O’Rama News!

Thirty-seven Garland County 4-H youth kicked off the 2015 season of 4-H O’Ramas, starting with the county competitions at the fairgrounds. From there, thirteen members moved to the next level, competing in 13 different events at the Ouachita District 4-H O’Rama held at Gurdon, AR. Upon completing the competitions for that day, Garland County left the event with 7 ribbons—1 fifth place, 5 third place, and 1 second place—and two first place trophies! Also honored at the District O’Rama, Jazzlan R. won the Bee Keeping Essay Contest and Cole G. won the Color-Living division in the Ross Photography Contest held earlier in the season. After the District competition, fourteen 4-H members proceeded to the State 4-H O’Rama. The four-day event was filled with fun activities, awesome competition, a formal banquet, a visit to the Jones Center, and a fun-filled evening of dancing the night away! Our Garland County kids exhibited a very competitive spirit while at the O’Rama contests. Our fourteen State O’Rama delegates entered a total of 11 competitive events and brought home 4 fifth place ribbons, 2 second place ribbons, and ONE FIRST PLACE TROPHY!!! The first place team earned the right to go to the national competition in Denver, Colorado. They will represent our county in the Consumer Decision Making event at the Western National Round-Up. Congratulations to all those who competed in the 2015 O’Rama events.
Ride ‘em Cowboys and Cowgirls!

The months of May, June, and July held a lot of opportunities for many Garland County 4-H cowboys and cowgirls! During May, two nights of County 4-H Horse Show and Roping drew a total of 23 contestants from the county. Fifteen Garland County contestants competed at the District Horse Show and the State Roping at Saline County on May 29-30.

July 14-17 were the dates for the 4-H State Horse Show held in Searcy, AR, at the White County fairgrounds. Although the weather was extremely warm, that did not stop Carlie D., Megan H., and Aspen T. from doing well as they rode their horses to the best of their abilities!! Although only three represented Garland County, they constituted a total of fifteen entries. They made sure the rest of the competitors knew Garland County was there. The girls left the White County fairgrounds with one 10th place ribbon, 2 seventh place ribbons, 1 second place ribbon, and two beautiful first place belt buckles! Aspen T. is the 2015 4-H State Champion in the Pole Bending event and Megan H. is the 2015 4-H State Champion in the Flag Race. Aspen T. was 2nd in the overall high points for the Junior division, and Megan was 4th place in overall high points for the Senior division. Good job, everyone!!

4-H Sewing Camp: A HUGE Success!
The 1st Annual 4-H Sewing Camp was a real hit with the participants who attended. The three-day camp lasted from 12:30 to 4:30, and the youth constructed a pillow case and a tote bag with their initials embroidered on it. A big thank you goes out to Ms. Loretta Johnston and her crew from the Crazy Quilters EHC Club for making the camp so much fun! We plan to hold another Sewing Camp next summer, so make plans to join us!

Don’t forget to check out the “Sew With Cotton” insert found in this Clover Circular!

September 1: The date to start your 4-H Online re-enrollment!
On August 31 of every year, every 4-H member and volunteer leader’s status is reset to “inactive”. The new 4-H year starts on October 1, but starting September 1, you will need to re-enroll in order to be considered active!! Go to your family page in 4-H online and click “edit” by your name. A screen will come up that already has information filled in about you. Scroll to the BOTTOM of that screen and click on “Enroll for 2015-2016”. You will have to update the health portion of the enrollment process, sign the publication and video consent agreement, and sign the code of conduct. On the participation screen, your club will not be in the drop down list because it is already listed below as your club. Be sure you add any additional club or clubs in which you participate. If you have problems or questions, please call the office and ask for Linda Bates.

Get signed up for 2015-2016!!!

We Are On Facebook!
For those of you who are not aware, Garland County 4-H has a Facebook page. Until now, the Facebook page has been open for anyone to see. Because of UAEX State Policy Guidelines, we are no longer able to operate a 4-H Facebook account that is open to the general public. Now to access the Garland County 4-H Facebook account, you will need to make a request to join the group. It is very easy to do. The page still looks the same—a picture of kids at county camp with the big white Garland County 4-H banner. The correct group has a tiny gavel in front of “Garland County 4-H”. I encourage all 4-H members and parents to join the group because we will be posting more and more information about county activities. I hope to "see" you on the "closed group" Garland County 4-H Facebook page very soon! Call if you have questions!!
Garland County Fair
September 14-19

Everyone excited about the fair? It is right around the corner!! If you are showing animals through 4-H, you should have already been in contact with Mr. Jimmy. Everyone needs to get a fair book and read all that pertains to your participation in the fair. Lots of deadlines are coming up very soon! In addition to showing animals at the fair, there are lots of other areas in which you can be a part. Check out the youth creative arts activities: Needlework and sewing, knitting and crocheting, quilting, crafts of all kinds, photography, art, creative writing, food preservation, and baked goods. In the horticulture department youth can enter plants and floral arrangements. You can also enter garden and farm projects as well as the giant pumpkins and watermelons. There is an essay contest, “Turning Points in American History”. Check out the Kids Cookie Contest and the Cupcake Decorating Contest. A special photography contest focusing on “This Is Garland County” is also on the agenda. Youth can also enter Educational Exhibits—let Ms. Linda know by Sept. 1 if you want to turn in an exhibit so a space can be reserved. Cash awards are possible in many of the divisions. Also, take advantage of the Youth Talent Show and the Queen’s Contests. Get yourself a new fair book at one of the feed stores in town, come by the Extension Office, or go online to find out the particulars of these great opportunities to show off your talents. Don’t wait long—some of the deadlines for registration are on Sept. 1 and some contests require forms to be submitted. Required forms are found at the back of the Fair Book. Get involved with our county fair so we can make this the best one ever!

County Camp Fun!

For three days, Garland County 4-H Campers gathered at the 4-H Center in Ferndale for an exciting time just hanging out with each other. Thirty-one campers were involved in nineteen awesome activities during Garland County’s “Camp Fit and Fun”! Some of the many things in which they participated included wall climbing, canoeing, cardboard boat building, archery, swimming, fishing, parachute play, and an obstacle course. Nutritional workshops were included in the camp schedule throughout the three day stay. Everyone had a blast! Garland County 4-H would like to thank the United Way of Hot Springs for their support of the camp, and thanks to the Garland County 4-H Foundation for their support as well! The campers had a wonderful time at the 2015 Garland County camping event.

Do you want to show livestock...?

Are you planning to show livestock at the fair next year? Do you want to show an animal but don’t have the startup money to purchase one? Then the Farm Credit Youth Loan Program may be for you! Farm Credit Services of Western Arkansas offers a Youth Loan Program for 4-H members. Loans range from $500-$2500 to assist with 4-H projects involving cattle, swine, sheep and goats. For more information contact Mr. Jimmy at the extension office.
4-H Important Dates

August
31  Teen Leader Meeting
31  All members reset to inactive!!

September
1   RE-enroll in 4-H online!!
7   Extension Office closed for Labor Day
14-19 Garland County Fair
24  Vet Science Meeting
28  Teen Leaders Meeting

October
2   Arts and Crafts Fair begins!
5-10 National 4-H Week
9-17 Arkansas State Fair
10  4-H Day at the State Fair
24  Vet Science Activity 10-noon
26  Teen Leader Meeting
29  Vet Science Meeting

November
9   Volunteer leaders Meeting
21  Vet Science Activity 10-noon
24  Deadline for Holiday Workshop Registration
30  Teen Leaders Meeting

NO Vet Science Meeting for Nov.

Holiday Workshop December 12