



# Take The Lead with Teen Leadership Connection 4-H NEWSLETTER



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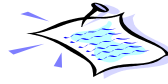
October 16, 2006

## The Agent's Corner

Each month you will receive a TLC 4-H newsletter for your review with insight on what's going on in the TLC 4-H program. The TLC 4-H newsletters will be disseminated to TLC leaders and members each month.



Screening has become an official part of the 4-H program, therefore, all 4-H volunteers must complete the yellow volunteer application form, and new volunteers must pay a \$10.00 screening fee along with the yellow form. The \$10.00 screening fee per person will be used to conduct background checks on each TLC 4-H volunteer leader as required by National 4-H. Remember, each month I will continue to provide you with timely information in regards to upcoming events, programs, and activities sponsored by the TLC 4-H program in this newsletter. Don't forget to sign up to attend the Adult leader Institute this October. Feature article is inside!



### TLC Calendar Deadlines 2006



#### 4-H Club Installation Ceremonies

- 4-H agent club site visits - all year long, give me a call!

#### TLC Club Charter Packets were Due

- September 30, 2006

#### 4-H Youth Issues Advisory Board Meeting

-Dorie Miller Community Center - November 4, 2006  
10:00 a.m.

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## Welcome to TLC 4-H!

We are glad to have you aboard. We have some new and exciting programs and events planned for you. Take a look at, the Life Skills Camp and Adult Leader Programs available. Remember that the TLC 4-H Club Charter Packets were due September 30, 2006. Once again enjoy reading this newsletter each month and keep up with what's going on in the TLC 4-H Program.

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#### TLC 4-H Report Forms (Needed from all 4-H Clubs)

TLC 4-H club report forms are very important to the 4-H Program. This form serves as a means for 4-H to measure the success of the TLC 4-H program in Bexar County and is vital to the 4-H agent's monthly reports. It also enables us to share with our financial supporter the successes of our programs. Please take the time to complete the TLC 4-H monthly report forms each month. These forms were provided to you in your TLC 4-H Charter/Registration Club Packets you received during the annual TLC 4-H training. These forms should be submitted to the Extension Office by the 30<sup>th</sup> of each month.





## **FOCUS ON FAMILY ARTICLE:**

### **Helpful Tips on Internet Safety**

The Internet can be a helpful tool for your family. You can keep in touch with relatives and send pictures of your children to their grandparents. You can check the weather, movie times and even balance your checkbook. Your children can gather research for school papers, utilize homework helps, play educational games and communicate with friends.

However, the Internet also poses many dangers. Your children might encounter online pornography or even pedophiles. They might stumble on a site that teaches them to make bombs or use weapons. Just like anything else in media, the good comes with the bad.

In the book, *Learn to Discern*, Bob DeMoss addresses some practical measures that parents can take to help protect their children.

First, be sure to keep all computers with Internet access in a common area of your house, not in your children's bedrooms. Parents need to be able to supervise what their children are doing online.

Second, set clear guidelines on the amount of time your children are allowed to spend online. Parents may consider extending the time if the children are researching material for a school project. However, for entertainment purposes, be clear on how much time you will permit.

Be honest with your children about the dangers of the Internet. Help them understand that some people they may meet online are not who they claim to be. Also, because most of our communication in person comes from non-verbal clues, communicating online makes it more difficult to determine if someone is being sincere or truthful.

Many of the companies that provide Internet service offer free parental controls that allow parents to block certain types of websites or e-mails from their computer. And there are software companies which sell products to filter out much of the negative content of the Internet.

DeMoss also encourages parents to monitor phone and Internet bills for unknown phone charges to make sure that children aren't accessing pornography sites.

Finally, whenever possible, sit with your children when they are online. Parental supervision is key to helping them make wise decisions on where they go online

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## **Halloween Trick-or-Treat Safety Tips**

### **Parents**

Make sure your child eats a good dinner before going out Trick-or-Treating. They need proper energy tonight...!!!

If you buy a costume, look for one made of flame-retardant material.

Make sure you work into your child's OR adult Halloween costume, reflector strips, a FLASHING safety light or the very popular GLOW LIGHT STICKS to make everyone more visible and much safer at night. SAFETY FIRST tonight of all nights...!

Teach your child how call 9-1-1 (or your local emergency number) if they have an emergency or become lost. Remind them that 9-1-1 can be dialed free at any payphone.

Bring your child for a visit to your local police or fire department.

Children should carry several quarters so they can call home.

Let them borrow the FULLY CHARGED family cell phone, with home number ready.

Ideally, young children of any age should be accompanied by an adult.

If your children go on their own, be sure they wear a watch, preferably one that can be read in the dark.

Although product tampering is rare, tell the children to bring ALL the candy home to be inspected BEFORE consuming anything.

Look at the wrapping carefully and toss out anything that looks like tampering.

## Halloween Drivers

Drive and go slow, slow, slow all evening.

NO ONE should drive a vehicle while wearing a Halloween mask of any type.

CAUTION: Young trick-or-treaters may dart out in front of you.

Obey ALL traffic signals, both as a driver and a pedestrian.

Adult Halloween parties should have a designated driver.

If you drive a long distance, make arrangements to stay over.

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## To ALL Halloween Trick-or-Treaters and Parents

Have lots of Halloween fun, take care of yourself, get more candy than your friends (or much as possible) and share with your parents and other members of your family.



# HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

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