Important Dates:

- Feb. 18: Sewing Workshop Begins
- Feb. 22: District Officer Nominations Due
- Mar. 20: Dutch Bulb Orders Due by County Council Meeting
- Apr. 1: Leader Training
- Apr. 5-6: WD Teen Retreat
- Apr. 12: Fashion Revue/Talent Showcase/Craft Fair (Tentative)

Inside this issue:

- 2007 4-H Achievement Program Highlights
- State Leaders Conference Highlights
- Sewing Workshop Series
- Club Connections
- Leader Trainings Scheduled
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- Organ Give-Away

Nearly 200 Buncombe County 4-H’ers, their family members and volunteer leaders gathered at Trinity Baptist Church on January 10th to celebrate the many accomplishments of our 4-H members, clubs and leaders during 2007. All of our 4-H clubs were represented, not only by members and leaders, but with exhibits and scrapbooks depicting all that they had done the previous year that made them proud.

We want to thank everyone who was involved in creating those exhibits for their hard work and ingenuity—they were a great way to share all that our clubs are into and give each other ideas of experiences to try.

Since the “green” carpet treatment was so popular last year, our County Council officers opted to again follow the Academy Award-type format for the program. They really went all out with stars and dazzling lights and candles. Our district officer, Andrew Winebarger, put together a wonderful multi-media presentation which illustrated all of the county’s 4-H 2007 programming efforts.

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2007 4-H Achievement Program,  
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The highlight of the evening was the naming of Outstanding Member, Leader and Club Awards. Mr. Bruce Peterson (below, left center), District Director for the 11th District Congressional Office, and Mr. Tony Seker (far left, below) of the Kiwanis Club of Asheville, presented the 2007 Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Leader Award to a very surprised Joyce Thames (below, right center) of A Brighter Tomorrow 4-H Club. She was cited for her encouragement, involvement and support of her club members in many of the county, district and state 4-H programs, as well as for the science discoveries program that she has led within her club.

Buncombe County Commission Vice-Chair, Mr. David Gantt, (left) presented the 2007 Outstanding Junior 4-H Member Award to Seth Austin (right) of the Newfound 4-H Club, and Representative Susan Fisher (below left) presented the Outstanding Senior Member Award to Andrew Winebarger (below right) of Growing Branches 4-H Club.

The Black Mountain Spur Stoppers (at right), our newest 4-H club, received its charter, while nine other clubs were rechartered for the year.

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Buncombe County 4-H Agent Mary McGlauflin, recognized the 2007 Outstanding Club Award winners:

Horse Spirits 4-H Club
2007 Outstanding 4-H Club with fewer than 10 members and less than 10 years tenure.

Growing Branches 4-H Club
2007 Outstanding 4-H Club with more than 10 members and less than 10 years tenure.

Sandy Mush 4-H Club
2007 Outstanding 4-H Club with more than 10 members and more than 10 years tenure.

Former 4-H Program Assistant Barbara Sloss and County Council Historian Abby Fleming helped Ms. Suzanne Wodek, Extension Master Gardener, present commemorative watering cans to the participant families of our 2007 Mini-Gardening Project. Thirty-one youth from 19 families participated in the project.
Dr. Donald Dossey and Mr. Mike Stevenson of the Men’s Garden Club of Asheville made presentations to the winners of the Sunflower Contest. Austin Maynor (left) of the Newfound 4-H Club received the award for the largest sunflower seed head grown by an individual. The Horse Spirits 4-H Club was also recognized for its club entry. And although too young to be a 4-H member, Kylie Austin (below) was recognized by the Garden Club as their “Little Miss Sunflower”.

Awards were also presented to project record entrants. The leaders of each entrants’ club presented the awards:

A Brighter Tomorrow:
Ta’von Tinsley: red ribbon, Plant Science (9-10)

Asheville Highriders:
Rachel Blackburn: red ribbon, Animal Science (11-12)

Newfound:
Seth Austin: blue ribbon, Animal Science (11-12) Category Winner
Austin Maynor: blue ribbon, Communication and Expressive Arts (11-12) Category Winner
Savannah Maynor: blue ribbon, Plant Science (11-12) Category Winner
Laura Nelon: red ribbon, Animal Science (9-10) Category Winner

Sandy Mush:
Jenna Cagle: green ribbons (Cloverbud), Community Service, Expressive Arts, Plant Science
Hannah Justice: red and white ribbons, Animal Science (13-15)

Special thanks go to Patrick Watkins of A Brighter Tomorrow 4-H Club for providing the wonderful piano prelude prior to the Achievement Program, and to Erin, Kristen and Robyn Thames (The Cascades), also of A Brighter Tomorrow, for performing their wonderful comedic talent act to give us a taste of the 4-H Talent Showcase!

Buncombe County 4-H Council Secretary, Hannah Justice of Sandy Mush 4-H Club, looks on as her fellow club member, Weston Justice, County Council Reporter, presents County Extension Director Kenneth Reeves the framed, autographed picture mat that will soon hold a photograph of the 2008 4-H County Council Officers who planned and conducted the Achievement Program! Other officers presented roses to 4-H Agent Mary McGlauflin and to 4-H Secretary Debbie Sparks. The thoughts and efforts are greatly appreciated!
Lisa Baldwin, leader of the Lucky Clovers 4-H Club, and 4-H Agent Mary McGlauflin attended this year’s NC Volunteer Leaders’ Conference at Research Triangle Park, February 1-3. They attended exciting workshops, including Yes, I Can Speak in Public, Information Security, Manners Matter, The 2008 Electric Project Kit and Program Overview, The Laughter Club, Simple Teamwork Solutions, and 4-H—Come.See. Express (an overview of the 2008 NC State 4-H Theme). Most of the workshops were very hands-on and provided great materials for use with 4-H clubs and our County Council.

The 2008 Electric Project is a Continuity Tester Kit from which participants will learn about different electrical components that make up the project circuit, how to read and follow an electric schematic, and how to safely use soldering equipment. The circuit boards for this year’s project are bigger than in the past, making the project easier to work with. We also plan to have more efficient soldering equipment when we offer the workshop in our county later this spring, so plan on participating and then completing an electric project book that could qualify you for next year’s 4-H Electric Congress. (More information in next month’s newsletter).

This was the first Leaders’ Conference for both Mary and Lisa, and they enjoyed getting to know leaders from across the state, especially those in our own district* with whom they worked the Hospitality Suite. Lisa would like to thank the Kiwanis Club of Asheville for providing a scholarship for her registration fee. She would also encourage other leaders to participate in the conference next year.

**NOTE:** The West District 4-H Leaders Association will hold its annual “Share Fair” meeting (both youth and adult volunteers teach mini-workshops on specific activities or projects that other clubs might want to conduct) at the Haywood County Extension Center from 10 am –2 pm, Saturday, May 3. If you would be interested in attending or teaching a workshop, let Mary know and she’ll plan to take a group.

### Sewing Workshop Series

The 2008 4-H Sewing Workshops Series will be taught from 3**—5:30 pm on consecutive Monday afternoons (with the exception of March 24) at the Extension Center, 94 Coxe Avenue, February 18-March 31. There is no charge for the workshops, but participants must be at least 9 years old as of January 1, 2008. A list of items participants must have bring to the first class is included in the project guide Sew Much Fun which can be downloaded at [http://downloads.cas.psu.edu/4H/SewMuchFun.pdf](http://downloads.cas.psu.edu/4H/SewMuchFun.pdf). Participants should make sure that their fabric is preshrunk before they bring it to class the first day; otherwise, it will not be ready to be cut out.

These workshops are designed to help 4-H’ers prepare for the 2008 4-H Fashion Revue which is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 12. If you have any questions, feel free to give Mary a call at 255-5522. **or as soon after 3:00 pm as you can get to the Extension Center after school. All participants must be picked up by 5:30 pm.

### West District Teen Retreat

The 2008 West District 4-H Teen Retreat is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 5-6, at Camp Bob in Henderson County. We do not yet have registration details, but will get those to you as soon as we receive them. All 4-H’ers 12–19 as of January 1, are invited to participate.

### District Officer Nominations

Nominations for District Officer positions are due in the Extension Office by February 22 so that Mary can sign off on them and get them to the State 4-H Office by the March 1 deadline. If you are interested in running for District Office, check out the following websites for responsibilities and forms:

- [http://www.nc4h.org/youth/statecouncil/district_officer_form_IV.pdf](http://www.nc4h.org/youth/statecouncil/district_officer_form_IV.pdf)
- [http://www.nc4h.org/youth/statecouncil/district_officer_form_II.pdf](http://www.nc4h.org/youth/statecouncil/district_officer_form_II.pdf)
Newfound 4-H Club

Several of our club members participated in the North Carolina Junior Polled Hereford Association Livestock Judging Competition in Raleigh on January 26 & 27. We had several place in the top 20 of the competition. Great job, everyone!

Craig Loveland with the City of Asheville Police Department K-9 unit visited our club on January 29, 2008 and brought his dog, Boris. They shared with us some of their duties within the police department, including a narcotics search, article search, general obedience work and the various tools that they use to protect our neighborhoods. It was a great program and our thanks go out to them for stopping by.

National FFA Week is February 18-22; the Erwin High School FFA Parliamentary Procedure team will be visiting our club to exhibit parliamentary procedures skills. We look forward to this great learning experience.

Submitted by Ty Worley, Club Reporter

Sandy Mush 4-H Club

Our club will be hosting a 4-H Roast Beef Supper at the Leicester Fire Department, Saturday, March 15 at 5:00 pm. The event is a club fundraiser. Cost for adults is $7.00; $5.00 for children.

Asheville Highriders: Taking on 2008

Asheville Highriders kicked off the new year with a bang! The 20-member group had its first meeting of the year on January 4th with some mighty big plans for 2008. Plans were made for a benefit horse ride, clinics, a private schooling show, increased community service, and many other activities. The Highriders also attended 4-H’s Achievement Program hosted January 17th and were represented by Made-lyn Johnson, Lyndsey Robinson, Bailey Strub, Julia Schniedewind, Elizabeth Lyons, and Cheyenne Searse. Rachel Blackburn received a red ribbon for her project book submitted on her horse, Rio. Also in 2008 the group made a donation to Bill Inman, a rancher who rode his horse cross country (visit www.uncoveringamerica.com for more information on Bill and his journey.) This year is promised to be filled with activities for the Asheville Highriders, and everyone in the group can’t wait for what lies ahead.

Submitted by Rachel Blackburn

Lucky Clovers 4-H Club

Our club has been very busy already this year, making a display for the Achievement Program, participating in that event, and making and delivering Valentines to residents of Becky’s Rest Home in Cane Creek. Our club leader, Lisa Baldwin, also took part in the state Volunteer Leaders’ Conference the first weekend in February.

We’re looking forward to some really great activities this spring, including our own club sewing workshops!

Horse Spirits 4-H Club

All seven club members participated in a horse clinic at their January club meeting at Painted Valley Stables in Barnardsville.
Kids of the Kingdom 4-H Club

The Kids of the Kingdom 4-H Club decorated mini Christmas trees in November for Hospice patients. Every family made at least one. Some of the trees used traditional Christmas decorations and some were just plain old fun—especially the one decorated with colorful Legos!

Our clubs has enjoyed doing the Hospice Tree project for several years now.

Buncombe 4-H’ers Take to the Slopes

Nine Buncombe County 4-H’ers joined 4-H’ers from across our district at the West District 4-H Ski Night at Catalooche, February 8th. Our own Andrew Winebarger from the Growing Branches 4-H Club (also the West District Secretary/Treasurer) coordinated the activity and took photos, some of which we’ll feature in next month’s issue of Clover Gazette.

Leader Trainings Scheduled

Mary will be offering a 4-H Volunteer Leader Training twice on Tuesday, April 1. The training will be on the 4-H Awards and Incentives Program with special focus on Project Record Books and 4-H Presentations.

The morning session will be offered from 9 am-noon and the evening session from 6:30-9:00 pm.

Leaders, keep in mind that each club must have a leader attend at least two leader trainings during the year to qualify for club re-chartering in 2009. This training qualifies toward meeting that requirement.

This is a great opportunity to get your questions answered about project records and presentations to help your club members get more involved.

Let Mary know which of the sessions you plan to attend by Friday, March 28.

Spring County Council Fundraiser

At our January Meeting, the County Council voted to conduct another 4-H Spring Bulb and Plant Sale in cooperation with Dutch Mill Bulbs. Mary will be sending out the order forms packets to clubs next week, and money should be turned into the 4-H office no later than the March 20 County Council Meeting. Checks should be made payable to the Buncombe County 4-H County Council.

Check out the spring offerings at http://www.dutchmillbulbs.com/store.asp?pid=16690&catid=19813
**Next County Council Meeting**

*March 20*

At our last County Council Meeting, it was voted to keep the March meeting on March 20. The Sandy Mush 4-H Club has volunteered to prepare dinner and members of the Growing Branches Club will be responsible for clean-up. We will have information about the menu in our March newsletter, and will need to know the number of folks planning to eat no later than Monday, March 17. Cost is $3.00 per person/$12 family maximum.

**Dog Obedience Workshop**

*Details in March Newsletter*

We are still trying to find an affordable location that will meet both the instructor’s schedule and our families’ needs for the Dog Obedience Workshop series. We’re very close, and plan to have the details in our next issue of *Clover Gazette*. Keep your eyes peeled!

**Clover Gazette** is a newsletter produced to inform and educate Buncombe County 4-H’ers, their parents and leaders of 4-H activities and opportunities in our area.

*Mary*

Mary S. Clayton-McGlaunlin
Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development

**Organ Available to 4-H Family**

One of our Extension secretaries would like to donate the Kimball organ shown below to a 4-H’er or 4-H family. She can have it delivered to the 4-H office—you would just need to come to the office to pick it up. For more info, call Gail at 255-5522.