A Tribute to 4-H Moms & Dads

They drive you around from place to place. They annoy coworkers with your 4-H fundraisers. They tirelessly listen to your 4-H presentation. They proofread your record books. They fix your wild hairs with their spittle before a photo that could potentially be in the paper. They dry your tears when you don't win. They encourage you to do your best. They are 4-H moms and dads. Where would you be without them? Probably not in 4-H. Maybe too shy to speak in front of a group of people. Possibly in the paper for a not-so-good reason (hopefully not!). Perhaps easily giving up on your goals.

In honor of Mother's Day and Father's Day, I want to say thank you to all the 4-H moms and dads out there, including my own. They endure endless amounts of whining, crying, complaining, and all sorts of resistance in order to make sure their children are well-prepared for life as adults. I know this because I was a whiner myself. I whined about doing presentations, I whined about doing record books, and I'm sure I whined about many other things as well. But now, I'm grateful. Grateful that my parents pushed and challenged me. Grateful that I can confidently speak in front of a group of people. Grateful that I know how to set goals and accomplish them. Grateful that I can pick myself up after I fall, dust myself off, and try until I succeed.

Be sure to tell your parents, grandparents or whoever supports you in your 4-H career how thankful you are for the time they take to help you make your best better. They know your potential even when you can’t see it yourself. Finally, I’d like to thank my mom & dad, Millie & Bill Bruton for enduring endless amounts of whining and for making me the best I can be. You rock.

Tractor Supply Paper Clovers

The Spring Paper Clover Campaign is underway at Tractor Supply and we are hoping to exceed the amount we raised last fall, which was over $800! The Clover Campaign lasts through May 4th so get your clover today! All you have to do is add $1 (or more) to your purchase at checkout and 100% of the proceeds will go directly to 4-H, with 60% coming back to Person County 4-H. We did so well in the fall that the Roxboro Tractor Supply Store was recognized for their great efforts! The goal this spring is to sell 1,000 clovers. If we meet that goal, the store manager, Aaron has to kiss a donkey!
4-H Summer Fun

If you are looking for something fun to do this summer, then look no farther than Person County 4-H! We will be offering a variety of classes including 4-H Investigates, Cloverbud Nutrition, Babysitting, Zoo Snooze, Yoga, Kayaking, and more! We will also be having 4-H Night at the Durham Bulls on Monday, July 14th. This will be during the All Star Week and we will be going to the Homerun Derby! Tickets are $15 each and anyone can attend, not just youth!

To register for Summer Fun, please contact Beth to set up an appointment. You can call 599-1195 or email at beth_davis@ncsu.edu. The brochure with a complete list of classes is posted on the Cooperative Extension website at http://person.ces.ncsu.edu. 4-Hers who have earned Clover Cash can use that money to help pay for Summer Fun classes.

4-H Golf Tournament

The 14th Annual Golf Tournament benefitting Caswell, Orange and Person Counties will be held Friday, May 16th and will once again be sponsored by Piedmont Electric and will take place at The Challenge Golf Course in Graham, NC. We are looking for businesses to sponsor a team or a hole, as well as donations for silent auction items. If you would like to contribute, or know someone who would like to donate, please contact Beth Davis, 4-H Agent at 336-599-1195 or beth_davis@ncsu.edu. We are looking forward to a great day of raising money for our 4-H youth!

4-H Congress

4-H Congress is the culminating event for many 4-H youth in North Carolina. Hundreds of teens from across the state gather together to hone their leadership and citizenship skills while experiencing college campus living for a week. The date for Congress is Saturday, June 21 through Tuesday, June 24 and will be held on the campus of NC State University in Raleigh. This event is for 4-H youth ages 13-19.

While at Congress, district presentation winners will compete for a chance to win State Gold in their category. Other teens hope to be inducted into the prestigious NC 4-H Honor Club, or elected as a State 4-H Officer. State Officers are elected by the 4-H youth present at Congress. There will be awesome workshops and a dance, of course! New this year, there will be a 4K for 4-H walk/run event (2.5 miles) to raise money for local causes chosen by each county.

This year, Person County’s own Michael Chaney will be one of the State 4-H Officers presiding at Congress. The cost for NC 4-H Congress is $260 and the registration deadline is Friday, May 9th. Anyone interested in attending should contact Beth Davis, 4-H Agent in order to register. 4-Hers may use Clover Cash they’ve earned to help pay for registration.

Congratulations to Matthew Chaney for winning the Gold Medal at District Activity Day for his presentation on Camping Safety.
4-H Livestock Show Update

Fifteen 4-H youth from Person County participated in the 69th Annual Central Piedmont Jr. Livestock Show & Sale April 9-10 in Orange County. These young people showed goats, lambs, heifers, and hogs. Our winners are listed below. All youth exhibitors are encouraged to add to their record books and turn them back in at the end of the year. We would like to thank ALL of our wonderful sponsors who helped make this show a success!

Champion Market Lamb: Adam Clayton

Reserve Champion Pen-of-Three Hogs: Nicholas Clayton

Champion Dairy Goat: Hunter Alexander

Reserve Champion Dairy Goat: Hunter Alexander

Champion Senior Dairy Goat Showmanship: Hunter Alexander

2nd Place Project Record Book (age 9-10): Dalton Johnson

3rd Place Project Record Book (11-12): Cheyenne Johnson

3rd Place Project Record Book (13-15): Austin Poindexter

50 Years of BJP 4-H Camp!

2014 marks 50 years of camp at Betsy Jeff Penn 4-H Center and they will be celebrating big time! We hope you will be a part of this wonderful celebration by attending one or more of the events that have been planned. There will be an anniversary celebration and open house on Friday, May 16th and Saturday, May 17th. On Friday night, starting at 6:30 pm, there will be a dinner and dance at the Reidsville Elks Lodge and tickets are $25 per person. The dinner will be catered by Sagebrush and the music will be provided by The Impacts. There will also be a silent auction, so be sure to get your ticket today! Call 336-405-7096 or 336-631-4000.

On Saturday, you can take a walk at the Historic Chinqua Penn Trail, go canoeing, climb the rock wall, take a nature hike, play games on the ball field, and learn more about BJP history. There will be a commemoration ceremony at 5:00 pm, followed by a closing campfire at 7:00 pm. Souvenirs and food will be for sale (cash only) at the camp store, and you can rent a cabin if you’d like to stay overnight. For more information, please call 336-349-9445 or visit bjpenn.org. Admission donations are greatly appreciated for the Saturday event. Any and all are invited to participate in this historic celebration!
Tobacco Referendum

The Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina (TGANC) is conducting a referendum among active tobacco growers to determine if there is a desire to establish an assessment of 10 cents per 100 pounds of production per acre. This amount is equivalent to $2.30 per acre approximately based on NC historical production data. If you need a ballot packet, you can pick one up at the Cooperative Extension Office, and ballots are due June 19. Whether you are in favor of the referendum or not, it is important to vote. Your voice cannot be heard if you do not participate.

Crops Agent

For the past few weeks, we have had Tommy Brooks in the office one day a week to handle crop calls. Tommy is the retired crops agent from Granville County and has come back temporarily to answer crops questions. He will be here through the end of June, so be sure to give him a call if you have a question at 336-599-1195.

Person County Farmer’s Market

The Person County Farmer’s Market, located on Madison Boulevard, officially opened on Saturday, April 19. The market will be open on Saturdays from 8:00 am-12 noon and on Wednesdays from 3:00-6:00 pm. There are several new vendors this year so be sure to check them out and purchase some delicious, healthy and local foods to support the farmers of Person County. For more information, visit their website: www.personcountyfarmersmarket.com or find them on Facebook.

Edamame Growing Workshop

The edible soybean also called edamame is highly nutritious and tasty. It is cooked in the pod and the beans are popped out and consumed. This product has become increasingly popular and can be profitable to grow. A meeting to discuss the growing and marketing of edamame is open to anyone who has interest. The meeting will take place on Thursday, May 8 from 9:00 am-12 noon at the Person County Office Building Auditorium. The meeting is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is required, and you can register by calling the Extension Service at 336-599-1195.

Distributed in furtherance of the acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914. 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, veteran status or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, US Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.