Get Your Gobble On!

Interested in showing a turkey at the North Carolina State Fair? 4-Hers can sign up to receive three, day old turkey poults around late May/early June. The youth are responsible for feeding and caring for their birds until the NC State Fair, where all of their hard work will be put to the test. From just a couple of ounces of peeping fuzz that fit in your palm, to an average of thirty five pounds (some as large as 50 lbs) that now require both hands to hold, youth learn how to raise turkeys and literally “grow” with their projects. Participants in the show are evaluated on the overall weight of their turkeys, the muscling in the breast and legs, and how well each participant has taken care of their bird. Sign up by February 28 by emailing danyce_dicks@ncsu.edu with the 4-Hers name, current age, and date of birth. Youth must be 5-18 on January 1, 2012 and submit a 4-H enrollment and medical release form to the office. (Adapted from the NCSU 4-H Poultry website at www.poultry4h.info)

New Directions 4-H Club

The New Directions 4-H Club held their first meeting on November 9th at the AAI Pharma Learning Center. The club, led by teachers, is a new venture to the school’s afterschool programming. Club officers are President, Sarah Loper, age 10; Vice President, Mary Frances Warner, age 10; Secretary, Arianna Hauser, age 8; Treasurer, Shannon Adams, age 10; and Recreation Leader Isaiah Dunlap, age 9. During their first meeting, the club designed their own 4-H clovers and wrote words that they thought described 4-H. They also participated in a science experiment called “Mystery Ink,” writing secret messages in milk, orange juice, and vinegar on a white piece of paper. They discussed which message would show up best when heated (toasted) in a toaster oven and why and everyone had a chance to see their secret message appear in dark brown while being toasted in the ovens. Since milk and orange juice are organic products, they oxidize and show up brown!

Enrollment forms need to be updated every year and are due NOW! Please make sure you turn them in to your club leader or to the 4-H office as soon as possible. For your convenience, forms are available on-line at www.nc4h.org. Click on “Procedures and Guidelines” for the Enrollment Form, Code of Conduct, and Medical Release Form. Don’t forget that the Medical Release must be notarized.
Don’t Miss Out on 4-H Camps This Year!!

Each year, youth from all around the state of North Carolina travel to 4-H camps with their county 4-H Agent. New Hanover County 4-Hers will be attending Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center July 29th-August 3rd, 2012. Beginning with a cookout on Sunday afternoon, and culminating with fond farewells and hugs on Friday morning, a week of camp can be the highlight of a child’s summer. The 2012 price is $390 for Traditional and Adventurer campers and $410 for Trekkers. This price includes a camp T-shirt, $15 credit to the camp store, meals at camp, and transportation to and from camp. Traditional campers are ages 8-12, while Adventurers are 12-14 and Trekkers are 13-14. Campers will have the opportunity to be involved in several activities such as canoeing, wall climbing, horseback riding, crafts, swimming, and archery, just to name a few.

Adventurers camp outdoors for two nights on the camp grounds. They will learn the importance of trust and communication through team building and high ropes course activities. Adventurers will also develop canoeing skills and learn global positioning skills during Geocaching adventures.

Trekkers spend the first half of the week learning canoeing and rock climbing skills. During the last half of the week, Trekkers will travel offsite to canoe down the Mayo River, rock climb at Pilot Mt State Park, and camp at Pilot Mt State Park.

Young people (ages 15-17) interested in gaining leadership skills and understanding camp and youth development are encouraged to inquire about the Leader-In-Training (LIT) program. LIT's spend part of their time working on program set-up and "behind-the-scenes" details. They also participate in teambuilding, high ropes, and other leadership opportunities. A $50 non-refundable deposit is due by April 30th to reserve your child’s spot. However, there are very limited spots available so don’t wait! The remaining balance of $340 (or $360 for Trekkers) is due by July 2nd. Please contact Danyce Dicks at 910-798-7660 to set up a payment plan if needed. Additional details will be mailed to registered campers.

Botty Builders Compete

On January 21st, the New Hanover County 4-H Botty Builders robotics team competed at the FIRST LEGO League N.C. State tournament held in Greensboro. Sixty teams competed and the Botty Builders ranked seventh place in robot performance. The challenge was called Food Factor and as part of the competition, the team researched food safety concerns and did a presentation for a panel of judges.

Team members who competed in the tournament were Alex Richter, Lauren Richter and Louisa Michael.
Hi everyone, in this month’s meeting we talked about project record books, which will be due very soon [February 20th]. Prior to our meeting, we have a very good workshop led by Leslie Wilson on the ‘how tos’ in project record books. We didn’t have any unfinished business that we needed to talk about. For future reference, here are some important upcoming dates:

- Teen Retreat on March 9th and 10th, $30 if you are staying at home and $50 to stay at the hotel sign up ended February 15th,
- AIRE workshop on March 15th @ 6:30pm. If there are any questions call Leslie Wilson @ 910.798.7669.

I was surprised with a delicious cheesecake for my 18th birthday—way to go!!! The meeting was adjourned and the next meeting starts @ 5pm on Monday, February 20th [teacher workday—no school].

**AIRE Workshop**

- Are you ready for college? How about your first job? Many of the essential skills needed in the workplace and in college are an integral part of the 4-H competition: AIRE. AIRE is a 4-part process of an application, interview, resume, and essay for teens and pre-teens to strength their 21st century skills. **A workshop for youth 11-18** (parents and volunteers are welcome too!) will be held on Monday, March 15th at the Extension Office from 6:30pm-8:30pm in the Training Room.

- Youth participants between the ages of 11-13 take part in the noncompetitive program. We strongly encourage younger youth to participate in the program. Youth that start the process early are better prepared for the competitive process and the program strengthens their 21st Century workforce and college prep skills. *FYI: Last year several noncompetitive participants had higher scores than competitive participants.**

- Youth participants 14-18 years old take part in the competitive program (Awards to National 4-H Trips). Applications are due to the county 4-H office no later than May 10th. **Register to attend the March 15th workshop with Danyce@ 798-7660.**

**Free Agricultural Leader Camp for Rising Seniors**

Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) to be held at North Carolina A&T State University the week of June 10–15, 2012. The IFAL program is a one-week residential program designed for rising high-school seniors sponsored by the North Carolina Farm Bureau. Students are exposed to the academic and research programs in the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences and are introduced to careers in the food, agricultural, and environmental sciences. In addition, students will gain experiences in leadership by participating in leadership training seminars, touring the NC General Assembly, meeting governmental officials, and visiting the NC Farm Bureau Offices. Please email leslie_wilson@ncsu.edu for the application form and the applications guidelines.

You can find additional info @ http://www.ncfb.org/programs/ifal/ifal.cfm. No cost for students to participate in this unique program. Please contact Dr. Antoine Alston at (336) 334-7711 or alstona@ncat.edu for further info.
4-H Reminders

February
- 20: Project & Cumulative Record Books, Group (Club) Award Applications, & District Council Officer Applications Due
- 20: New Hanover County 4-H Teen Council Meeting @ 5pm
- 24: W.O.W. 4-H Club Meeting (MAYBE!!!)
- 28: Deadline to register for Turkey Project
- 29: Club Leader Meeting

March
- 7: 4-H Advisory Council Meeting
- 9-10: Teen Retreat (@ New Hanover County)
- 15: AIRE (Application, Interview, Resume, Essay) Workshop
- 19: New Hanover County 4-H Teen Council Meeting

April
- 16: New Hanover County 4-H Teen Council
- 18: Club Leader Meeting (*moved from April 25)
- 30: 4-H Camp deposit due

Dates TBA
4-H Talent Show
Spring Cloverbud Day Camps

North Carolina Cooperative Extension
New Hanover County Center
6206 Oleander Drive
Wilmington, NC 28403

Leslie Wilson
4-H Youth Development Agent
leslie_wilson@ncsu.edu
910.798.7660

Join our Facebook Page!
newhanover.ces.ncsu.edu

Happy Valentine’s Month!

North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.
In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation.