Cabarrus County
Extension Advisory Leadership Council
November 18, 2014

AGENDA

Presiding Tommy Porter, Chairman

Introductions:

Business Meeting:

Approve Agenda

Meeting Minutes: Christine Barrier, Board Clerk

Program Updates Cooperative Extension Staff

Administrative Updates: Robbie Furr
  Fall Plant Sale Report
  Volunteer Luncheon (Thursday, December 11)
  Cooperative Extension statewide program prioritization and staffing plan
  2015 4-H District Activity Day (May 2, 2015 at Cox Mill High School)

Proposed Cooperative Extension Advisory Leadership Council rotation schedule

2015 Meeting Dates

Questions/Concerns/Issues Council Members

Announcements
  Extension Office closed for holidays on the following dates:
    November 27-28; December 24-26; January 1

Other Items

Adjournment
The CRD Agent has worked with the Carver Community and the City of Kannapolis since 2009. In 2013 the CRD program was awarded a $3000 mini grant from NC State University’s Community Development program to begin a community garden. In its first season, the garden produced tomatoes and cucumbers during the spring/early summer season. This fall season should produce Mustard Greens, Beets, and Spinach. Harvesting of the produce is within a few weeks. The garden is supported by funds from fundraising efforts of weekly lawn care and charitable contributions.

The NC Cooperative Extension Service in Cabarrus County increased the financial knowledge of seven mothers and one grandmother at the Cooperative Christian Women’s Housing Ministry. Ninety percent of the participating women verbal responses reveal that due to poor spending habits and lack of budgets as their primary reason for their lack of permanent housing situation. At the end of two six week sessions, eighty percent of the women followed through on obtaining their credit reports, contacted the credit reporting agencies directly to reconcile reports, and set up a savings account with a financial institution.

The CRD Agent served as a mentor for a NC A&T State University rising junior for 12 weeks. The student’s goal was to enhance her knowledge of the Cooperative Extension Services overall. Our student, Angelica Duff, worked directly with all program areas to gain an understanding how the extension service works. Angelica worked directly with adults in the community to plan for the back to school event and conducted 2 nutrition education sessions with youth at the Boys and Girls Club.

More than 450 local youth from Cabarrus County schools participated in the annual Agribusiness Environmental School Days three day event on Youth Safety. The topics ranged from All Terrain Vehicles, Stranger Danger to Home and Environment safety. The varied lessons were conducted by professionals such as deputy fire marshals, state Extension faculty from NC A&T State to county field faculty. Youth learned about proper ATV gear to wear, techniques for riding on different terrain and essential life-saving tips. They also learned life saving tips during home/building fires and they learned how to establish family safety strategies for emergency situations.

A grant writing class was offered to help first time grantees gain knowledge about the do’s and don’ts of applying for and writing grants. Participants consisted of representatives from non-profit agencies who needed help in learning how to research funding sources, how to properly adhere to funding guidelines and how to determine the best funding source for them personally and professionally.
Cabarrus County 4-H Afterschool Highlights

• Involving families in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) is critical to the success of a child’s education. Cabarrus County 4-H Afterschool partnered with Cabarrus County Kids:Plus to provide a 4-H STEM Family Night at each Kids:Plus site. Parents, along with their child, participated in hands-on science experiments.

• Over 400 third grade students in Kannapolis City Schools took part in the 4-H Soil Solutions curriculum during Environmental Science week. 4-H supplied elementary schools with seeds, soil testing kits, potting soil and cotton seeds and plants for the week-long event.

• Over 400 Kannapolis City Schools Kindergarten students took part in the Acres of Adventures 4-H curriculum by making a “Salad in a Glove” using a clear glove, cotton balls, seeds and water. Kindergarten students could see first-hand how a seed grows.

• To promote good writing skills as well as science knowledge, 4-H afterschool centers provided a 4-H Science Journal during the 2013-14 school year. Afterschool children wrote about science experiments, the weather, or even about science careers. Twenty-one afterschool centers participated in the program.

• Three hundred afterschool children enjoyed a day-long 4-H Science Extravaganza at the Extension office during the summer. Children learned about science through hands-on experiments, cooking and engineering activities.

• More than 4,000 students participated in the 2014 National 4-H Youth Science Day in October. “Rockets to the Rescue” provided young scientists the opportunity to explore how aerospace engineering can be used to solve real world challenges – such as food distribution in emergency situations- to make a positive impact in our world. “Rockets to the Rescue” captured many of the wonders and issues of modern day engineering. Students designed a rocket that could deliver food aid and supplies to an island with a natural disaster.
• Jacki Lane of Jackson Park Elementary School used a lesson from the 4-H Junk Drawer Robotics curriculum in a summer educational trip to Kenya. Students in Kenya constructed a robotic car made out of craft sticks, binder clips, straws and paper clips. Students loved the hands-on 4-H experience.

• Cabarrus 4-H afterschool has established a new 4-H club at Harris Road Middle School with an emphasis on exceptional children. The club has been working with the 4-H curriculum Food, Culture and Reading. 4-H club members are learning to prepare nutritious snacks from other countries.

Beverly Bollenbecker
4-H Program Associate
4-H Program Update

Cabarrus County 4-H is growing and growing! We are working to make our presence known through area career fairs, benefit fairs and upcoming Christmas parades. We had a successful Paper Clover Campaign at both the Midland and Concord Tractor Supply Company stores in October. We are building relationships with area assisted living centers, Bank of the Carolinas, the City of Concord Housing Authority, The Historic Courthouse Theater and many businesses downtown Concord. Carolina Farm Credit graciously added $200 to our budget for youth programming and we are seeking even more outside funding.

Over 4000 youth took part in our National 4-H Science Experiment headed up by Beverly Bollenbecker. Teachers from across the county have been taking advantage of our curriculum kit check out program and the word is spreading. Recently eight teachers started the Embryology unit at Harris Road Elementary and a variety of kits were delivered to C.C. Griffin Middle. We have students participating in the Microbiology pilot curriculum at elementary, middle and high school levels.

We currently have sixteen clubs up and running in the county. We are actively recruiting for a pet club in the Odell School area and a Kannapolis Traditional 4-H Club. We recently have elected County Council officers and are busy planning for the 2015 year including a revival of the Expressive Arts Showcase. We currently have one youth who is planning to run for District Office and one youth who is planning to run for State 4-H office. We plan to try and reach even more audiences through a partnership with Operation: Military Kid for our local military families. There has been much discussion on building the livestock program, animal judging teams, county fair participation and local competitions.

Our day camps have expanded to include non-school days during the school year. We have had success with the two camps we have hosted so far, Horsin’ around on the Farm and Stitches in Time: Sewing for all ages. We are actively recruiting for school year and summer program teachers and volunteers.

The 4-H Foundation Board is actively seeking sponsors for the David Goff fund as part of our Endowment. The Board has started to seek a new banking partner for our local funds. Robert Kirk has recently resigned from the board.

A huge thank you for all who have made our growth possible!
2014 Agriculture Program Highlights
Carl D. Pless, Jr.

- Cattlemen Meeting, Tuesday, November 25th, 7:00 pm. Supper $6.00 per person. “Telling Our Story – Our Role in the Success of Agriculture and Extension” by Dr. Andy Overbay, Smith County, Virginia Extension Coordinator.
- Cabarrus County Extension Cattle Call Newsletter. Joint Newsletter with agents from surrounding counties.
- At Harrisburg, PA, the North Carolina 4-H Dairy Judging Team placed 9th overall, 6th in Ayshire, 2nd in Guernsey and 5th in Holstein. Jacob Pless placed 8th in Guernsey. At the World Dairy Exposition in Madison, Wisconsin, Jacob placed 23rd in Ayrshire. The team placed 10th overall, 5th in Ayrshire and Holstein, 8th in Guernsey and 11th in Oral Reasons.
- Agribusiness Council of Cabarrus County recognized Scholarship Donors who sponsored scholarships for Ben Cauthen, Jeremy Mason and Kourtney Smith who received $971 scholarships.
- Agribusiness and Environmental Sciences Conservation School Days shared interactive learning experienced with 2605 sixth grade students who participated.
- Working with interested farmers to increase soil life, nutrient density and yield in vegetable, pasture, hay and grain crops. Farmers are seeing an increase in quality of alfalfa hay, pasture and corn silage.

Horticulture Program Update
David Goforth

- Conducted Certified Plant Professional Training for 11 people prior to the August test. They have a list of 300 plants, disease, insects they have to identify. The test includes 125 specimens.
- Conducted training for farmers at Incubator farm. We completed a sweet potato project and have a successful high tunnel project underway.
- Attended training on direct marketing and food hubs in Boone on September 29 and 30.
- Master Gardeners had a great fair booth this year
- Piedmont Farmers Market had their fundraiser in September. We changed the format and it turned out to be less successful but we made some contacts that allowed us to hold 2 food truck Friday rallies which has raised money for the farmers market.
- Presented a program on local foods to Christian Women’s Club and St James Senior Group.
Family and Consumer Sciences Program Update
May 20-November 18, 2014
Pamela C. Outen

Educational Programs/Outreach Efforts

• Taped 3 segments for the NC EFNEP upcoming Local Foods Training that will be used to train all new FCS Extension Agents in the state. This taping was done in the Cabarrus County Extension Kitchen, June 10, 2014.

• Taught 4 Basics of Home Canning Classes-June 12, June 16, June 19, and June 21. These were 4 hour hands on workshops.

• Taught a Tomatoes and Salsa hands on workshop July 8. Class was full, with a waiting list!

• Taught a Home Pickling Class hands on workshop July 10. Class was full with a waiting list!

• Go taught with David Goforth a Freezing and Dehydrating hands on workshop Tuesday evening, July 15.

• Taught hands on educational program at the libraries, “Cool Drinks for Hot Afternoons”: Concord, June 25; Harrisburg July 16; and Mt. Pleasant, July 17. Participants enjoyed hands on food preparation stations, sampling beverages, and received educational handouts.

• Piloted CS/ES with Lowe’s Food Store, Harrisburg at their local foods celebration July 26. Many thanks to Lynne D’Aloisa, Judy Furr, Debbie Mullis, and Pat Wickliff who represented CS/ES at this event.

• Tested 18 Dial Gauge Pressure Canners for accuracy at the Extension Office, answered questions and provided educational resources.

• Answered 49 food preservation questions by phone and followed up with educational resources mailed.

• Prepared FCS and ECA exhibits for the Cabarrus Centennial, August 13.
• Healthy Snacks Exhibit and Sampling at the Department of Transportation Wellness Fair, August 21, 2014.
• Secured 26 Cabarrus County Fair Judges, registered 8 FCS/ECA Fair Booths, prepared FCS/ECA exhibit for the Fair, prepared fair booth: “It’s So Easy to Preserve with Cooperative Extension” and coordinated judging on Thursday.
• Presented “Simply Local” with David Goforth on Saturday, September 6 in Extension’s Centennial Booth.
• Presented “Hand Washing Program” September 17 at the Department of Aging Lunch and Learn Program.
• Prepared exhibit “North Carolina’s Official Vegetable ...Sweet Potato,” and healthy food samples at the Cabarrus Employees Wellness Fairs, October 14 and 15.
• Presented educational program “Food Safety Myths” for the October ECA Leader Training, October 22, 2014.
• Co taught “Color Me Healthy” for preschool day care teachers with Beverly Bollenbecker, October 22, 2014.
• Secured instructor to offer 2 hands on Whole Wheat Bread Making Classes November 5 and November 12 at the Extension Teaching Kitchen with 15 attending.

• Liaison Agent-ECA
• Attended the Extension Centennial Celebration at NC State May 19 with Cabarrus ECA members Betty Barnhardt, Gail Linker, Judy Furr, Joyce Kluttz, Pat Wickliff and State Extension Advisory Board Member Barbara Looney.
• Assisted in organizing a new ECA Special Interest Club “The Quilting Mothers ECA Club” in late September. The new club members have already completed all enrollment and dues requirements for 2015!
• Attended the SC District ECA Leadership Meeting/2015 ECA State Planning Meeting October 6, 2014.
• Prepared 2015 ECA Club Membership Packets for Fall ECA Club Meetings.
• Attended the ECA State Meeting in Asheville, NC with 14 Cabarrus County ECA members October 27-29. Prepared news release highlighting the Cabarrus County ECA program accomplishments.
• Attended the 2015 ECA State Meeting Planning Meeting October 30, 2014 at the Embassy Suites. Cabarrus County will host the ECA State Meeting in 2015!