research-based science activities for 2,041 students.

And teachers love it, too. One teacher shared that the program prompts students to share their excitement for learning with their parents. Of the teachers who completed an evaluation, over 80% said their students improved in their ability to relate science to real life. This year we partnered with Farm Bureau to offer lessons taught by 4-H volunteer, Melissa Hight. "We look at raw eggs to identify the parts and we look at boiled eggs to discuss the purpose, color and shape of the shell. I bring along a 'naked' egg so they can see and touch the inner membrane" shares Melissa. Farm Bureau provides a book "From Egg to Chicken" and 4-H provides each student with a sticker that says "I am an egg-cellent kid!"





## 2015 4-H Winter Fling

You are invited to spend a Saturday with other awesome 4-H members from all around Southeastern North Carolina! This is an opportunity for Southeast District 4-H members to gather together and work on their county scrapbooks as well as a district scrapbook. We will bring along some 4-H pictures from our county and a leaf (yes from a tree) that has already been dried. Open to all 4-H members who are 11 or older.

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 21st, 8:30 am—3:00 pm

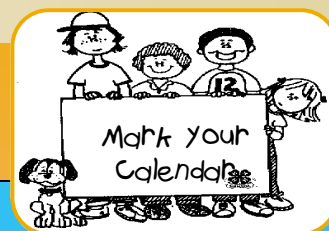
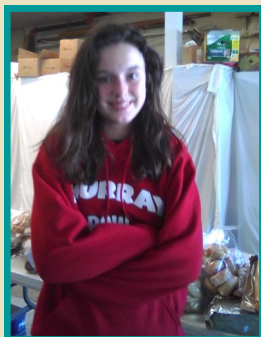
**WHERE:** Duplin County Cooperative Extension office. Transportation will be provided from New Hanover County Extension Office (6206 Oleander Drive). We will leave at 8:30 am and return at 3:00 pm

**COST:** \$10 (included lunch and materials); Cash or check written to Craven County 4-H. To register for the 4-H Winter Fling, email [leslie\\_dill@ncsu.edu](mailto:leslie_dill@ncsu.edu). Payment is due by Monday, February 16th.

## Beach Life 4-H Club

The Beach Life 4-H Club is for kids who love to learn and have fun. We like to keep our options open so we have a wide variety of topics we explore, choosing a single topic per month as our focus. These topics include science, animals, traditions and customs as well as physical health & fitness. As I stated, we like VARIETY!!

In 2015, we have already selected topics ranging from astronomy to Zumba, and everywhere in between! We focused on the water cycle one month and made a greenhouse inside a balloon and grew radish seeds! We even made our own miniature water cycle. We also like to give back to our community. This picture is from a recent community service project at First Fruits Ministries.



## Craft Day

On April 1<sup>st</sup> during spring break we'll be having a crafts workshop from 9-11am for any 5-18 year old student. We'll have supplies for three crafts. You can choose to do one or all three! Cost is \$5. Registration information will be posted closer to the event.

## Shamrock Science 4-H Club



4-H Shamrock Science Club members are learning about pH of liquids in solution using a pH indicator.

They also learned about dry ice (aka frozen Carbon Dioxide) and how it can change the pH of a solution.

**CHEMISTRY IS FUN!**



### April 2015

- 1 Craft Workshop
- 1 Presentation Workshop
- 24-25 District Teen Retreat at Camp Albemarle

### May 2015

- 1 AIRE (Application, Interview, Resume, Essay) Due
- 2 County Activity Day Presentations
- 7 Volunteer Appreciation Event
- 30-31 District Horse Show

### June 2015

- 13 District Activity Day Presentations, Lenoir Community College
- 15-17 NC Citizenship Focus

### July 2015

- 14-16 Electric Congress
- 18 4-H State Presentations
- 18-21 NC 4-H Congress

### August 2015

- 2-7 Betsy Jeff Penn 4-H Camp, Reidsville, NC

