Dear 4-H'ers:

Back to school means it’s time to get back to 4-H! Remember to check out the 4-H News section of this newsletter for information about upcoming 4-H Club meeting dates. For more information contact the club leader or the County Extension Office.

4-H LEADERS/OFFICERS MEETING

The 4-H Leaders/Officers Meeting will be held on Monday, August 3 at 5 p.m. at the Extension Office in DeWitt.

ARKANSAS COUNTY FAIR

It won’t be long until the Arkansas County Fair begins! Fair dates are September 15-19 and we are looking forward to it and know that it will be lots of fun for the whole family. The theme for this year’s fair is: “Rollin’ On The River!”

4-H Poultry Chain -- Remember you are required to bring four of your best pullets to the County Fair for judging. Check-in is Sunday, September 13, 1:00-3:30 p.m. or Monday, September 14, 8:00-10:00 a.m. Some of your chicks may be laying eggs. If so, eggs may be entered in the Horticulture Division on Monday, September 14, 12:30-5:30 p.m. Note: A silent auction will be conducted in the livestock barn area beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16. Bid sheets will be attached near the cages for entering bids. (Bids will be placed on a pen of 4 chickens.) The auction will close on Friday, September 18 at 4 p.m. Winning bidders will be notified and may pick up their chicks on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. Proceeds from the auction are used to purchase chicks for 4-H members the following year.

Educational Booths -- Educational booths must be completed by Sunday, September 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Giant Pumpkins & Watermelons -- “Green thumb” 4-H’ers who are growing giant pumpkins and watermelons should enter them in the County Fair on Monday, September 14, 12:30-5:30 p.m.

4-H’ers are reminded to enter Individual Entries in the County Fair. Enter arts, crafts, food, horticulture, and field crops on Monday, September 14 from 12:30-5:30 p.m.; livestock on Sunday, September 13 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. or Monday, September 14 from 8:00-10:00 a.m. and poultry, waterfowl and rabbits on Sunday, September 13 from 1:00-3:30 p.m. or Monday, September 14 from 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Parade -- The Arkansas County Fair Parade will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, with line-up at 3:15 p.m. at the DeWitt Middle School.

Children’s Pet Show -- The Children’s Pet Show will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 19 at the Arkansas County Fairgrounds.
Talent Show -- The Talent Show will be held Sunday, September 13 at 5 p.m. at the DeWitt High School Cafeteria.

For more information about the Arkansas County Fair refer to the fair tabloid. Tabloids will be available at the County Extension Office soon.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS: All premium checks, exhibits and individual entries must be picked up on Sunday, September 20 between 1:00 pm. and 4:00 p.m. No exceptions will be made to this notice.

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS
Back to School Extravaganza will be held Saturday, August 1, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at John Cain Park, Stuttgart. Games, food, backpacks, school supplies, swimming, giveaways and more. Back to School Fun Day will be held Saturday, August 1 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at DeWitt Community Center. Fun and games for all ages, gifts, prizes, food, and book bags with supplies.

2015 ARKANSAS RICE EXPO
Gov. Asa Hutchinson will deliver the keynote at this year’s Arkansas Rice Expo, set for Friday, August 7, in Stuttgart. The half-day event opens at 8 a.m. at the Grand Prairie Center, 2709 U.S. 165 in Stuttgart. There is no cost to attend and the event ends with a catfish lunch. Field tours of research plots, food demonstrations and family fun are all part of the expo, a salute by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture to rice production in Arkansas. This year’s event features breakout sessions that focus on issues looming large in the rice industry, including the implications of rice trade with Cuba, marketing rice and managing barnyardgrass. Expo-goers will get an up close and personal look at the work being done for the rice industry by Division researchers, who will be leading field tours. Event attendees with problems in the garden or landscape can take advantage of the plant disease clinic by bringing samples for diagnosis. There will also be a feral hog exhibit, food preservation clinic, equipment display and an update on crop application technologies. Staff from the Arkansas 4-H Youth Development program will be there with activities for youngsters. And don’t miss the cooking demonstrations and tastings, and see the finalists in the rice recipe contest and the creativity on display in the rice tabletop centerpiece competition. For more information, visit http://www.uaex.edu/rice-expo/.

CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION
Arkansas County 4-H partnered with Lauren’s Garden for a Citizenship In Action through Community Service Project. Participants repotted plants for local nursing home residents and planted plants at DeWitt Sr. Citizens Center.

STICK WEAVING WORKSHOP
Stick Weaving Snack & Learn was held July 14 at the Arkansas County Cooperative Extension Service. Jason Ring, St. Francis County CEA-FCS/4-H taught participants how to stick weave. Nutritious refreshments and recipes were provided by LaTaaka Harvey, Arkansas County CEA-FCS.

HUMMINGBIRD BANDING WORKSHOP
Clover Kids 4-H Club sponsored a Hummingbird Banding Workshop at the Potlatch Conservation Education Center at Cook’s Lake in Casscoe on July 20. The program was presented by Tana Beasley, facility manager.

Visit the Arkansas County 4-H Facebook Page at: www.facebook.com/Arkansas4H.arkansas.
4-H RECORD BOOKS

Now is the time to begin preparations for submitting your 2016 4-H Record Book. All Arkansas County 4-H'ers are encouraged to complete 4-H Record Books. Through your record book, you show your accomplishments and how you have developed responsibility by keeping records. Throughout your 4-H career, you will find your record book useful in evaluating past achievements and in making improvements in future plans. Numerous awards are available for just turning in a completed record book. These awards include attending the 4-H Achievement Banquet, jackets, t-shirts, pins, camp scholarships and other awards. Call the Extension today to schedule a Help Session or visit our website at: http://www.uaex.edu/4h-youth/resource-library/project-books.aspx.

4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT

Please take time to enroll in 4-H Online now at: https://arkansas.4honline.com. Arkansas 4-H Online is a web based event registration system that is used to enroll in 4-H as well as register for statewide events and activities. All 4-H members and leaders should enroll. 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. For more information, call the Extension Office at (870)946-3231 or (870)673-2346.

MISS ARKANSAS COUNTY RICE

Delia was crowned “2015 Miss Arkansas County Rice”. Her rice dish is “Rice from this Side of the Border”. Delia’s responsibilities are to promote the cookery and use of rice in the county. If you would like her to come to your club and present a program, please call the Extension Office at (870)946-3231 or (870)673-2346.

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/4h-youth/activities-programs/camps/camp%20flyer.pdf

Arkansas 4-H Events -- For more information contact the Extension Office or view the 4-H Calendar of Events and 2015 Quick Reference Guide online at:

Clover Kids 4-H Club

had a great time at the Hummingbird Banding Workshop on July 20. We received a hummingbird pin. We watched them tag the birds. Some 4-H’ers released a bird. We plan to do it next year. Submitted by Connor.

Prairie Angels 4-H Club will meet July 30 at 2 p.m. at Faith Baptist Church for a Crafts Workshop.
The 4-H Club will meet on Wednesday, August 26 at 3:30 p.m. at the Extension Office.

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution. If you require a reasonable accommodation to participate or need materials in another format, please contact your County Extension office as soon as possible. Dial 711 for Arkansas Relay.

Sincerely,

Chuck Capps
County Extension Agent -
Staff Chair

Grant Beckwith
County Extension Agent -
Agriculture

LaTaaka Harvey
County Extension Agent –
Family & Consumer Sciences