Greetings 4-H’rs,

The school year is coming to a close, and we are coasting into the summer, or at least we should be, but it seems like we have been running super fast this past month. Over 65 kids were out at the Quad day in March, and we had a dozen kids participate in this years Orama. Our garden is planted, and I am planning some fun summer camps to be held in June and July. District Orama will be here before you know it, so please let me know if you have a child that wants to compete, and we will organize what it takes to get us all to Forrest City.

May is going to be just as busy as April, so fasten your seat belts, we are in for a whirlwind of a spring and summer!

Sincerely Yours!

Hope Bragg

The passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914 created the Cooperative Extension System and nationalized 4-H. By 1924, 4-H clubs were formed and the clover emblem was adopted. The Cooperative Extension System is a partnership of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the 109 land-grant universities and more than 3,000 county offices across the nation. Cooperative Extension combines the expertise and resources of federal, state, and local governments and is designed to meet the need for research, knowledge and educational programs.

The mission of the Family, Youth and 4-H Education program is to help children, youth, and families realize their full potential and to improve the quality of life for Arkansas children, youth and families. The 4-H youth development program provides opportunities for youth to acquire knowledge, develop skills, form attitudes, and practice behavior that will enable them to become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of society.

All events and activities announced in this newsletter are open to all youth between the ages of 5 and 19 without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or any other legally protected status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (large print, audiotapes, etc.) should contact the county Extension office (or other appropriate office) as soon as possible prior to the activity.

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Winners of the Orama!

What fun we had at the ORAMA!!!!! I think that considering all the events that happened that weekend, we had a remarkable turnout! Winners of this year’s Orama included:

**Bike:** Kaitlyn & Aiden

**Bait Casting:**

Logan & Aiden

**BB:** Evan & Sy

**Wildlife:** Macy & Sy

**Public Speaking:** Sy

Volunteer Trainings

Did you know that 4-H adult volunteers need 4 hours of training every year? It is a fact. Many of you have completed the take home exams, but the online Mandated Reporter training needs to be done still. This can be found at:

[https://ar.mandatedreporter.org](https://ar.mandatedreporter.org)

I will be offering a one hour Chaperone training for all adult volunteers on Monday, May 12th at 6PM. The training will be held at the County Extension office. This will help us be prepared for any travel and overnight stays we may conduct.

Desha County Extension Staff are here to help you!

- Wes Kirkpatrick  wkirkpatrick@uaex.edu
  County Ext. Agent and Staff Chair
- Heather Reed  hreed@uaex.edu
  County Ext. Agent-FCS
- Hope Bragg  hbragg@uaex.edu
  County Ext. Agent- 4H
- Leta Lampkin  llampkin@uaex.edu
  Administrative Specialist

or phone us at 870-222-3972

Be Sure to Register On-Line!

Every year we ask you as parents to register on-line so that we have up to date contact information. If you have not done so by now, please take a few moments to register your child and yourself as a volunteer at:

[https://arkansas.4honline.com/](https://arkansas.4honline.com/)
Quad Day fun was had!

I was so proud of all my 4-Hers when we visited the archeological dig at the Taylor house this March. The scientists were very impressed with how well mannered and eager to learn and help you all were. I think they will invite us back if we want to!

We fed over 100 people that afternoon, and screened 100’s of pounds of soil exposing lots of information. I visited the lab this week to help them wash artifacts and was amazed at the numbers of nails, doll parts, glass-ware and window glass that we unearthed.

The archeologists are still cleaning up the artifacts and will let us know what they find out.

Special thanks needs to be given to all the people who helped make this event a success, including a special thanks Dyan Bohnert for helping with the foodway talk.

Summer Camps are being Planned!!!

MMMMM MMMMM Good! Kids in the Kitchen is returning June 11-13th. Held from 10-12:30, the 4-H youth will be Cooking up Science! We will not only make good things to eat, but we will experiment with food, seeing DNA from fruit and even learning how foods may light up the night!

Bang-Zoom-To the Moon!! This July we are going to have a summer day camp July 14-17th. We will be building rockets, launching machines, and experimenting with making things lift into the sky! Camp will be from 10 am until 12:30. More details will come as we near the date for this camp.

Dumas New Tech High School Clubs

April marks then end of our Robotics and environmental clubs and Dumas New Tech (at least until next year!) We are going out with a bang, as the Robotics club will be building doodling cup robots and the Environmental clubs will be learning ornithology and try their hands at bird counting over the summer! I am going to miss these kids as many graduate and move on to bigger things at college and beyond. Good Luck to our Seniors, and see you next year to the rest!

Anderson Chapel announces leaders

We had elections at the Tri-County club in Anderson Chapel during April, with the leaders being announced.

President: Madison C. (it was a heated election!)
Vice President: Blaine S.
Secretary/Treasurer: Kaitlyn M.
Reporter: Taylor C.
Song Leader: Sy L.
Recreation leader: Haley M.
Adult Leader: Mrs. Mary Cupples
4-H Fundraiser Project

School districts and nonprofit organizations across the county have been dealing with huge budget cuts, but we’ve found a way to supplement our finances to get the resources and materials we need to run an active 4-H club.

Desha County 4-H is participating in the FundingFactory® Recycling Program! This fundraiser is FREE and simple because there’s nothing to sell, no paperwork to fill out and no deadline. The program runs year-round, accumulating constant income for our efforts. But we won’t get very far without your support. Please donate your empty printer cartridges, cell phones, small electronics, and laptops to our 4-H office and we’ll take it from there! We will recycle the cartridges, cell phones, small electronics, and laptops through FundingFactory to earn new educational materials for our youth.

Last year alone, more than 300 million cartridges were thrown away, while 30,000,000 cell phones were tossed or replaced. We’re alleviating the volume of waste that goes into landfills, while collecting the funding we need to keep Desha County 4-H running smoothly. Your help is vital to our fundraising success. Cartridges, cell phones, small electronics, and laptops can be dropped off at the County Extension office at 310 West Oak Street in McGehee.

FundingFactory also sponsors a businesses support program, where your employer can help out our 4-H program without spending a cent. FREE prepaid shipping labels can be sent, free of charge, directly to any business, organization or other facility within the continental United States. Business supporters simply need to load boxes, apply a FREE prepaid shipping label and leave them for the next UPS pickup. If you work for a company that may be interested in supporting us, please call FundingFactory toll-free at 1.888.883.8237. Give the customer service representative our Program identification number, 352311 and they’ll set you up to support our account.

If you have any questions about this great opportunity, please feel free to call me at (870)222-3972 or e-mail me at hbragg@uaex.edu.

Items that we currently Accept:

- Cell Phones
- MP3 Players
- Tablets
- GPS units
- Inkjet Cartridges
- Laser Toner Cartridges
- Digital Cameras
- Laptop computers

We will be learning more about recycling and community service in the coming months! Watch for more opportunities in the near future.
# May

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<td>Mother's Day</td>
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<td>Crossett Youth Day-Forestry-Ages 14 and over</td>
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<td>Did you know Lewis and Clark started their journey this day in 1804</td>
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<td>Pride of McGehee - Hobbies</td>
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<td>MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICE CLOSED</td>
<td>Foodology-Make Ice Cream</td>
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<td><strong>GREEN HIGHLIGHTED DAYS INDICATE WHEN HOPE BRAGG IS OUT OF THE OFFICE</strong></td>
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