The First of the Year is Application Time!

With the new year comes many important deadlines to be aware of!

Record Books are due to the County Office Friday, January 8th. Record Books are excellent tools to help track your progress throughout your 4-H career and are very helpful in applying for scholarships later on.

If you are interested in becoming a 4-H Camp Counselor, or want to attend a great leadership training—Camp Leadership Workshop is January 22nd-23rd, with registration due January 8th.

If you are 13 years old or older and interested in the High Adventure trip, registration is due January 15th.

There are several 4-H Scholarships available at the state level. These applications along with Career Camp Registrations are due February 1st.

Don’t let these deadlines sneak up on you and don’t forget to sign up for all of these events through 4-H Online!

Publish Your 4-H Story in the Malvern Daily Record

Would you like to let others know about your 4-H group? If so, Malvern Daily Record would like to help you. Write a report of happenings in your group, submit it via email to mdrlifestyles@sbcglobal.net or drop it by the MDR office at 219 Locust in Malvern. Photos are always welcome. (Please include names of all persons in photo if available).

Also, please send it to Rachel or Kristal for proofing before submission.
Old Fashioned Pancake Breakfast—Saturday, February 6th

Mark Your Calendars! The annual Foundation Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, February 6th at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center in Malvern from 6:30 A.M. until 10:00 A.M. This breakfast is all you can eat and tickets are only $7.00. Not only are pancakes available, but bacon, eggs, sausage, ham, buttermilk biscuits and gravy as well! Tickets are available for purchase through any 4-H Club or the Extension Office until Friday, February 5th!

This is one of the major fundraisers for the 4-H Foundation which assists in funding county 4-H programs such as camps, trips, the banquet, etc. It is really important that we advertise, sell tickets, and support this event.

For each club selling at least $50 in tickets, the club will receive $2 per ticket. This is not only a great way to raise funds for general programming, but individual clubs as well!

Consider Career Camp!

Career Camp is an excellent opportunity to explore possible careers and learn professional skills. There will be four main career tracks to choose from: Ag/Natural Resources, Family & Consumer Sciences, Health Care, and Trades. Careers will be featured including (but not limited to) Vet/Vet Techs, Forestry, Teachers, Fashion, Dietician, Interior Design, Sales, Personal Trainer, Physical Therapist, Welding, Mechanic, Cosmetology, and many more!

“Youth will also get insight on where to look for scholarships, how to prepare for interviews, and how to create an effective resume.” - Creena Bocksnick, AR 4-H Camping Coordinator

Meet the Agent—Kristal Draper

Q: Why did you want to become a County Extension Agent?
A: From the time I was a child I have always enjoyed helping people. Through extension I get to help people of all ages. I love my job.

Q: What is your background experience with 4-H?
A: My two boys are 4-H members in Grant County. My husband was a long time 4-Her. Unfortunately my background in 4-H is limited to just a couple of years, but I learn new things about 4-H all the time.

Q: What is your specialty area and what do you enjoy most about it?
A: My specialty area is Family and Consumer Sciences. My favorite part about FCS is teaching others how to take care of their families and how to have healthy relationships.

Q: What is your favorite 4-H activity? Why?
A: My favorite 4-H activity so far is State O’ Rama. It was the first activity I attended as an agent and we had a blast. I enjoyed getting to know some of the 4-Hers and leaders. It was great watching them compete and accomplish their goals.

Q: What do you enjoy the most about working with 4-Hers?
A: I love helping and teaching children. I enjoy watching them reach their full potential and achieve their goals.

Q: What is the best advice you have for a 4-Her?
A: The best advice I can give is to always be yourself, do not change for anyone. Never give up, always do your best and don’t be afraid to fail because we learn more from our failures than we do our successes.
The Young Guns Shooting Sports Team celebrated the holiday season with a fun afternoon of grilling and shooting. Due to a very generous NRA grant, they were able to purchase new archery equipment and test it out on Saturday, December 12th.

While many members have been shooting BB Guns and .22 rifles for several years, for many of them archery was a new sport.

If you are interested in supporting their programs, Fun Pasta is still available online www.funpastafundraising.com/shop/poyen-indian-4H-club . Contact Tina Masters for more information.

Two junior members, Rylee Ray and Jack Berryhill were even able to shoot a bullseye. For Jack, it was his first time to ever shoot a bow and arrow and he was “proud, excited, and happy”. Rylee said it was “awesome, great and spectacular” to be able to shoot the bullseye.

Leaders Tony & Tisha Jenkins are always looking for new members. If you are interested in learning to shoot or improving your skills, contact them for more information.

Spotlight 4-H Community Service: Poyen Indians

Hot Spring County 4-Hers have always been a huge part of the Angel Tree program. This year the Poyen Indians sold Fun Pasta to raise money in order to purchase gifts for two angels. They choose to buy for a four year boy and a five year old girl.

The club met one evening to shop together and select gifts for their chosen angels. Abby Lester said, “I had fun picking out Monster High presents for our angel and it makes me happy to help out someone else.”

They also do an Adopt a Soldier program. These are soldiers that have registered online and most of these soldiers do not get much support from home and are lonely and just want letters of encouragement from home. They send care packages, letters, and emails to our soldier. The kids really enjoy getting letters from our soldier. Jeffrey Herndon said, "This is our fourth soldier to adopt and just hearing some of the stories from our soldier makes me appreciate so much what our troops do on a daily basis for our freedom and for our country."

“It makes me sad to think that a little girl won’t get any presents for Christmas, but I am happy that we can buy her some presents.” -Emorie Wibblesman, Poyen Indian 4-Her

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I would like to personally thank everyone for the wonderful welcome I have experienced since I started in October. As a former Hot Spring County 4-Her, I could not be more excited to not only be home, but to have the opportunity to give back to the organization that gave so much to me. I am looking forward to a very exciting 2016. If you ever have questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me, and I will be more than happy to work with you!

Thank you,

Rachel Bearden
County Extension Agent—Agriculture/4-H