



# Alexander 4-H News



## January 2014

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## Contact Us

Alexander County Center  
376 1st Avenue SW  
Taylorsville, NC 28681  
Phone: 828-632-3125  
Fax: 828-632-7533  
<http://alexander.ces.ncsu.edu>

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**2014 State 4-H Volunteer Leader Conference-** is set for **January 31st-February 2nd** at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Research Triangle Park. Additional registration information will be coming soon so please let Ashley know by January 2nd if you are interested in going.

**4-H Awards Night-** is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 28 from 7:00-8:30 pm** at the **CVCC-Alexander County Center (Room 103)**. Awards for project books, presentations, cumulative records and judging/bowl teams will be presented. All new club and county 4-H officers will be installed. All new 4-H club members will officially become members.

**South Central Winter Enrichment-** is planned for **January 10th -11th** in Union County. We will be leaving the Extension Office in Taylorsville promptly at **4:00 pm** and will be stopping for dinner before our **7:00 pm** arrival in Union County. The evening will begin with a business meeting, followed by 2 consecutive workshops and then a group outing at the bowling alley. Cost is **\$10 for adults** and **\$20 for youth**. Adults will not be bowling. Youth will need to bring an additional \$5 for dinner. A snack on Friday evening and Saturday breakfast is provided. Please register as soon as possible in the Extension office, as there are only 90 spots for this event for the District and it will be filled on a first come first served basis.

**2014 Summer Camp Date-** Alexander County 4-H'ers will be traveling to **Betsy-Jeff Penn** for a week of summer camp- **July 20-25, 2014**, for youth ages 8-14. Your cost will be **\$430** which includes all camper fees, camp t-shirt, **\$15** store money, transportation, and meals while at camp. We will need a **\$50** deposit to hold your space by **February 1<sup>st</sup>**. We will return all unclaimed spots after February 1<sup>st</sup>. The remainder of the balance is due **June 16th**. Please keep in mind, we only have 5 male and 5 female spaces available.

**2014 Teen Retreat- Save the Date-** This upcoming year's Teen Retreat will be held on **April 4th-5th** at **Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp**. More information will be sent out as we receive it.



**4-H Photo Contest-** Get together or start taking your best photos taken since **March 1, 2013**. You may enter one photo per category... people, animals, landscapes, buildings, 4-H in Action, Nature's Beauty, and Family Traditions. County photo winners in the 9-18 year old divisions for the last 3 categories will be sent on to the state 4-H photo contest. Overall county points winner will receive **\$15** 4-H Scholarship. The photo contest entry form is included in this newsletter. Deadline for photo entries is **February 28th**.

**Winter Wonderland With 4-H-** Catawba County 4-H has invited us to join them on **Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**, for a day of winter fun and learning. The morning will feature some Winter Workshops on Science, 4-H Presentation Basics and Healthy Lifestyles. Bring a lunch and warm-up with some hot chocolate and then we will head to Pineville for ice skating in the afternoon. 4-H membership is not necessary to attend. This event is for youth ages 8-13 and the cost is \$18. Register by calling the Extension Center by January 14; payment due at time of registration. 4-H'ers may use scholarship money they have earned to pay for the day. Cost includes skating and skate rental. (This is during Catawba County's school break; however, unfortunately, Alexander County is not out of school this day, leaving this event to apply more to home-schooled youth.)

NC State University  
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**ACT Preparation Course set-** Want some help preparing for the ACT? Nervous about testing? Attend the ACT Prep class known as **ASPIRE (ACT Preparation in Rural Education)** for 10th and 11<sup>th</sup> graders. The **ASPIRE** program is designed to bridge deficits in rural high school students' performance on the ACT College Entrance Examination in order to increase the number of students pursuing higher education in agriculture and life sciences. This is a cooperative initiative through the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University and North Carolina Cooperative Extension.

The program includes The Princeton Review ACT study manual, The Princeton Review 1,296 practice question manual, 4 ACT full-length practice exams with score analysis and breakdown, The Princeton Review selective college admissions booklet, and 30 hours of class time instruction, where students will learn the skills they need to be able to tackle the ACT!

The cost is **\$165** – *you can qualify to get \$65* (or a portion) refunded if you attend all the classes and completes all the practice tests. The cost includes 4 practice tests, 2 ACT manuals, and instruction. Financial Aid/Scholarships are available. Students are also eligible to attend a special **ASPIRE Day** at NCSU. The course will be held at the Alexander County Extension Office. The deadline for program applications is **January 9<sup>th</sup>**. Everyone must register online, so please visit the **ASPIRE** website at <http://harvest.cals.ncsu.edu/aspire/> for more information and to access the application. Please feel free to contact the Alexander County Extension Center for more information and a course schedule at 828-632-4451. The course is set to begin **Saturday, January 18, from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**, with a pre-test, regular classes will begin the following week!

**4-H Portfolios (formerly Cumulative Records) Due-** If you are 13 years or older and have been active in a specific project book area for 2-3 years, then you may want to consider completing a cumulative record. The form is similar to a 4-H project book but covers your work in that area for the past 3 years. If you are interested in beginning your 4-H cumulative record, call the 4-H office for more information. Deadline for 4-H Cumulative Records to the 4-H Office is **February 24<sup>th</sup>**. Cash prizes are provided at the state level up to **\$150**. Many of our local 4-H'ers have received this prize money.

**4-H Achievement Plans Due-** If you have been working on a 4-H Achievement Plan, please bring it to the 4-H Center by **January 10<sup>th</sup>**. An Achievement Plan awards a 4-H'er each year for accomplishing certain activities in 4-H. Many of you have completed the 1<sup>st</sup> level this year. Call the 4-H Center if you would like to receive an Achievement Plan.

**4-H College Scholarships Due-** If you are graduating in 2014 from high school, you may want to check out the 4-H college scholarships that are available. Call the 4-H Office to receive a scholarship packet. Scholarship information is due on **Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>** to the 4-H Office.

**4-H Honor Club Applications Due-** If your 4-H age is 16 on **January 1<sup>st</sup>**, you are eligible to apply for the NC 4-H Honor Club. Only 1/2 of 1 percent of North Carolina's total membership are inducted each year. Applications are due to 4-H Office by **Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**.

**Club of the Year Points-** please remember to be calculating your club of the year points and have them submitted to Ashley by **January 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please feel free to call or come by the office for assistance if you need help with this.

**2014 4-H Calendar of Events-** Enclosed you will find a calendar of events for January-July 2014. There are a lot of changes in schedule for the 4-H program in 2014. Please spend some time looking for the changes. We will take reservations for events once they are listed in the 4-H newsletter. Please refer to 4-H newsletters each month for scheduling updates.

## 4-H'ers and Volunteers in the News-

**Drink Tab Collection-** Alexander 4-H County Council will continue the drink tab collection community service project again this year. To date, Alexander 4-H'ers have collected over 2000 pounds of tabs. The money collected from the tabs go to the Ronald McDonald House. **Please check larger tabs that are pulled off soup and other food containers. Most of those tabs are made of steel and can not be collected since the drink tabs are aluminum.**

**4-H Gingerbread House Contest-** We had several wonderful entries. The results are:

*Cloverbud Division (8-Under years old):*

1st Place– **Titus Stroud- \$10 4-H Scholarship**

2nd place– **Autumn Pennell - \$5 4-H Scholarship**

*Senior Division (14-18 years old):*

1st place- **Courtney Bowman - \$10 4-H Scholarship**

A special thanks to our judge, **Leslie Meadows**, from the Alexander County Soil & Water Department.



**Titus Stroud**



**Courtney Bowman**



**Autumn Pennell**



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## 4-H Club Reports

**ACHS 4-H Club-** traveled to the Taylorsville House to sing Christmas Carols to the folks there, on Thursday, December 19th.

**Handy Dandy 4-H Club-** For our November meeting, we met on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at the Extension Office. We went over some of the basics for new members, and talked about project books. We decided to sponsor a child for Christmas through a local church. Lukas Moose lead our activity. We made 'turkey' snack jars.

For our December meeting, we met on Tuesday, December, 10, 2013. Courtney Bowman led our activity. She prepared sugar cookie dough, and we got to roll it and make cutouts. She baked them and we decorated with lots of sprinkles. Mrs. Brenda Bowman told us some facts about cookies. Did you know that the Oreo cookie is the best selling cookie in the 20th century? Titus Stroud and Lukas Moose lead our pledges, and Sarah Perry brought our meeting to order. We discussed some business and turned in can tabs, soup labels, and gathered our gifts for an Angel tree. We will meet again on **Tuesday, January 7, 2014, anyone interested is invited to come.** Submitted By: Titus Stroud

**Home Grown Hearts 4-H Club-** For our November meeting, our club made gift boxes out of Christmas cards and for our December meeting, we made gift bags for filled hygiene products along with the gift card boxes that we made to take to the local nutrition site in Stony Point.

**Shockers 4-H Club-** In November, we had a program on reading your power bill and energy saving tips. We made a melted snowman ornament.

In December, we collected blankets to donate to needy groups within the county. We will continue the blanket drive through January. Our next meeting will be on the 4th Thursday of the month, January 23rd, for those who are interested in coming.

**Silver Saddles 4-H Horse Club-** held its meeting, at Sunset Ridge Equestrian Center, on November 10th, at 3:00 pm. Nationally ranked mounted shooter, John Kerley, taught us the ropes of mounted shooting. He talked about the safety precautions that are necessary to make sure the horse and rider are safe. "The horse has to be desensitized to the gunshots," John said. We give a huge thanks out to John for taking the time to inform us about this equestrian sport.

Silver Saddles Club is collecting canned goods, paper products, and non-perishable food for the local food pantry. The food pantry is located at Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church, in Bethlehem. Submitted By: Anna Fisher.

**Sugar and Spice 4-H Cooking Club-** Met at the 4-H Office on Thursday, December 5th for their annual Christmas Cookie and dirty Santa gift exchange. Ashley Clack, 4-H Agent joined in and everyone had fun!



Newsletter prepared by:  
Ashley Clack  
Extension Agent  
4-H Youth Development





**4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**  
**Rules & Regulations**

- 1) Open to 4-H'ers in Alexander County.
- 2) Age divisions: **(Age as of 1/1/2014)**
  - 5-8 year olds
  - 9-13 year olds
  - 14-18 year old

**Please do not mount place or place in special photo displays.**

- 3) Contestants may submit one recent photograph in one or more of the following categories: (a) People (b) Animals (c) Landscapes (d) Buildings (e) 4-H in Action (f) Nature's Beauty (g) Family Traditions. County winners in the 9-18 divisions will be eligible for the State 4-H Photo Contest.
- 4) The photograph can be color or black and white prints, 4 X 6 inches no larger.
- 5) Pictures must be taken by the youth since March, 2013.
- 6) Pictures may be brought to the Alexander 4-H Center by **February 28, 2013.**
- 7) Ribbons will be awarded in each category and age division. First place will receive four (4) points, second place--three (3) points, third place--two (2) points, and one (1) point for participation. The person scoring highest overall points will receive a \$15 4-H Scholarship.
- 8) Attach an entry form with the pictures you enter.

**SPONSORED BY ALEXANDER 4-H CLUBS**

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**PHOTO ENTRY FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ as of 1/1/2014

Club \_\_\_\_\_

**Categories**

**Description of photo**

- |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| a) People            | _____ |
| b) Animals           | _____ |
| c) Landscapes        | _____ |
| d) Buildings         | _____ |
| e) 4-H in Action     | _____ |
| f) Nature's Beauty   | _____ |
| g) Family Traditions | _____ |



## 2014 Alexander County 4-H Calendar January- July, 2014

**Tentative Dates—Please refer to Monthly Newsletters for Updates**

<p><b>January</b></p> <p>7 9 10-11 10 10 13 18 19 20 22 24 ?? 28</p> <p>31- Feb. 2</p> <p><b>February</b></p> <p>3 20 24 24 28</p> <p><b>March</b></p> <p>1 ?? ?? 3 17 20 ??</p>	<p>4-H Volunteer Leaders Meeting – 5:30 pm Deadline to Register for ASPIRE Online Winter Enrichment (Union County ) 4-H Achievement Plans Due Amy Shook 4-H Leadership Awards Due WHEP Team Practice - 3:30-5 pm ASPIRE Course Pre-Test – 8:00 – 12:00 noon Club of the Year Forms Due Holiday-Office Closed Holiday-Money, Real World- East Alexander Middle 4-H Scholarship &amp; Honor Club Forms Due South Central 4-H Horse Bowl 4-H Awards Night-7:00 pm (CVCC-Alexander Center – Room 103) NC 4-H Volunteer Leader's Conference-Raleigh</p> <p>WHEP Team Practice - 3:30-5 pm 4-H County Council- 3:30-4:00 pm 4-H Portfolios Due to 4-H Center WHEP Team Practice - 3:30-5:00 pm 4-H Photo Contest Entries Due by 5:00 pm</p> <p>Commissioner's Choice Applications Due State 4-H Horse Bowl, NC A&amp;T State University State 4-H Hippology Contest, NC A&amp;T State University WHEP Team Practice - 3:30-5:00 pm WHEP- 3:30-5:00 pm 4-H County Council- 3:30-4 pm Commissioners Choice Awards Banquet-ACHS Cafeteria - 6:30 pm</p>	<p><b>April</b></p> <p>?? 4-5 ?? 14 ?? 28 18 16 18 ??</p> <p>4-H Mini Garden Project Begins South Central 4-H Teen Retreat-Penn 4-H Center Sewn Garments and Craft Entries Due by 5 pm WHEP Team Practice - 3:30-5:00 pm 4-H Expressive Arts Show- 7:00 pm WHEP Team Practice - 3:30-5:00 pm Holiday-Office Closed From Farm to Fork Presentation Deadline- 5 pm NC 4-H Horse Judging Contest – Raleigh</p>	<p><b>May</b></p> <p>?? ?? ?? 3 26</p> <p>State WHEP Contest South Central 4-H District Horse Show- Union County ARIE- Application, Resume, Interview and Essay Due South Central 4-H District Activity Day- Gaston Community College Holiday- Office Closed</p>	<p><b>June</b></p> <p>8 ?? ?? 21 21-24</p> <p>NC 4-H Photo Contest Postmark Deadline 4-H Mini Garden Judging NC State 4-H Horsemanship Camp Millstone 4-H Center State 4-H Presentation Finals NC 4-H Congress-Raleigh</p>	<p><b>July</b></p> <p>4 ?? 14-16 20-25</p> <p>Holiday-Office Closed State 4-H Horse Show-James B. Hunt Horse Complex NC 4-H Electric Congress—UNC-Charlotte Betsy –Jeff Penn 4-H Camp</p>
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