Greetings 4-H'rs,

After a crazy month in February, I hope you are all thawing out and excited that Spring is finally around the corner. I am so excited that we are having a Quad Day event during Spring Break this year, it should be really fun. I get to share my hobby with you all, as youth will get to meet some of my best friends and see what they do for a living.

I am equally excited to start our gardens growing and look forward to celebrating Arbor Day with our McGehee Club on March 17th. Make sure you come to this meeting, as we will be planting trees, making some crafts related to forests, and eating snacks with a tree theme. It should be a great day. Perhaps we can start a local tradition in McGehee of playing the part of Johnny Appleseed!

Sincerely Yours!

Hope Bragg

Did you know that until 1911, there were only 3-H’s! In 1911 it was suggested a 4th H was needed—HUSTLE. After some discussion, it was agreed that indeed a 4th H was a great idea, only they went with HEALTH!

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.
Crossett Forestry Field Day for Youth 14 and over

On Friday, May 16th, the USDA Forest Service, along with UAM and Univ. of Arkansas’s Division of Agriculture’s Coop Extension, will be hosting a youth oriented educational program focusing on Forestry.

This 1/2 day event, to be held at the Crossett Experimental Forest in Ashley County, will be offered to all 4-Her’s over the age of 14, high school classes, FFA groups or scouting groups. The program will cover such topics as forestry, wildlife management and ecology, with sessions led by natural resource scientists and professionals in an outdoor setting.

The event is FREE of charge, and includes a lunch.

If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact Hope Bragg for more information!

Or check out http://www.SoPineBenefits.com/

Arbor Day Celebration

On March 17th, otherwise known as St. Patrick’s Day, the state of Arkansas recognizes Arbor Day. Arbor Day was established in 1874 in order to recognize the importance of trees to our Nation.

We at 4-H are going to celebrate Arbor Day in our McGehee Community Club on this day, with tree plantings, free trees, some neat materials from Smokey Bear and fun snacks and games. Please be sure to join us for this fun program starting at 3:30 at the County Extension Office.

And remember, wear your 4-H colors with pride! Celebrate being a 4-Her, St Patrick’s Day and Arbor Day all at once!

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 moment to register your child and yourself as a volunteer at:

https://arkansas.4honline.com/
Built in 1845, the Taylor House is a two-story, dogtrot style, log house near Bayou Bartholomew in Drew County. The 2014 Quad Day on Friday, March 26th will feature events will involve examining life for a child during the 1800’s and earlier, with activities such as Pioneer Cooking, Pioneer Games and Prehistoric Lifestyles. The participants will then have the option of assisting professional archeologists on the site as they explore the root cellar, the ell, the rear porch of the house and the smokehouse. This research has the potential to provide important information about the antebellum period in southeast Arkansas. Lunch will be provided.

Directions to the Taylor House/Hollywood Plantation:

FROM DUMAS:
Taking Highway 65 South from Dumas, travel 7.4 miles until you come to Highway 138 (Winchester Road). Turn Right and continue West for 5 miles. You will see the Taylor House on the right side of the road at the end of Plantation Drive.

FROM MCGHEE
Travel North of McGehee approximately 17 miles until you come to Highway 138 (Winchester Road). Turn left and continue West for 5 miles. You will see the Taylor House on the right side of the road at the end of Plantation Drive.
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