Dear 4-H’ers:

Happy New Year! A new year means new exciting 4-H opportunities, so mark your calendar and plan to participate. Please call the Extension Office, if you have questions.

4-H RECORD BOOKS

It’s Record Book Time! Record keeping is part of the overall 4-H experience and is simply a list of your accomplishments in 4-H projects over several years. It’s updated every year to include your new activities, projects and 4-H fun. Numerous awards are available for turning in a completed journal. These awards include attending the 4-H Achievement Banquet, jackets, t-shirts, pins, camp scholarships and other awards. Record books are due in the County Extension Office on January 17. Qualifying record books will be submitted for district judging. For individual help in submitting a record book, please call the Extension Office at 946-3231 or 673-2346. Examples of the winning advanced record books from 2016 are available for review. If you would like a copy of an example record book, please call the Extension Office. More information is available on our website at: http://www.uaex.edu/4h-youth/resource-library/project-books.aspx.

4-H DAY AT THE CAPITOL

The second 4-H Day at the Capitol will be held Thursday, February 16 to educate youth on state government in action. The state 4-H Office is looking for 400 4-H’ers ages 13 and older to participate. Participants will receive a long sleeve polo shirt to wear, a box lunch, and a ride to the Capitol from the Jack Stephens Center, UALR. Registration is available in 4-H Online for 4-H leaders, county faculty, as well as 4-H’ers ages 13 to 19. The deadline to register is January 11. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about how our government works, and for our legislators to meet our 4-H members and leaders.

4-H METHOD DEMONSTRATION

The 4-H Method Demonstration/Illustrated Talk Activity is scheduled for Monday, January 23 at the Rice Research & Extension Center, 2900 Highway 130E, Stuttgart. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the competition beginning at 6:00 p.m. Presentations for juniors will be 2-5 minutes in length, and for seniors the time limit is 5-8 minutes.


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Assignments for the activity are: MC’s – Will, Rob; Registration – Chloe, Sarah, Hailey, Emily; Clean-Up – Autumn, Connor.

Many of you are already working on your presentation. If you need additional help on the rules or need help in preparing your talk, contact the Extension Office. Remember: “Practice Makes Perfect” so the more you practice your talk beforehand, the better you will do in competition. Please remember the importance of pre-registering for all county 4-H events. This allows our office to be better prepared for conducting the activity. Please call the Extension Office at 946-3231 or 673-2346 to pre-register for this activity by Wednesday, January 18. We’re looking forward to seeing you at Method Demonstration.

4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT
Every year we ask all 4-H members and leaders to enroll in 4-H Online so that we have updated contact information. Please take a few minutes to enroll at: https://arkansas.4honline.com. This is very important for our office records. 4-H online enrollment is required to participate in county activities. Computer access is available at the Extension Office.

4-H LEADERS/ OFFICERS MEETING
4-H Adult Leaders and Officers will meet on Monday, February 6 at 5:00 p.m. at the Extension Office in DeWitt.

SCOTT TRACTOR COMPANY
4-H SCHOLARSHIP
The Scott Tractor Company awards a local 4-H scholarship each year for a graduating senior. Recipient selection is based on the student’s interest and desire to be a part of the 4-H program as well as other community and school activities. Applications are available from the County Extension Office and are due by April 1.

Look us up on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/Arkansas4H.arkansas.

4-H EVENTS
The following is a quick reference for upcoming 4-H state camps and events. For more information contact the Arkansas County Extension Office.

- Arkansas 4-H Foundation scholarships may be available in 4-H online to assist 4-H members who have financial need to attend camp at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center. For more information call the Extension Office.

- Remember Arkansas County 4-H Camp Scholarships are available for those qualifying. The County 4-H Foundation will pay 75% of the expenses for one camp per year. Call the Extension Office for more information.

January Due Dates:
8 Citizenship...Washington Focus Registration
9 Entrepreneur Camp – Basic & Advanced Registration
11 4-H Day at the State Capitol Registration
27 Ambassador Workshop Registration

February Due Dates:
TBA Buffalo Island Broiler Show Registration
1 High Adventure Backpacking Registration
1 High Adventure Horsepacking Registration
1 4-H Record Books due in LR50
1 State Scholarship Applications
1 Volunteer Applications to Judge 4-H Record Books
1 WHEP Practice Session Registration
13 SS Hunting Skills State Competition Registration
13 Ark. Leader's Assoc. Volunteer Forum Registration
15 Vet Science Field Trip – Registration Opens
15 Beekeeping Essay Contest Entries
27 JO/PPP Air Pistol Match Registration

4-H Citizenship Washington Focus: Arkansas 4-H will once again send a delegation to Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF). The dates for the 2017 CWF program in Washington, DC are July 8-15. Delegates will learn about the democratic process and their role as citizens while they experience our nation’s capital. They will get the inside scoop about how government really works from prominent guest speakers. In addition, they will participate in bill writing workshops, a national issues forum, mock elections, and congressional sessions. Applicants must be 14 years of age by January 1, 2017. Two Extension Staff and two adult volunteers will serve as chaperones. All applications are due in the County Extension Office by January 8. This is a great program for 4-H’ers to learn & experience Washington DC!

Camp Champion: Camp Champions are part of a leadership team that is dedicated to encouraging others around the state to follow in their footsteps. Team members will exemplify 4-H spirit, enthusiasm, dedication, and a genuine concern for the development of others by actively recruiting other 4-H members to take part in the 4-H Camps learning experience. The application process includes filling out the online application, two references and creating a video “What makes you the best camp champion and what would you tell someone to get them to come to camp?” Deadline is January 9. Camp champions will gain leadership and volunteer experience, receive $100 off a camp of their choice and keep the fun of camp alive all year!
Entrepreneur Camp: Entrepreneur Camp is geared for kids (ages 9-19) that may want to own their own business either as adults or now as kids. Campers will learn about what it takes to start a business, run a business, planning, product development, marketing, etc. Camp dates are January 27-29. Registration deadline is January 9.

4-H WHEP and Wildlife Activities: The WHEP and Wildlife O-Rama region for 2017 is Mississippi Alluvial Plain. The additional region for Wildlife ID is Urban. Following is a list of upcoming wildlife program activities & events.

- January 21 – 4-H Wildlife Field Day, Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Adults and youth will learn about wildlife species and management practices present at the Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge, which is in the Mississippi Alluvial Plain. The Refuge Manager will give a tour beginning at their nature center. Then we will drive to different areas of the refuge to view wildlife and management practices. Participants are encouraged to drive pickups or other high-clearance vehicles that can navigate gravel and dirt back roads, or a van will be available for riders. This activity is free, but you must register through 4-H Online by January 16. Be prepared for the weather and outdoor conditions!!
- February 18 – 4-H WHEP Practice Session, Pine Bluff
- March 1 – 4-H Food Plot Project Book deadline
- April 28– 4-H WHEP State Contest, Lonoke County
- June 1 – 4-H Food Plot Project registration deadline
- June 22 – 4-H Wildlife Delta O-Rama Competition, Forrest City
- July 26 – 4-H Wildlife O-Rama State Competition, Fayetteville
- November 3–5 – 4-H Forestry & Wildlife Camp, 4-H Center
- December 7 – 4-H WHEP State Contest, Lonoke County

4-H Coding Camp 2017: This camp is open to all junior 4-H’ers (age 9-14) and will focus on computer science and engineering skills. Participants will explore coding and engineering through completing hands on activities. This is a 1 day camp to be held on June 24 at the 4-H Center. Registration will be available soon via 4-H Online and is tentatively set at $75 per youth (lunch and dinner included). Maximum of 25 participants.

Arkansas 4-H High Adventure: The Arkansas 4-H High Adventure Program scheduled for July 30 – August 6 is an outdoor leadership program for teens. The purpose is to develop character and integrity in young people through the teaching of teamwork, leadership, and outdoor skills. Tentative activities include hiking, rafting, spelunking, rock climbing and rappelling. Required trainings: Parent/Camper Rally: March 11 and Shakedown Training: April 21-23. 4-H Online registration deadline is February 1. Registration fee is $650 (non-refundable).

Arkansas 4-H Camps offers camping and training opportunities for 4-H youth 5-19 years old and adults. For more information contact the Extension Office or visit our website at: http://www.uaex.edu/4-h-youth/activities-programs/camps/camp%20flyer%202017.pdf.