NCCE
ALEXANDER
COUNTY

COMMUNITY REPORT

IMPACT UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

TODAY'S COVERAGE

- *What's Going on In Ag*
- *Horticulture Happenings*
- *4-H Youth Activities*
- *Family Consumer Science*
- *What's New*



TOP STORY

- Alexander County Cooperative Extension Agents Der Holcomb and DJ Salyer traveled to Texas with the Alexander County 4H Grill Billies team to compete in the National Food Challenge. This team competed against 16 other teams to bring home the National Title! This is a culmination of many, many hours of practice and a whole lot of heart! We are the best in all the land!

SEPTEMBER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AG?

- Agriculture Agent, Allison Brown, conducted two fumigation trainings to ensure local producers were able to meet their certification needs and maintain their pesticide recertification credits.
- 24 producers were assisted with weed identification, herbicide recommendations, soil fertility, seeding and general production questions.



Fall is a busy time for hay production. After a local producer had trouble baling hay with too high moisture, I assisted him in completing a moisture test using a scale and a microwave to determine moisture content! High moisture can lead to mold production and hay fires!

NATIVE PLANTS

- Horticulture Agent Cari Rosenbalm is an avid plant enthusiast. Each year she holds a native plant sale to allow others the opportunity to add native plants to their landscape. Generated funds support horticulture programming efforts in Alexander County!
- 46 clients were assisted with lawn, landscape and garden questions.







STUDENTS FROM CVCC TAYLORSVILLE CAMPUS TURF GRASS CLASS MET THEIR EXTENSION AGENT, CARI ROSENBALM AND LEARNED ABOUT NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION!

4-H YOUTH ACTIVITIES



4-H Agent DJ Salyer delivered a STEM based program to Stony Point Elementary featuring stomp rockets. Students design, build and launch rockets using 2 liter bottles, paper and tape. This hands on program focuses on design skills and teamwork. DJ also replicated this program at other after school programs. Reaching 145 students.



One of the cool parts about 4-H are the life experiences. DJ traveled to Texas with the Food Challenge team and showed them the true Texas experience at the Fort Worth Stock Yards!



- NC Cooperative Extension Family Consumer Science Agent Der Holcomb held a Disaster Don't Stand a Chance training! Disaster Don’t Stand A Chance is an interactive, game-based emergency preparedness program where participants race across a fictional setting called "Calamity County," navigating unexpected natural disasters, detours, and challenges. The purpose of this curriculum is to teach and create crucial conversations around practical safety and resilience strategies for severe weather, floods, fires, power outages, and pet/livestock emergency planning. 12 participants from 7 different organizations participated in this training.

FUTURE TRAINING COLLABORATIONS WITH THE LIBRARY, HEAD START AND PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN ARE IN THE WORKS!

NCCE
ALEXANDER COUNTY

WEBSITE

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Alexander County Center website has been revamped. Julie Campbell, Administrative Assistant, has worked with each agent to design and personalize each aspect of the website. This new website spotlights more county events, opportunities and important information to know.

www.alexanderextension.com

