Capture Your Accomplishments!

4-H has a long history of record-keeping as an activity by 4-H members. The activity known as project record books gives youth an opportunity to reflect on their yearly work. They document their skill development and their learning experiences in a written report. 4-H members measure their achievements and growth in their total years in 4-H. Project record books also encourage youth to set goals and develop plans to meet those goals. Cumulative record books are very similar to project record books except they are for 13-18 year olds only and cover up to 3 years of work. Over 900 project record books and 100 cumulative record books were completed by NC 4-H members last year. Download the form from nc4h.org (click on “Youth” then “Awards & Incentives”). When submitting a project record or cumulative record for 2011, make sure you use the appropriate form for the 4-H member’s age on January 1, 2011. Age divisions are 9-10, 11-12, 13-15, and 16-18 year olds. Cloverbuds (ages 5-8) may submit a book for participation. Please email leslie_wilson@ncsu.edu for the Cloverbud form. All books are to be in the 4-H office by February 20th—NO EXCEPTIONS!

On January 23rd, a Project Record Book Workshop will be held from 3-5pm in the Cooperative Extension Auditorium. This free workshop, open to 4-H members age 9-18, parents, and volunteers, will give step by step examples of how to build an award winning project record. Sign up by January 17th by calling Danyce Dicks @ 910.798.7660.

New Year ~ New Club!

Are you interested in learning about horses? How about joining a 4-H horse club? Being involved in a 4-H club is a great way to make new friends, become involved in your community, and learn! Our newest club will be holding their first meeting on January 18th at 6pm. Please contact club leader Norma Bean at normabean28@yahoo.com for directions to her farm.
4-H’ers Attend Teen Leadership Conference

Three New Hanover County 4-H members spent their weekend a little differently than most teenagers might have. They joined over 80 North Carolina teens attending the annual 4-H Teen Leadership Conference at the Eastern 4-H Center in Columbia, North Carolina. The conference included workshops, a dance, and a community service project to benefit a local food bank. The workshops focused on leadership development centered on parliamentary procedure, public speaking, teambuilding, social media safety and more. Representing New Hanover County at the conference were Kevin Artz, 15, son of David and Reena Artz, Lanyce Holliday, 17, daughter of Deidre Holliday and Lerone Folks, and Robert Shivers-Perry, 16, son of Bill and Fran Perry.

Southeast District Holds Teen Meeting

Teens from the Southeast District got together on December 22nd at the NC Cooperative Extension Center in Onslow County.

Representing New Hanover County was Kevin Artz, 15, Lanyce Holliday, 17, Christine McDow, 13, Elise McDow, 17, Louisa Michael, 15, and Robert Shivers-Perry, 16.

The 4-H’ers participated in workshops led by their district officers, held a business meeting, and heard from Officer Pacilli about the dangerous affects drugs have on people.

Focus on Photography

There is a new club in town! The Topsail Area Photography 4-H Club is brand new and open to new members ages 5-18 who are interested in learning about photography. Youth and parents are invited to attend the first meeting held on January 26th from 6-7pm at the Extension Office Auditorium. The club plans to learn all about lighting, composition, special effects and more during its first year. Contact Melinda Grant at 910-686-4021 or missmelinda@chartner.net if you are interested in joining this new group of photography enthusiasts.
Teen County Council News by Lanyce Holliday

The 4-H County Council meeting started off with us dining on a delicious meal which consisted of baked ham, green bean casserole, candied yams, baby lima beans, mac and cheese, salad and chips. We finished off the meal with sodas, hot apple cider and scrumptious cookies. Each member brought the delightful goodies for us to dig into—what a treat! The holiday season had truly begun!

After we had dined to our hearts content, the meeting was called to order and our president, Elise McDow, led us in the pledges. Needless to say, after a heavy meal, this was going to be a very short meeting.

We were all our usual talkative selves and were glad to see each other again. The minutes were reviewed as well as the Treasurers’ Report. Elise mentioned the 4-H group at Trask Middle School had a meeting earlier, Christine gave us an update on the activities. With that said, we welcomed Christine McDow [Elise’s sister] to the Teen Council. Lanyce, Kevin and Robert each spoke on the Teen Leadership Conference that was held at the Eastern 4-H Center [December 9-10]. We had a great time and I was royally spoiled by both young men—true gentlemen!

Final plans were made for us to go to the Southeast District Council Meeting on December 22 in Onslow County.

Project record books were also discussed. By this time, we were ready to adjourn—good meal, fellowship and informative meeting—time to go! Miss Leslie passed out Christmas gifts for each of us and our President Elise surprised us with a Christmas token as well! We wished each other a very happy and safe holiday. Special thanks to our parents for their support throughout the year! Next meeting @ 6pm on January 23rd. See ya then!

Are You Making A Difference in Your Community?

Did your 4-H club make a difference in your community this year? If your club participated in a great community service project during 2011, then make sure you apply for the 4-H Community Service Award. Sponsored by the North Carolina 4-H Honor Club, the Community Service Program is designed to recognize excellence in club community service activities. Club members and their volunteers should submit the Community Involvement/Community Service Form entitled “Involvement Unlimited” (R-1-7-3) found at nc4h.org (click on “Youth” then “Awards & Incentives”). State prizes include: 1st place: $150; 2nd place: $100; and 3rd place: $50. Application packets are due to Leslie Wilson no later than February 20th.
4-H Reminders

January
- 14-16: Junior Leader Retreat to Black Mountain for teens
- 17: Deadline for Project Record Book Workshop Registration
- 18: Horse Club Meeting @ 6pm
- 23: Project Record Book Workshop from 3-5pm
- 23: New Hanover County 4-H Teen Council Meeting
- 25: 4-H Scholarship & Honor Club Applications Due
- 26: Topsail Area Photography 4-H Club first meeting

February
- 4-5: Wilmington Garden Show with Growing Up Green Children’s Tent—need volunteers!
- 20: Project & Cumulative Record Books Due
- 20: Group (club) Award Applications Due
- 20: New Hanover County 4-H Teen Council Meeting
- 28: Deadline to register for the 4-H Turkey Project
- 29: 4-H Club Leader Meeting

March
- 7: 4-H Advisory Council Meeting
- 9-10: Teen Retreat (@ New Hanover County)
- 19: New Hanover County 4-H Teen Council Meeting

Happy New Year 2012!