



CLOVER GAZETTE



Mitchell County Center

February 2017

Inside This Issue

- Greeting
- 4-H Dates to Remember
- Portfolios and Project Records
- Beekeeping Essay
- Busy Bee Coloring Contest
- New 4-H Livestock Club Forming
- West District Teen Retreat
- Presentation Category
- Clover Spotlight
- St. Patrick Day Fruity Skewers

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Hello all,

My name is Kaley Brown and I am the new 4-H agent here in Mitchell County. I am most recently from North Carolina State

University, where I attended college and graduated with a degree in Animal Science. I grew up in a small town called Robbins in Moore County North Carolina. I am very excited to call Mitchell County my new home, and I look forward to being a part of this wonderful community. I hope you will all feel free to offer suggestions and tell me about your ideas. Please let me know how I can be of assistance to you so that we may continue the wonderful tradition of 4-H here in Mitchell County.

4-H Dates to Remember

Friday Feb 3rd - Portfolios and Project records due in Mitchell County Cooperative Extension Office by 5:00 pm

Monday Feb 20th - Beekeeping Essay due in Mitchell County Cooperative Extension Office by 5:00 pm

Friday March 3rd - Busy Bee Coloring Contest sheets due in Mitchell County Cooperative Extension Office by 5:00 pm

Monday March 6th - New Livestock Club Interest Meeting in Mitchell County Cooperative Extension Office at 6:00 pm, Dinner Will Be Provided

Saturday March 18th - Junior FLL (FIRST Lego League) Robotics Exposition

Saturday and Sunday March 25th-26th - West District Teen Retreat YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain NC

Friday March 31st - Presentation Competition Category Submission Due in Mitchell County Cooperative Extension Office by 5:00 pm

Portfolios and Project Records

When dropping off project records please make an appointment to review submissions with Kaley. This can be any time from February 13-17 within 8:00-5:00 business hours. Appointments should take no more than an hour. This will give us an opportunity to meet face to face and provide the best input for your submissions.

Thank you!



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Beekeeping Essay



This essay contest is a great way for 4-Her's to cultivate their curiosity of honey bees through their writing! Age divisions include 9-10, 11-

13, and 14-18. Winners of the 9-10 and 11-13 age division will receive \$25 and 14-18 will receive \$50. Winners will be sent to national competition where prizes range from \$250-\$750. The topic for this year's essay is "How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?" Attached you will find essay guidelines and contest rules for this year's North Carolina 4-H Beekeeping Essay.

Busy Bee Coloring Contest



With the beekeeping essay due in February we thought it only right to have a bee coloring contest for our 4-Her's here in Mitchell County.

There are three age divisions 5-9, 10-13,

and 14-18. One winner will be selected from each category. Their artwork will be displayed in the office, their name will be put in the upcoming newsletter, and there will be a prize for each winner as well. The sheets are located in this

newsletter. If you need additional sheets please come by the office.

New 4-H Livestock Club Forming



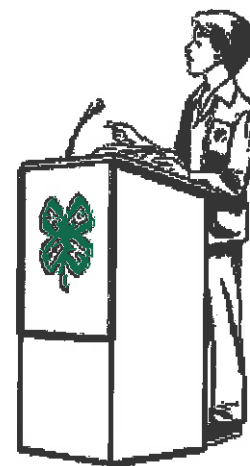
NEW 4-H Livestock Club Forming - Open to youth ages 5 - 18 years old. This new 4-H club will be a fun way for youth to learn more about livestock animals. Youth will also receive information on how to become involved in showmanship and judging of animals. An interest meeting will be held on Monday, March 6th at 6:00 pm at the Mitchell County Cooperative Extension Service (10 S Mitchell Ave Bakersville, NC 28705). Dinner will be served. Please call the Extension Center at 688-4811 to register. For more information about this club or other opportunities available through Mitchell County 4-H please call Kaley Brown, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development at (828)688-4811 or email kaley_brown@ncsu.edu. We hope to see you there!

West District Teen Retreat

The NC State 4-H Program is divided into five districts: West, North Central, South Central, Northeast and Southeast. District officers from each district help plan this district-wide 4-H event held in the spring. This leadership building

retreat offers training and workshops centering on the state 4-H project for 4-H'ers ages 13 to 18. District teen council officers are elected either at Teen Retreat or District Activity Day, depending on the district. If you would like to be a part of the West District Teen Retreat please contact Kaley Brown at (828)688-4811. Please do so no later than March 1st.

Presentation Category



Presentations are a great way to become more involved in your county, district, and state level activities as a 4-Her. Public speaking and

presentation contests help teach youth life skills that give a lifetime of opportunities. 4-H members can participate in presentation competitions in over 32 categories on the District level. Age categories include 9-10, 11-13, and 14-18. To learn more about presentation requirements and categories please go to <https://nc4h.ces.ncsu.edu/youth-3/4-h-awards-incentives-programs-2/presentations/>. Feel free to contact Kaley Brown with any questions through email at kaley_brown@ncsu.edu. Or by phone at (828) 688-4811

Clover Spotlight



Mitchell County 4-H would like to recognize Jessy-Kate Glenn. Jessy-Kate is running for the position of President in the West District. We are very proud of her and her accomplishments in Mitchell County 4-H. She will represent our county well at the district level. We wish you the best of luck Jessy Kate!

Left to Right and Front to Back; Eli Pollard, Robot, Brandon Byrd, Rebecca Heidenfelder, Aneka Happer, Rigel Happer, Michael Bishop, Luke Pollard, Evan Mickey, and Duane Porter



We are excited that all 6 of our Jr. Robotics teams are going to participate in the Jr. FLL (FIRST Lego League) Expo being held at UNCA in March. Jr. FLL introduces science, technology, engineering and math, STEM concepts to kids 6-10 years old. Teams of up to 6 members explore real world scientific problems. They document their exploration, tell about the team and their research. The Teams learn all about real world concepts and problems as they are introduced each year to a new issue to explore. While working together they are learning teamwork, real life issues, and FIRST Lego League Core Values, but most of all they are having fun.

This year the Jr. FLL challenge is called "Creature Craze". Each team is asked to identify an animal that shares a habitat with a bee. They start out learning more about the bee and the animal they want to know more about. Then the teams will each tell about their research through a Show Me poster and construct a motorized model using Lego components that shows what they learned. The teams will get to present their projects at the Jr. FLL Expo, Mar. 18th.

Good Luck to Teams at Gouge Elementary, #1952, Thunder Bees; 1953, Creature Creators; 1954, Fast & Furious. The Bakersville Team # 6826, Mean Green LEGO Machines and the two Spruce Pine Teams, #2050, Slithering Smarties and #9841, Engineering Elephants.

Beyond the Realm of Probabilities (BRP) is our 4-H High School Robotics team. This is a diverse group of young people who are just that, "Beyond the Realm of Probabilities". They are dedicated to learning and growing their knowledge. They are always thinking outside the box to create an incredible robot to compete in each year's com-

petition.

This high school level program encourages youth to stay motivated in science, technology, engineering, and math areas. This level of robotics is called FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) it is designed for students in grades 7-12. Teams are responsible for designing, building, and programming their robots to compete in an alliance format against other teams. The robot kit is reusable from year-to-year and is programmed using a variety of languages. Teams, including coaches, mentors and volunteers, are required to develop strategy and build robots based on sound engineering principles. Awards are given for the competition as well as for community outreach, design, and other real-world accomplishments. The participants will apply real-world math and science concepts, develop problem-solving, organizational, and team-building skills, compete and cooperate in alliances and tournaments, and can qualify for millions of dollars in college scholarships.

This year BRP participated in the Velocity Vortex challenge at Appalachian State University in Boone, on Jan. 22. There were 19 teams from across North Carolina and BRP ranked 11th among those teams. They did a great job on engineering their robot and programming it to accomplish the various tasks that score points in the challenge.

This year will be a bitter-sweet year for this veteran team as two senior team members will be graduating and aging out of the program as participants. The team will actively be recruiting new members who are interested in science, technology, engineering, and math. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the 4-H office at 828 688-4811.

St Patricks Day Fruity Skewers:



You Will Need:

green fruits –
apple, pear,
honeydew melon,
kiwi, grapes
wooden skewers

To Cut:

slice the apples, pears, & kiwi to your desired size and shape
important when cutting the melon be sure to cut them into a large rectangular shape – they will be the base of the skewer and hold it upright.

To Assemble:

slide the fruit onto the skewer and fill about 1/2 way
(you don't want it to be too top heavy)

use the melon as the base of the skewer so that it will stand upright

To Display:

place the skewers on a flat plate use ribbon or washi tape to adorn the top

Happy Valentines Day



TO OUR 4-H FAMILIES

The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services does not imply endorsement by the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned.

FROM: Kaley C. Brown
Kaley C. Brown
4-H Youth Development
Mitchell County

Or Current Resident



North Carolina 4-H Beekeeping Essay

Cultivating curiosity about honey bees through writing

Honey Bees are hardworking, tirelessly gathering nectar and pollen to share with their hive. They provide a vital ecological service by pollinating agricultural, garden and native plants. Explore more about these fascinating insects by participating in the North Carolina 4-H Beekeeping Essay contest. The essay provides a platform for youth to creatively express their working knowledge and research of the craft of beekeeping.

2017 Beekeeping Essay Topic

“How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?”

Beekeeping has had its five minutes of fame for the past seven years. Now more than ever, the general public along with beekeepers are asking “What will happen if the bees are gone?” With the continued threat of pesticides, this is a very real question. Your paper should research and help answer this question.

Survey your community to see what is being done. Include your state in your survey to see if there are any programs they are using for pollination or any other program that could aid the honey bee.

Essay Guidelines

The scope of the research is an essential judging criterion, accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources, and the variety of the sources are all evaluated.

Personal interviews with beekeepers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Sources, which are not cited in the endnotes, should be listed in a “Resources” or “Bibliography” list.

Note that “honey bee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.



A honey bee collecting pollen from a daisy.

Beekeeping Essay Deadlines

North Carolina Essays are due
February 24th, 2017 at 5pm

Essays should be emailed to
liz_driscoll@ncsu.edu



North Carolina 4-H Beekeeping Essay

Cultivating curiosity of honey bees through writing



North Carolina 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest Rules

1. The contest is open to active 4-H Club members only. 4-H'ers who have previously placed first, second, or third at the national level are not eligible; but other state winners are eligible to re-enter.
2. Requirements (failure to meet any one requirement disqualifies the essay)
 - Write on the designated subject only.
 - All factual statements must be referenced with bibliographical-style endnotes.
 - On a separate page, please include a brief biographical sketch of the essayist, including date of birth, gender, complete mailing address, email, and telephone number, must accompany the essay.
 - Length: 750 to 1000 words. The word count does not include the endnotes, the bibliography or references, nor the essayist's biographical sketch – which should be on a separate page. **Note:** Youth 9-10 only need to write an essay that is between 400-500 words.
 - Prepare your essays double-spaced, 12-pt. Times or similar type style, following standard manuscript format. Submit as a Microsoft Word compatible document.
3. Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research - 40%; (b) accuracy - 30%; (c) creativity - 10%; (d) conciseness - 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic - 10%.
4. NC 4-H youth will compete in the following age divisions; 1). 9-10 2). 11-13 and 3). 14-18. Youth awarded first in the 9-10 and 11-13 category will receive \$25 each. Youth in the 14-18 age category will receive \$50 and their winning essay will be sent on to the national competition. Youth can only place first one time within an age category.

National 4-H Beekeeping Essay

The winner of the North Carolina 4-H state Beekeeping Essay is forwarded to the national Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees to participate in their national essay contest. Each state 4-H Office is responsible for selecting the state's winner and should set its deadline so state judging can be completed at the state level in time for the winning state essay to be mailed to the Foundation office by March 3, 2017. No essay received after March 3 will be considered. Each state may submit only one entry.



Final judging and selection of the National Winner will be made by the Foundation's Essay Committee, whose decision is final. The National Winner will be announced the week of May 1, 2017. All National entries become the property of the Foundation and may be published or used as it sees fit. No essay will be returned. National winning essays will be posted at the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees 4-H Essay website. National prizes include: First Prize:

\$750.00, Second Prize: \$500.00, and Third Prize: \$250.00.

GROW FOR IT

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North Carolina 4-H Crop and Soil Science, Entomology,

Plant Pathology and Horticulture

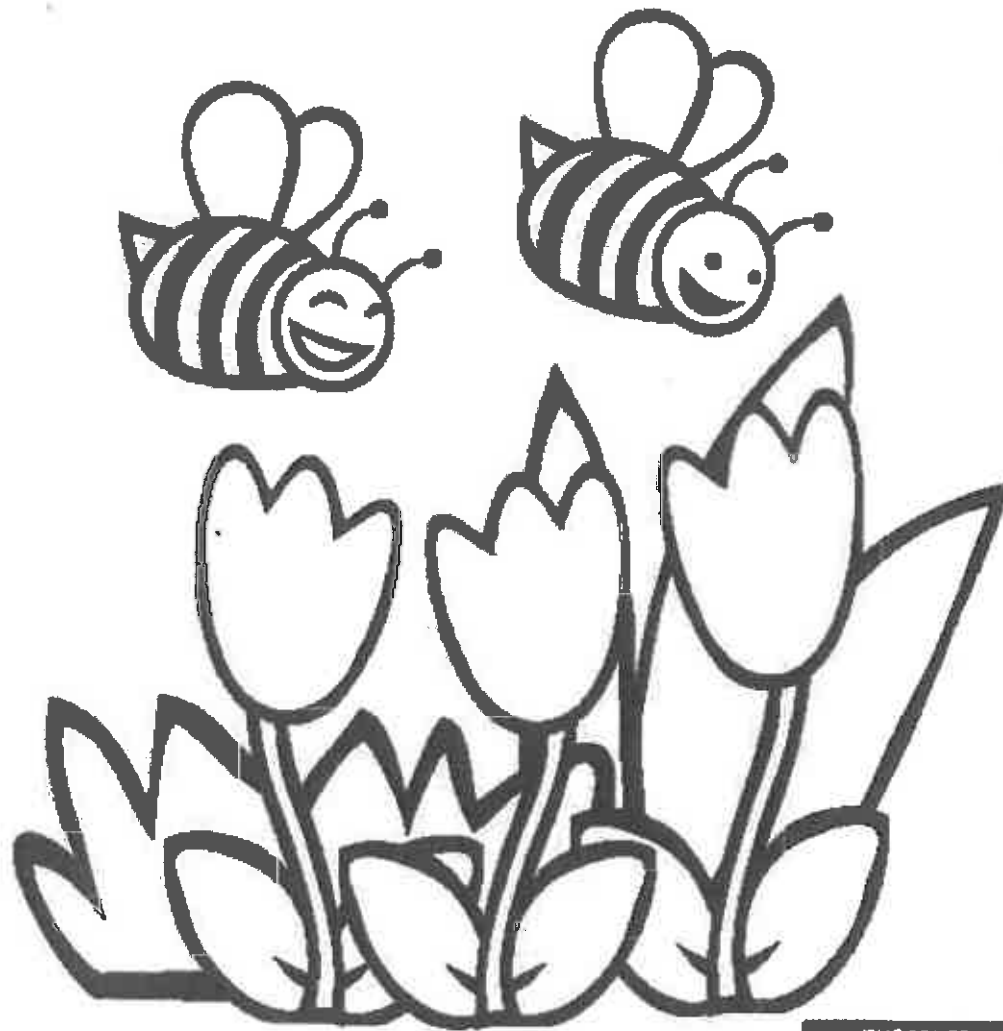
Contact: Liz Driscoll, 4-H Youth Specialist

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Ages 5-9



Ages 10-13



