Dear 4-H’ers:

The 2016 4-H Achievement Banquet will be held on Monday, March 14 at the DeWitt High School Cafeteria with registration beginning at 6:00 p.m. and the banquet to begin at 6:30 p.m. 4-H members in Arkansas County will be recognized for the outstanding work they have achieved this year. Please remember that banquet dress is business casual. (Business casual attire includes dresses, blouses or shirts with slacks or pants including khakis.) Please call the Extension Office to let us know how many will be attending.

4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT
All 4-H members and leaders should enroll in 4-H Online. Please take time to enroll now 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.

GIANT PUMPKIN & WATERMELON SEEDS
It’s time to begin preparing for the 4-H Giant Pumpkin and Watermelon contest. Seeds will be available from the Extension Office with instructions for planting, cultivating, fertilizing, etc. Planting dates are May 1-31 to harvest and enter in the Arkansas County Fair. Reserve your seed now, deadline is Friday, March 25.

4-H POSTER ART CONTEST
The 2016 4-H Poster Art contest is open to all 4-H members ages 9-19. The themes are: I AM...4-H, Open theme (create a theme and poster to go with it). Posters should be 14” x 22” in dimension and may be horizontal or vertical. Posters may be any medium art - watercolor, ink, crayon, acrylic, charcoal or collage. They cannot contain any copyrighted material such as cartoon characters and cannot have any three dimensional items on them. One poster entry per 4-H member will be accepted. The 4-H members name, age, county, full address and brief interpretation of art work must be affixed to the back of the poster in the upper left hand corner. (You may use a 3” x 5” index card.) Posters should be submitted (flat, not rolled) to the Extension Office by Friday, April 22. For more information, contact the Extension Office.

4-H POULTRY CHAIN CHICKS
Arkansas County 4-H’ers participating in the 4-H Poultry Chain are: Mary Claire & Chloe Belle, Cheyenne, Dillon, Garrett, Maxie, Chandler, Chase, Charlie, Abby, Autumn, Nick, Lizzy, Kaid & Miranda, Justin, Delilah, Cole, Amber, Adam, Landyn, Gabe, Payton, Michael, Brooks, and Katelyn & Jaden. Participants will receive 25 Amberlink one-day old chickens to care for and keep records. 4-H’ers agree to return four of the chicks to the county during the County Fair. Target delivery dates are May 7 or 14.

Visit our website at: http://www.uaex.edu/counties/arkansas.
**EASTER EGG HUNT**
The annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Wildlife 4-H Club has been scheduled for March 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the DeWitt City Park. 4-H Clubs or others wanting to help or donate filled eggs contact Brandi at (870)509-1549.

**4-H RALLY DAY**
4-H Rally Day is scheduled for Thursday, April 7 at the County Fairgrounds. Registration will begin at 3:30 p.m. with the Bicycle, BB Shooting and Baitcasting competitions starting at 4:00 p.m. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided by the 4-H Council. 4-H Leaders will provide chips & cookies. Don't forget - call to pre-register! Those who do not pre-register will be allowed to participate in only one event. To compete in two events, 4-H'ers must call the Extension Office at 946-3231 or 673-2346 to pre-register no later than Friday, March 31.

**Baitcasting & Game Fish Identification** - The purpose of this activity is to create an interest in fishing. This will be accomplished in two ways: (1) by testing the participant's basic knowledge of fish identification (juniors will identify five common Arkansas fish and seniors 10) and fish anatomy (juniors and seniors will identify five basic anatomical features of fish); (2) by testing the participants skill at casting, thus encouraging improved accuracy. This important skill is essential for successful fishing. Participants are required to bring their fishing rod; practice plugs will be furnished. For more information, publications are available from the Extension Office.

**Bicycling** - This activity is designed to teach 4-H youth safe bicycle habits, and offer an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of bicycles, and to show their skills of riding a bicycle. This will be demonstrated by riding the bicycle rodeo courses: (1) Straight line test, (2) Figure eight steering, and (3) City street course. There is also a short written exam and parts identification. Participants are required to bring their own bicycle. Again, more information is available at the Extension Office.

**BB Shooting** - This activity is to offer 4-H members the opportunity to learn safe gun handling, proper care of guns, and rules of gun safety. The BB gun target shooting contest and a brief examination will offer 4-H members the opportunity to demonstrate their skill in target shooting and their knowledge of gun safety. This activity consists of three parts: (1) A general gun safety session to discuss gun safety rules, safe handling and care of guns, and four basic shooting positions, and shooting range procedures; (2) a brief written examination; and (3) target shooting. Do not bring your own gun. All guns, BB’s, pencils, and targets will be furnished. For more information call the Extension office or visit: [http://uaex.edu/4h-youth/resource-library/applications.aspx#districtevents](http://uaex.edu/4h-youth/resource-library/applications.aspx#districtevents).

**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.

Visit the Arkansas County 4-H Facebook Page at: [www.facebook.com/Arkansas4H.arkansas](http://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 whereby the County 4-H Foundation will pay 75% of the expenses for one camp per year. Call the Extension Office for more information.

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<th>March 2016 Due Dates:</th>
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<tr>
<td>15 Ambassador Applications</td>
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<td>15 Ambassador Re-Certifications</td>
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<td>April 2016 Due Dates:</td>
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<td>15 Little Rock Poultry BBQ Contest Entries Deadline</td>
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**Arkansas 4-H Camps**
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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%202016.pdf](http://www.uaex.edu/4h-youth/activities-programs/camps/camp%20flyer%202016.pdf).
Arkansas County 4-H enjoyed a night of fun and fashion on January 25 at Faith Baptist Church Gym. MC’s were Destiny and Riley. In the Fashion Revue contestants modeled garments and gave a short interview detailing the cost, use, fabrics, and reasons for their choice. Sweepstakes winners were: Sarah and Connor. Others participating were: Autumn and Lizzy. In the Share The Fun Activity contestants performed vocal, dance and instrumental talent. Sweepstakes winner was: Riley. Others participating were: Connor, Autumn, Jayden, Kaitlyn and Gage.


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Clover Kids 4-H Club had their monthly meeting on February 8. Clover Kids 4-H Officers elected for 2016: President-Rob, Vice President-Connor, Secretary-John Braden, Treasurer-Will, Reporter-Emily, Photographer-Taylin Hayden, 4-H Pledge Leader- Rachel Goldman, American Flag Pledge Leader-Josh, Song Leader-Chloe, Recreation Leader-Kameran. We practiced demonstrations and talks. Our next meeting is March 28, Monday at 3:30 at the First Christian Church, Stuttgart. Submitted by: Connor, Vice President & Will, Reporter.

Livestock 4-H Club met on Monday February 29 at Swanky. We had 6 members in attendance and 3 Leaders. Members voted on club President, Vice President, and Secretary. Chandler was voted to be President, Chase, Vice President, and Maxee, Secretary. We followed the 4-H club meeting agenda page. Charlie led the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge. We had a talk demonstration led by Chase, which included an activity for the kids to take home and complete for next meeting. It was an “All About Me” project where the kids had a list of things to include to talk about themselves to include pictures on the front of their poster board and their speech on the back, so that when they were discussing themselves in front of others they could follow along with their cue cards on the back of their poster boards. The activity was to help encourage the kids to get up in front of others and talk. Our craft activity was making bird feeders out of popsicle sticks to hang from a tree. Bird seed was given out to take home. We discussed up-coming dates of the 4H Banquet, next meeting date and 4H rally day. We also discussed the pumpkin and watermelon seed sign up. Our next meeting will be held Monday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. at Swanky Salon, 1203 S. Whitehead Dr., DeWitt.

Prairie Angels 4-H Club met February 29 at Faith Baptist Church Gym. We discussed who participated at Share the Fun/Fashion revue and Method Demonstration/Illustrated Talks, donated $50 for supplies for families in need at Arkansas Children’s Hospital, delivered Valentine’s Day cards to DeWitt City and Crestpark Nursing Homes, voted to buy 4-H t-shirts and the club pay for half, and pizza kit forms and money were turned in. We stuffed 1044 eggs for the DeWitt Easter Egg Hunt. Jaxson Bennett was introduced as a new member. Our next meeting will be March 28 at 3:30 p.m. at Faith Baptist Gym, DeWitt. Submitted by Autumn Danner

Spirit of ’76 4-H Club had a fun hands-on learning experience during their February meeting. The Dorcas Quilters group from Gillett were special guests and they allowed the 4-H’ers a chance to go through the steps of making a quilt: choosing the fabric for a nine-patch block, cutting the squares, pinning the hem over the layers of backing-batting-pieced top, to the final step of tacking. There were 25 members in attendance. Refreshments were provided by Cole, Delilah, and Alivia. The next meeting will be March 16 at 3:30 p.m. at the Extension Office and the program will be on Beekeeping.

Wildlife 4-H Club met on February 16. Registration deadlines and the Easter Egg Hunt were discussed. The next meeting will be March 17 at 3:30 p.m. at Mrs. Brandi’s House. Submitted by Lizzy, Reporter.
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,

Grant Beckwith  
County Extension Agent - Interim Staff Chair

LaTaaka Harvey  
County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

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Community Conservation Project
Remember to continue saving aluminum cans, cell phones, and printer cartridges so you can bring them to the Extension Office for recycling. This has been a great 4-H community conservation project! Proceeds go to the Arkansas County 4-H Council.